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It's a Panic

by Kay Scholten
Home Economics Freshman

With the beginning of spring quarter, Iowa State's favorite outdoor sport, picnicking, begins. It's then that students end the week-ends with sunburn, poison ivy, sore muscles and memories of some unusual experiences.

Take the case of Deon Nelson, Donna Lee McCoy, Jo Habercamp and their dates. They decided spring was too long to wait for a picnic, so one snowy Sunday afternoon, equipped with three boxes of matches, paper, wood, coffee, weiners and three more boxes of matches, they headed for the Ledges near Boone. Between two logs they attempted to build a fire. Four boxes of matches later a small blaze was trying to sputter and the coffee was weakly boiling. But who could forget having been on the first picnic of the season?

Tree climbing

Among Lynn Gaumnitz's memories is one of a picnic spent high in the air. The main attraction that day wasn't baseball or volleyball but tree climbing. There were no casualties until, on the way down, two of the tree climbers broke the bottom branches, leaving Lynn stranded above the ground. But a model T Ford solved the problem. It was backed against the tree, and Lynn climbed down with only a minimum of damage - two skinned knees and a torn jacket.

Have you ever gone on a picnic and left the food basket at home? Jane Hartwig once had this experience. She was in charge of the food and remembered to take the basket; but she forgot the main item, the fried chicken!

If remembering the food isn't the problem, it's keeping it after you get there. Ellie Holmberg will never forget the time she and the basket ended up in a very wet situation after plunging from some slippery stones across a stream.

Then there was the time when Mary Grout put the cokes in the river to keep cold. But when it was time to eat, the cokes were floating down the middle of the river.

Regardless of such hazards as torn clothes, skinned knees, forgotten or lost food, wet feet, bugs, stray cows and unexpected showers, there's no better way to spend a spring week-end than on a picnic.