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The albino squirrel is a bit of a celebrity here on campus. I was wondering, is there only one, or have we had a few of these little creatures who have made their home here at the college?

Mitchell Gray '21

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February 2019

Question:

The albino squirrel is a bit of a celebrity here on campus. I was wondering, is there only one, or have we had a few of these little creatures who have made their home here at the college?

Mitchell Gray '21

Answer:

Dearest Mitchell,

Why, I always like to reflect back on stories such as these! They help showcase just how welcoming our beautiful campus is, even to furry little creatures such as the white squirrel who has found a home here. There have been sightings of the albino critters for quite a long time, and because of this we can only assume that there has been more than one such resident in the college's history.

In fact, I recall a time when we bid an albino squirrel a fond farewell after a tragic accident on Third Street. The squirrel, affectionately named Snowy by the community, passed away back in 2009 surrounded by the compassion and adoration of students, faculty and staff.

The more I let my mind wander, the more I am drawn to this unique memory.

In honor of this little Green Knight, more than 100 students gathered for a funeral service to celebrate his boisterous and impactful life. They created a beautiful ceremony with pallbearers, eulogists, musicians and speakers. Passionate



Ask the Abbot

As the founder of St. Norbert College, and having a prime seat in the center of campus throughout the years, I, Abbot Bernard Pennings, hold the answers to many of your burning questions about the college.

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performances began the event with a song, “How Grey Thou Aren’t,” and met its conclusion with a rendition of a Michael Jackson tune, “Black or White.”

It was certainly a dramatic occasion, and it brings a smile to my face each time it comes to mind. Though just a little creature, Snowy represented the spirit and community we foster here on our great campus.

Though his passing brought much sadness, his legacy lives on in the sightings of other albino squirrels that scutter around the campus grounds, making their home amongst us. It is certain that these creatures have quite the history, and I would like to think that they will stay a happy presence for many years to come.

Responses to “Ask the Abbot” questions are penned by St. Norbert College staff in the name of Abbot Bernard Pennings, who founded St. Norbert College in 1898.

St. Norbert College

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