

UC's Untamed Campanile Conquered—In Reverse

Two University of California students with a zest for mountaineering have conquered an hitherto unconquerable peak—the 208-foot sheer wall of the Campanile on the Berkeley campus, police reported yesterday.

They did it in reverse, by climbing the Campanile steps, and then descending the face of the monument on ropes. To initiate, the tricky descent is known as rappelling.

The event occurred at 2 a. m. last Friday, and the mountaineers, both members of the Sierra Club, suffered rope burns but no other damage. They were mildly chastised by police, but their escapade was otherwise unpunished.

The students were Bob Gardner, 19, and Bill Loughman,

20, both seniors. They were aided by a ground crew of three: Walter Davie, Richard Hargrove and Gene Maxwell, also seniors.

According to police, Davie prepared for the exploit by swiping the lock on the Campanile door, making a key, and replacing the lock. The two rappellers sneaked up the steps of the tall spire, belayed their ropes around the east balustrade just beneath the carillon, and swung out into space.

Their ground crew watched from below, and so did Officer Russell Hoffar of the University Police Department. Hoffar took the ground crew to the University Police Station and the participants to Dowell Hospital for treatment of their burns. All were later released.

Campanile is conquered

The Campanile, normally used as a bell tower, was put to a much different use early Friday morning—mountaineering.

At about 2 a.m. Friday, a year and a half's planning was climaxed when two Sierra club members descended the east face of the granite spire.

The University police department reported five students participated in the project. Three remained on the ground to record the feat.

Those making the descent were Bob Gardner, 19, Bowles hall senior, and Bill Loughman, 20, 2029 Delaware street.

According to police, one of the participants, Walter Davie, Bowles hall senior, removed the tumblers from the lock on the tower door during the day and fashioned a key.

Friday morning, Davie, Gardner and Loughman along with Richard Hargrove, 21, Bowles hall senior, and Gene Maxwell, 21, 2029 Delaware street, used the key to enter the tower, police said.

After securing a rope to the east ballustrade, Gardner and Loughman made the 208-foot descent. They were later treated at Cowell Memorial hospital for rope burns.

The other three "mountaineers" remained on terra firma to take pictures, police said. Only trouble was, another spectator was on hand, police officer Russell Hoffer.

Police interviewed the would-be Alpiners, but no charges were filed. A final decision will be made today, police said.

It is rumored that the local quintet will try the Greek Theatre next—then, maybe, Mt. Everest.—D.K.

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Monday, December. 15, 1952

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ALREADY)
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Police Take Dim View Of Mountain Climb On UC's Campanile

A course in mountain climbing will not be added to the University of California curriculum, officials said today, though two hardy students have made a descent of the 208-foot Campanile.

"We doubt that there are many persons interested in climbing up and down the Campanile," the UC spokesman said.

Meanwhile, two students, Bob Gardner, 19, of Bowles Hall, and Bill Loughman, 20, of 2029 Delaware St., were acclaimed for their heroic drop from the famed tower.

The two, members of the Bay area's mountain climbing group—the Sierra Club—staged their hair-raising stunt in the wee morning hours. Both suffered only minor rope burns, for which treatment was required at Cowell Hospital.

Three other club members remained on terra firma and recorded the descent of Gardner and Loughman down the Campanile.

Campus police took a dim view of the extra-curricular activity, but didn't indicate whether charges would be lodged against the two climbers.

IT HAD TO HAPPEN

2 U.C. Boys Climb Down East Face of Campanile

BERKELEY, Dec. 15.—College boys being what they are, they were bound to try it sometime. And they did, early Friday morning.

As a result, two University of California seniors were to appear before university police officials today to "discuss" possible disciplinary action resulting from the first "outside" descent of the 208-foot Campanile.

The two, Bob Gardner, 19, of Bowles Hall, and Bill Loughman, 20, of 2029 Delaware Street, made the historic descent about 2 a.m. Friday, "walking" down the east face of the granite spire.

Both Sierra Club mountaineers, they used a nylon rope, attached to a balustrade at the top, for the first 125 feet, then made a mid-air switch to a three-sixteenths-inch hemp rope fastened to a window for the rest of the descent.

There were three invited and "official" observers. They were Walter Davie, 19, and Richard Hargrove, 21, both of Bowles Hall, and Gene Maxwell, 21, of the Delaware Street address.

There also was one uninvited and "unofficial" witness.

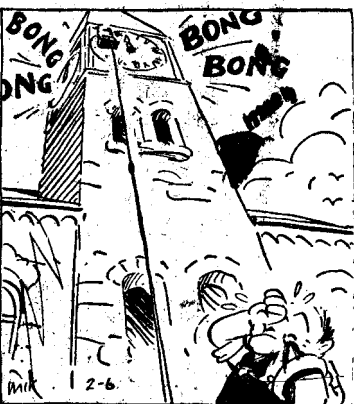
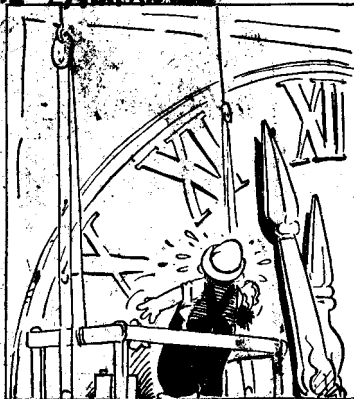
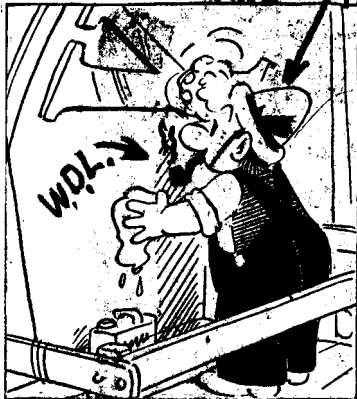
He was U.C. Police Officer J. W. Wilson, who came upon the scene just after Gardner and Loughman started down.

"There wasn't anything I could do," Wilson said. "I just had to stand there until they got down. It took them only about a minute, not counting that mid-air switch to the other rope. Oh, brother."

Wilson rounded up the whole group and took Gardner and Loughman to Cowell Memorial Hospital for treatment of rope burns. No charges were made, but the conference was ordered for this morning.

Note Tyro-lid.

FERNAND - AND - THE CAMPAINL By MIK



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