What are they... NUTS?

Stories of the eccentricities, oddities and just plain wackiness that makes us human

SQUIRRELS Secretary located

Lovable Dexter believed to be on cross-country trek after adventure in time

Skip Thompson
The Brunswickan

It seems Dexter might be home soon. The adorable Secretary of UNB's official sliding club, Students for the Quest of Undeniably Insane and Ridiculously Reckless Examples of Legendary Sliding (SQUIRRELS) was lost in a place between space and time several months ago, after a mishap during a walk in Fredericton's Odell Park.

One individual, who wanted to remain anonymous, reported seeing Dexter in British Columbia several weeks ago, but the validity of the report was doubted, due to possible drug usage by the individual.

This photo, however, taken by tourists outside of Alberta's Banff National Park, proves Dexter has returned how.



Dexter has been spotted in Alberta - will he return soon?

Shaking his head in confusion, SQUIRRELS VP Brendan Doyle admitted he had "no bleeping idea how Dexter got back," but is excited to finally see Dexter again.

SQUIRRELS President Sean Patrick Sullivan, also bewildered by this shocking turn of events, muttered a brief and startling reference to gnomes and their possible involvement.

Further developments will be presented in next week's issue of *The Brunswickan*

Man climbs China's tallest skyscraper

BEIJING (AP) A Chinese man has been arrested for scaling the world's third-tallest skyscraper barehanded, a fire official said Monday.

The man took about 50 minutes to climb the 425-meter-tall (1,400-foot-tall) Jinmao Tower on Sunday afternoon, ending at about 5 p.m., the newspaper Shanghai Daily said. It said he was immediately arrested.

Police refused to release the man's name or any details of the climb, but a fire department spokesman said the man was from neighboring Anhui province. The spokesman, who wouldn't give his name, had no other details.

Local newspapers were ordered not report the incident, a police spokesman said.

Shanghai authorities last week refused permission for Frenchman Alain Robert, who has scaled a series of tall buildings around theworld, to climb a hotel that is Shanghai's third-tallest building,according to the Shanghai Daily.

Woman gets heart transplant despite collision with duck

ST. LOUIS (AP) A duck might have gotten in the way, but Linda Horner still got her new heart.

Horner, a heart-transplant patient from Canton, Mo., was within sight of Barnes-Jewish Hospital early Thursday morning when a 5-pound duck slammed through the windshield of the helicopter ferrying her to surgery.

The duck, which landed on the stretcher beside Horner, didn't make it.

But thanks to pilot Sam Cain, who landed the helicopter safely despite the rush of cold air and a bleeding cut above his left eye that limited his vision, Horner was on time for her 7 a.m. surgery.

She was recovering in critical but stable condition Thursday night.

"It was very abrupt, very instantaneous," said Cain, an Army-trained helicopter pilot. "I had blood all over my face. The first thing to do is level the aircraft and make sure all the systems are normal."

The Air Evac Lifeteam helicopter was bringing Horner from a hospital in Quincy, Ill., to St. Louis for her heart-transplant surgery. The helicopter was flying at about 500 feet and 80 mph when it flew into the path of seven to eight ducks.

"It happened really fast," said Angie Alger, the registered nurse on board. "Out of the corner of my eye, I saw a dark shadow of a bird go past. I heard several thuds hit the aircraft - dot, dot, dot - and one big crash."

Horner was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy, a deterioration of the heart muscle, in November 1999. Doctors immediately placed her on a transplant list.

She got the call at 1:30 a.m. on Thursday that a heart was ready and waiting in St. Louis. With just two and a half hours to make it to Barnes-Jewish Hospital, Horner had to fly.

Cain said it was a smooth 42-minute flight until the duck hit the helicopter just before landing. A spokeswoman for the Federal Aviation Administration said the incident is under investigation.

Horner's husband, Ron, bought a small, stuffed yellow duck for her in the hospital gift shop. It'll have to do until the Air Evac crew members have the duck that crashing into the helicopter stuffed.

"She joked that it was her good-luck duck and that it helped her though this," said Randy Horner, Linda Horner's son.



Father bites son's coach

ENSALEM, Pa. (AP) A father allegedly bit a coach during a fracas that broke out after his 7-year-old son lost a wrestling match.

The bite caused an injury that required a tetanus shot and antibiotics, said Paul McGarrigle Jr., the coach who was bitten. The father has been barred from attending matches held by a youth wrestling club in this Philadelphia suburb.

The altercation happened during a recent contest between the Bensalem Youth Wrestling Club and the Neshaminy Wrestling League. When a Bensalem wrestler won the match, the father confronted a referee and said the winning move was against the rules.

The man started shouting and left the gym after coaches said the pin was allowed, but he returned a short time later and a shoving match ensued, McGarrigle said. During the struggle, the father bit him, he said.

"He just put his head down and bit me and broke the skin," McGarrigle said. "I was hurt, and I could not go back to work that day."

The father then made an obscene gesture in front of the coaches and the other children, Bensalem police said.

Police would not release the father's name because no charges have been filed, though they could be brought later.

McGarrigle said the children were traumatized by the fight, especially his own son.

"He was crying, and I had to go back to the gym to let him know that I was OK," McGarrigle said. "I think that bothered me more than anything."

LOST

A wireless lapel microphone and pouch was removed from MacLaggan 105 auditorium on February 23. This microphone is completely useless apart from the auditorium sound system. The unit can be returned to Media Services, no questions asked. Please return by campus mail in an envelope addressed to Media Services.

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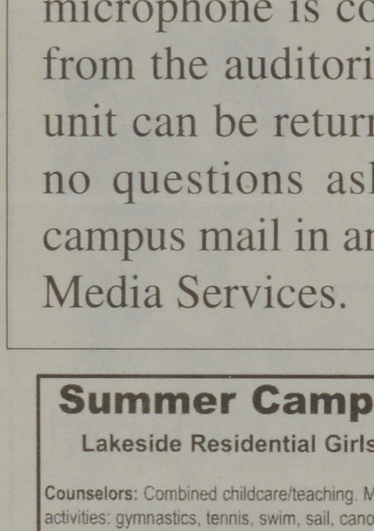

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