

SQUIRRELS - A brief history

Skip Thompson

The Brunswickan

Editors note: One of the most prolific clubs at UNB is the irrepressible SQUIRRELS. With weekly stories in The Brunswickan, the club is a favourite among students. Included in this introduction to the "club of clubs" are excerpts from previous articles. We hope you enjoy.

Each generation has its Einstein. This time, we are fortunate enough to have two. Three if you count the dog.

UNB's official sliding club, Students for the Quest of Undeniably Insane and Ridiculously Reckless Examples of Legendary Sliding (SQUIRRELS), began in late 1999 as an outlet for mass sliding events for UNB students.

An all-human executive was formed, but founders Sean Sullivan (President) and Brendan Doyle (Vice-President) found it shaky, unreliable, and irritating. Personal conflicts also arose, and what the duo call "that penguin incident" forced them to reorganize.

"As president and vice-president, we felt we needed something new in Squirrels," asserted Sullivan.

Thus came the appointment of golden retriever Dexter to the position of



Gustav Therabid/The Brunswickan

SQUIRRELS Secretary Dexter - the lovable canine was lost in time

A pair of cats, Bandit and Skittles, were brought in to find the puppet, but were distracted by copious amounts of catnip, which Doyle refers to as "kitty pot."

In April however, the event hailed as "mankind's greatest accomplishment" occurred - Dexter returned alive and well.

Sightings of the adorable puppy were reported as far west as B.C., and through a bizarre union with "hero of time" Sandford Fleming, Dexter managed to fight his way home through space and time.

The club and its members were overjoyed, and celebrities such as the university's president were reported to have welcomed him with "very open arms."

With issues as pressing as these, the club is sure to draw criticism, and has, mostly from Patrick Reinartz, longtime friend to both Doyle and Sullivan.

"The morons never actually went sliding," asserted Reinartz, throwing his arms into the air, exasperated. "I don't even know how they managed to form that damn club. And that dog too - what are they hoping to pull?"

Becoming excited, he continued with a joke. "What lies at the bottom of the ocean and twitches?" Pausing for

dramatic effect, he added "A nervous wreck!"

VP Doyle fired back at Reinartz, with a quick "Hey Pat, Grade 2 called - they want their joke back."

When last contacted, the Squirrels Executive was busy planning their summer vacation.

"I plan on doing some laundry once the snow disappears," said an obviously confused Sullivan. "My room's a complete mess and it'd be nice if I washed my car too. Oh, and Dexter and I plan on hanging out a lot; I haven't seen the guy much lately."

President Sullivan added the duo are also planning on going on walks to "pick up chicks."



Special to The Brunswickan

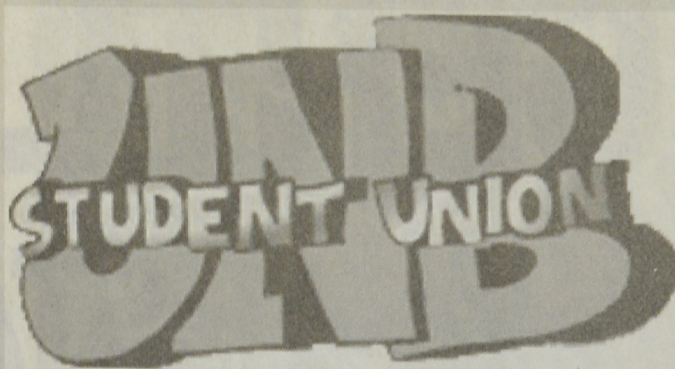
Former SQUIRRELS Secretary, "the puppet" - boy or girl?

Before leaving, Doyle pledged to be involved in the fight against nature in the coming fall, and warned the university community that SQUIRRELS will be back "with a vengeance."

Dexter had perhaps the most meaningful and consequential comment on the future of the club, assuring fans and supporters alike.

"Woof woof," he shouted. Clearing his throat, he added, "I'm Dexter. I like you."

A full update on Squirrels will be available in next week's issue of *The Brunswickan*. Those interested in joining are urged to contact unbsquirrels@hotmail.com.



Clubs & Societies

Bruns Staff

The Brunswickan

So, since you've already stopped by the offices of *The Brunswickan* and signed up as a volunteer, you're looking at something else to enrich your life here at UNB, meet new friends, and add some volunteer experience to your resume.

The Student Union offers an assortment of unique clubs and societies, many of which are listed below. Contact the Student Union (453-4955) for more information, or check out the UNBSU webpage at www.unb.ca/unbsu.

Special Interest

Amateur Radio Club
Amnesty International
Association of Baha'i Studies
Association of Collegiate Entrepreneurs (ACE)
Association of International Students in Science, Economics, and Commerce (AIESEC)
Artzone
Campus Emergency Response Team
Debating
Environmental Society
Frontier College Students for Literacy
Fredericton Science Fiction Society
Grad Class
Model United Nations Society
Orientation
Red 'N Black Revue
Resource Centre
Ski Team
Smart PACC
Snow Odyssey
Spectrum
Stage Left
Student Pride and Alumni Relations Committee (SPARC)
Students for the Quest of Undeniably Insane and Ridiculously Reckless Examples of Legendary Sliding (SQUIRRELS)
Toastmasters
Varsity Christian Fellowship
Wildlife Society
Women's Studies Student Association
WUSC
Yearbook

Athletic Clubs

Baseball Club
Cheerleaders
Downhill Racing
Judo Club
Rock and Ice Club
Women's Rugby
Varsity Mania
Woodsmen's Team

International Student's Organizations

Board of Intl. Students
African Student's Union
Bangladesh Cultural Society
Caribbean Circle
Chinese Student and Scholar Association

Indonesian Student's Society
Japanese Student's Society
Muslim Student's Association
Pakistan Student Association
Overseas Chinese Student Association
Singapore Student Association
South Asian Society
India Association

In addition, most faculties have at least one club to allow you to meet others with similar academic interests and make connections within the faculty.

Nursing
Nursing Society

Engineering
Chemical Engineering Society
Conference on Engineering Professional Development
Student Society of Electrical Engineering
Electrical Engineering Society
Forestry Association
Geological Engineering Society
Mechanical Engineers
Civil Engineering
Geodesy & Geomatics Society
Super Mileage Club
Technology Education Society

Arts
Arts Undergrad Society
Albert Ross Society
Anthropology Society
Franco
Classics Society
German Students Association
Hemlock Society
International Development Studies
Multimedia Society
Music Society
Undergrad Psychology Society
Undergrad Sociology Society

Computer Science
Computer Science Association

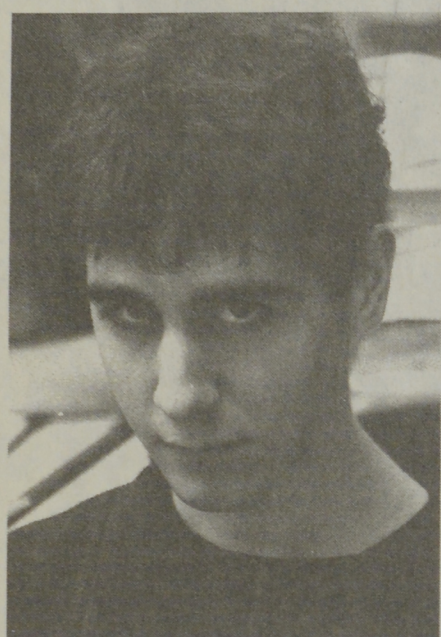
Science
Bailey Geological Society
Biochemistry Society
Biology Society
Health Studies Society
Undergrad Chemistry Society
Physic's Society

Kinesiology
Kinesiology Society

Business
Business Society

Law
Law Journal
Law Students Society

Remember: there is a rule that says you must be a volunteer at *The Brunswickan* before joining any other club. Really... we're not kidding. Stop by our offices in Room 35 of the Student Union Building and find out how.



Special to The Brunswickan

SQUIRRELS President Sean Sullivan - tired and confused

Secretary on the executive.

"We felt Dexter would be a definite asset to the executive. He has initiative, motivation, and is better prepared for the snow than we can ever be," exclaimed Doyle in an interview last year, referring to Dexter's more than ample fur coat.

Dexter brought good luck to the club, as their quest to conquer nature and bring winter to Fredericton came to a climax with the first snowstorm of the season last November.

"We are pleased Mother Nature has finally given in, ending our season-long battle with her and her forces," said a press release issued by Dexter. "We are also overjoyed we were able to deliver snow on such a grand scale to all of New Brunswick. I'm Dexter!"

Accusations the club was formed solely for the satisfaction of its executive began to surface soon after Dexter's appointment, and Sullivan and Doyle were quick to dismiss the rumours.

"I'm not saying anything, you damn b***s," said a curt, and furious, Doyle. "If people don't like it, they can go to hell."

Although sliding is a primary concern for the club, its goals are also somewhat political and Squirrels has recently launched a campaign against the use of the number "four," hereby referred to simply as "2+2."

The club also advocates sliding with Pelican-brand flying saucers only, and is completely anti-sledding. According to Doyle, sleds "suck" and "are for losers."

With this many successes in such a short period of time, something horrible was bound to happen. In December, the greatest possible catastrophe occurred - Dexter became lost in time.

While out for a leisurely walk in Odell Park, Dexter began chasing his tail. As he chased himself in circles he started spinning faster and faster, until he eventually just disappeared.

"Woo, woo, woo," exclaimed Doyle, spinning his arms in a circular motion. "That's what happened."

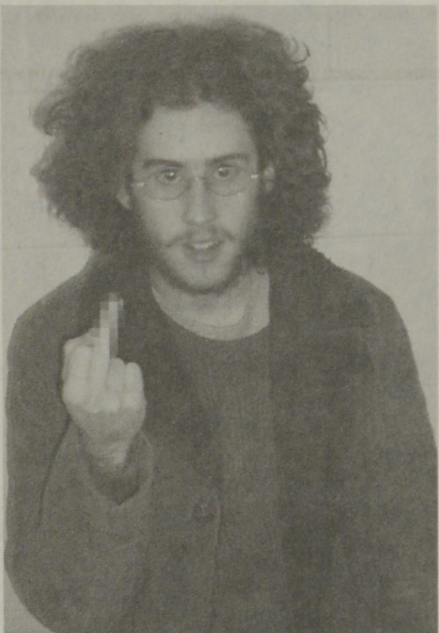
Doyle continued to explain that Dexter was flung into a place far beyond human perception - a place between space and time.

Squirrels, hoping for Dexter's safe return but needing someone to fill the reins until it happened, recruited an interim Secretary, a puppet known simply as the "puppet."

Sullivan and Doyle have been unable to determine the sex of the puppet, as the cursory glance under the tail revealed nothing more than a giant hole. "I want to call it 'Misty,'" lamented Sullivan. "Doyle thinks it's a boy puppet and should be called 'William.' He's wrong."

Just a week after its appointment, "the puppet" was kidnapped.

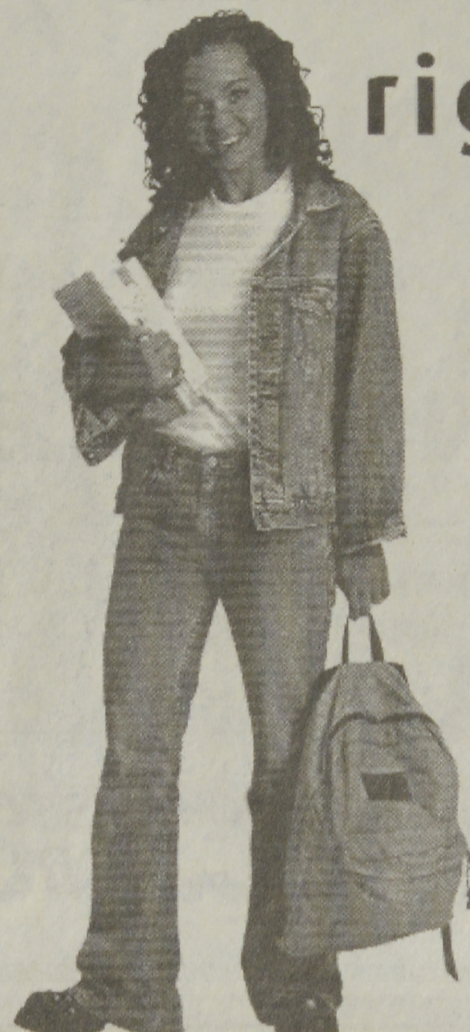
Sullivan, reportedly in seclusion at the time, was unable to comment. Doyle, however, lashed out, calling the act "a grilled cheese sandwich."



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SQUIRRELS VP Brendan Doyle - "Get that camera out of my face!"

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