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The Black Squirrel

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Black Squirrel "Movement" Appears on Campus

by Paule Lampe
LinenWorld Writer

Recently on campus the Lindenwood community has been talking about The Black Squirrel. About a month ago, signs were hung at various places on campus which simply read, "Beware the Black Squirrel." These signs also had an illustration of a silhouetted squirrel in a tree.

About three weeks ago, new signs appeared which stated, "Not a Disney movie, Not a racial slur, Just a cute little critter with an attitude!" At the bottom of these signs were the words, "The Black Squirrel! COMING SOON!" Also hanging on campus were homemade posters which quoted Nietzsche, Shakespeare, and Samuel Adams, among other notable men.

Approximately two weeks ago a banner was hung from the watertower behind Sibley Hall. The banner read, "In the black, but out of touch." It also had the Black Squirrel symbol on it, along with several dollar signs. Students say, the banner quote was evidently a comment on Lindenwood's apparent favorable financial situation and the fact that some students feel college president Dennis Spellmann is not in tune with student needs.

More recently, selected members of the Lindenwood community received a pamphlet entitled "The Black Squirrel Manifesto." The pamphlet stated the

purpose and motivation of The Black Squirrel. It also included an explanation of the Black Squirrel symbol and a poem which commented upon the state of Lindenwood. The purpose is stated in the graphic to the right.

The mystery of The Black Squirrel is that no one knows who is responsible for the signs and posters. Apparently many say, The Black Squirrel, whoever or whatever it may be, is not affiliated with the college. If anybody does know who or what The Black Squirrel is, they are evidently

sader. A modern day Robin Hood."

Many on campus believed The Black Squirrel to be some racist comment. Anrita Brown said she was one of those until she saw the second wave of signs, which clearly stated that it is "Not a racial slur." About the posters Brown commented, "I thought the quotes were good. They should be put in the Administrator's office."

Some students think The Black Squirrel is some type of underground newspaper which is to be published soon. "I think it's...a cry for reform. Somewhat

only making news here at Lindenwood, but in The St. Charles Post as well. After the banner was hung on the watertower, the Post ran a news article concerning the students' dissatisfaction with the college. Although the Post did not specifically mention The Black Squirrel, it did refer to a student "movement" on campus. Included with the article was a photograph of the banner in which The Black Squirrel's symbol can be seen.

Dr. C. Edward Balog said of The Black Squirrel, "I think it's one of the best pieces of student work since I've been here." Balog continued by saying that he thought The Black Squirrel was creative and critical without being offensive.

While the Lindenwood community continues to discuss who The Black Squirrel may be, they now know the purpose behind the student "movement."

The mystery of the Black Squirrel is that no one knows who is responsible for the signs and posters.

keeping it a secret, leaving the college community in the dark.

A number of people thought that The Black Squirrel may be resident student Lavon Boothby. When asked about this accusation, Boothby replied, "Everyone thinks it's me, but it's not. I want to know who's doing this." When questioned as to who he thought The Black Squirrel is, Jeff Chandler stated, "I think he's a cru-

like the 'Subway Express', only more eloquent," stated Dave Powell.

Others have taken a more lighthearted approach to The Black Squirrel. "It's obviously the work of the radical satanic underground here at Lindenwood," said Bryan S. Audrey. Barb Samuels stated, "I think it's like the Black Panthers, only they're fuzzier."

The Black Squirrel is not

The Black Squirrel's mission is to raise the awareness of the Lindenwood community by reminding it of the Enlightened ideals she was founded upon, as well as the traditions that have arisen since. The Black Squirrel rejects the notion that the past is evil and seeks only to convey the beauty of the Lindenwood legacy to the School's new benefactors. To this end, the Black Squirrel has waged a propaganda campaign and offered his symbol as rally-point for all people of "the Wood" who would join together to seek a return to a school that cares about students, not numbers.



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Copy of the back page of the The Black Squirrel Manifesto that appeared in student and staff mailboxes last week.