Angels and Devils on Horseback



A Victorian hors d'œuvre that has died a death in recent decades; an angel on horseback is simply an oyster wrapped in bacon and grilled; a devil is a tea-soaked prune treated the same way. Oysters were then a poor man's food, but today they are a delicacy and are often replaced with a scallop.

Ingredients

- 8 fresh oysters, scallops, clams, or mussels (for the "angels")
- 8 pitted prunes (soaked in tea or port, if needed), chicken livers or
- mushrooms (for the "devils")
- 8 slices center cut bacon, halved crosswise (or to fit)
- Lettuce

Directions

- 1. Preheat the oven to 400° F.
- 2. Wrap each "angel" in bacon (to fit) and secure with a wooden pick.
- 3. Wrap each "devil" in bacon (to fit) and secure with a wooden pick.
- 4. Arrange the "angels" and "devils" in a shallow baking pan, season to taste.
- 5. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes, until the bacon is crisp, but the fillings are still moist.
- 6. Finish under the broiler to crisp the bacon if necessary.
- 7. Arrange the angels and devils on a bed of lettuce. If they are for a party, leave the wooden picks in, otherwise they can be removed. If desired, serve with toast.

Notes

• If the scallops or mushrooms are large, they can be cut in half, but more bacon slices may be needed.