



Campus cable prices, offerings confuse students

By **Marc Allerdt**
Norwich Guidon Staff Writer

Cable prices are always a main subject of conversation for seniors at the start of each semester. Often they ask: Why are they charging so high? Could we work something out for a student discount with our local cable company?

Mark Euse, a senior criminal justice major from Dayton, Ohio, said: "It's not like they have to come over and install anything they simply switch us on."

Norwich students have questioned the cost for cable is too high for those living on a student budget.

"I think what they charge us is a bit extreme but due to the circumstances it being a monopoly, they can do that," said

Michael Neely a senior business management major from Fort Worth, Tex. "We have no other place to go for cable or no other deals that we can bargain with so if you want cable you got to pay the price.

"We get a lot of people who move over here from Montpelier and Barre (and) they are very surprised at how low our prices are."
-Goodrich-

"Not all of us have jobs and income so we really don't have the money to spend on cable each semester," Neely said. "It is a pretty big sacrifice to pay for a semester."

Northfield-based Trans-Video cable company office manager Jill Goodrich said "Norwich is paying just as much as the town's people. We have two surrounding towns with cable companies, one working in the Barre area and one

Goodrich said. "We haven't gone digital yet. We are still on analog system and when we do the prices will rise a little.

Goodrich explained that "the prices all come from the networks on what they charge us. We have to pay them every single month so much per subscriber. Some are 40 to 45 cents per subscriber."

Goodrich explained that the cable company has about 1500 subscribers.

Members of the Corps of Cadets and civilian students may purchase cable but it is only offered as a privilege to the seniors in the Corps of Cadets. Underclassmen in the Corps are not permitted to purchase cable.

"It's a privilege to have cable so the time senior year kicks in everyone wants to get cable because they have waited three

years to get it," said Spencer Knowles, a senior history and political science major from Cape Cod, Mass.

"I had it last semester and they just took it away today, we couldn't afford to pay it this semester," Knowles said. "First semester everyone has summer money so we split it and spent the 200 bucks. You spent all your money and books are 500 bucks. It's crazy,"

"I think it's pretty high," said Maneelangel Matos, a senior political science major from Italy. "I definitely think they could work something out with the cable company.

"I'm fortunate that I live with two guys and we can split it down

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Some NU students fail to confirm on-line enrollment

By **Marissa Luczkow**
Norwich Guidon Staff Writer

For the past two years Norwich has been having students confirm their enrollment online for the coming semester, a very important step in keeping track of how many students are on campus, according to the registrar's office.

At the beginning of each semester students are asked to access banner web and confirm their enrollment. Verifying enrollment is a way for the university to keep a record of how many students are in attendance during any given semester.

This is also a way to keep accountability, in case of a fire or an emergency situation, according to Keith Gauvin, assistant registrar.

This past fall the student population had a "graduate program including masters of architecture was 748, and 30 non-matriculate students," Gauvin said. "The undergraduate population was 1,903, consisting of 442 residential civilian students, the commuter population was 356, and there were 1,105 members of the corps of cadets."

With the student population being 2,681, the registrar's office uses banner web to create an easier way to see how many students are returning each semester.

This process takes about a week to get a final number, Gauvin said.

This process has only been in effect for two years. In years prior, it was the professor's responsibility to take attendance, which was filled out on a bubble sheet and then put into a computer, Gauvin

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in Montpelier both being within 10 miles apart from each other.

"Adelphia cable, (which) covers all over Vermont and Charter Communication and they're both actually a lot higher than we are,"

Science roundtable



Bill Parker, CEO of Diffraction Ltd., addresses approximately 25 students, staff and faculty during a Genetics Roundtable held Feb. 2 in Milano Ballroom. Diffraction, Ltd., a Waitsfield, Vermont-based company, was part of the program sponsored by Vermont Genetics Network, the Norwich Math & Science Division, and the NU Career Center. Dr. Ed Carney is seen seated in the background. (Almagambetov photo).



Letters to the Editor

Letters from the Norwich Community

Dear Editor:

Substance abuse is a serious issue with college students across America. Norwich University is no different. I feel students are not as informed as well as they could be about the risks involved with substance abuse. The majority of the students here at Norwich University do not take alcohol abuse as seriously as they should. I have witnessed this first hand seeing student's just breeze through the schools alcohol awareness program (NAAP class), my self included the first time I completed the course. They do get as much out of it as they should. I see it as the responsibility of the Norwich

University officials, as well as the students, to work together and help each other with the education of the general Norwich University community to the detrimental effects of substance abuse. College should develop life survival and textbook knowledge.

Norwich University must realize that no matter how harsh the charges might be college students will continue to drink. I feel that expulsion and suspension are extreme measures taken by the school. There are extenuating factors which should be taken into consideration when a student is faced with certain charges. The situation should really be examined to its fullest

before judgment is made. I believe students are dismissed from school far too easily and before we attempt to educate them of the risks that can be encountered under the influence of alcohol. I feel more could be done in educating students. With regards to the alcohol policy, I feel that 21 years old students should not face a violation of the alcohol policy (VAP) when consuming alcohol off-campus. However all other charges, such as bringing discredit to the university,

should still be in effect with the same punishment.

Most students are always looking to put the blame on someone else for when they get caught, whether it is the Northfield police or Norwich for having the rules here to strict. Students must take personal responsibility for their actions; it was a choice that they made and need to realize that. As life goes on and some are put into tough situations, they must pay the consequences for their actions.

Something must be done about the student's education on substance about. We are not in college just to receive a degree, we are also preparing for real life and what it entails. I would also like to ask my fellow Norwich students to be safe whenever alcohol is in the picture. Do not be afraid to afraid to talk to someone if you have an issue and you are worried about it.

Colin Treem

As We See It



A couple weeks ago Company Executive Officers (XO's) within the corps were told to complete a community service project. The project chosen was to collect money for CareNet. Those who asked what the money went to were told "it's to help pregnant teens; goes to teen-pregnancy centers; and it goes to an anti-abortion lobbyist group." This caused an unnecessary and much avoidable conflict.

According to the CareNet Website, the organization raises money to "offer free pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, peer counseling services, post-abortion support and other practical, emo-

tional and spiritual help to empower women and men facing pregnancy related concerns," (<http://www.care-net.org>).

Some company XO's refused to ask members of the corps to donate money. The problem, however, was that some members of the corps didn't want to donate for personal reasons. Some were not given full disclosure of the organization before they were told to support it.

Before such projects are promoted as community service, all participants should know the facts and be allowed to decide whether to participate.

Service to our Nation has always been a hallmark of Norwich students and alumni. I want to alert you to a very unique opportunity to continue to serve our Nation, and in particular, the State of Vermont. I was visited recently by members of the Vermont State Guard. This is a group you may not know about. The Vermont State Guard was first organized in 1941 following the induction of the 43rd Division, Vermont National Guard, into federal

service for World War II. Many State Guard members were activated to guard bridges, power stations, and other Vermont facilities. They remained at home as a volunteer force while our active duty, Reservists, and National Guard members fought overseas. It was reestablished in 1982 under the direction of Vermont's Adjutant General to "organize a cadre of the Vermont State Guard to be prepared for any emergency situation and to serve as an "effective back-up for the public safety and security of the state." This group cannot be ordered overseas, but they can be ordered out by the Governor in times of State crisis or emergency. There are five battalions of the Vermont State Guard in Vermont. They have approached me to ask if they could establish a company at our National Guard Armory of the Future to help support them in their noble mission. Membership can range between the age of 17 and 70. This is for no pay and the only purchase required is a green Vermont State Guard hat. However, BDUs are authorized to be worn when training or actually carrying out a mission. Training normally lasts for two hours, one evening a month, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. To find out more detailed information, their web site is www.vtguard.com/vsg.

The battalion is made up of two major groups. The first are Cadre members, in which I am confident any of our students would be qualified to serve. The training revolves around emergency response teams. After the training you are certified with a community emergency response team certification (CERT). There is also a category of members which only respond in times of emergency, primarily for back up EMT service, traffic control, and crowd control.

I have invited Lieutenant Scott Law NU '01, who will become the State Guard Company XO, to campus whenever he chooses. I have suggested that he set up information in the Mess Hall for those that might have an interest. You can also contact Colonel David Freeman at (802)476-2074 or ColDaveF@aol.com. BG Kelley's office will have additional information if you are interested in joining this group. You will be joining a group of over 1,000 citizens who stand ready to serve our State in time of emergency. The training will be excellent and with the training many of you have already received, I know that you will be an incredibly valuable resource to them. If you are on a commissioning track or are presently a drilling member of a Guard or Reserve Unit, unfortunately you are not eligible to join. The reason for that is relatively simple, if there is a significant enough emergency, you will already be recalled to active duty and would not be available for back up service to remain here in Vermont and serve with the Vermont State Guard.

The President's Corner



The Norwich Guidon is a twice-monthly student newspaper distributed at Norwich University. It provides laboratory experience for students in the Communications program. claims asserted by advertisers, letter writers, editorials and other articles do not represent the positions of Norwich University. *The Norwich Guidon* welcomes signed letters to the editor. They should be no longer than 300 words. Unsigned letters will not be printed, but names may be withheld upon worthy request. All letters are subject to editing for length and good taste. **Mailing address: *The Norwich Guidon*, Communications Center, Norwich University, Northfield, VT 056632.** www.norwich.edu/guidon.

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Comic books remain popular while undergoing changes

By Laura Lemire
Norwich Guidon Staff Writer

Comic books, in the form we see them in today, evolved from a style of artwork in which pictures and dialogue are skillfully crafted in to a story which invokes the imagination, according to Michael Zapcic a clerk at *Jay and Silent Bob's Secret Stash* in Red Bank, N.J.

The first comics produced for mass-market distribution were not intended to be sold, according to Mark Paterson owner of *Comics Outpost* in Barre, Vt., but they were intended to be given away as a promotion.

Printing presses, left idle because of the great depression, were utilized to create books filled with reprint comic strips to be distributed.

"They were giving them away as a premium for buying something else and a person wondered if they would sell by themselves, stuck a 10-cent price sticker on them, put them on a rack, and they flew," Paterson said. "They were cheap, they were fat and 64 pages a dime, people ate them up."

The medium, which in its present form has existed for roughly a hundred years, was originally marketed towards a younger audience, Paterson said.

"I love watching little kids come in and get hooked on the medium," Zapcic said. "Comic books are the first and may be the only pure American art form in my opinion."

"You can see a big budget movie unfold for \$2.99 or whatever, but comic books, they open doors for people to get lost in; it's escapism," Zapcic said.

"I think that there are things to learn, especially for younger audiences, their minds are open," said Jeremy Muir, 26, a clerk at *Hero's Kingdom* in St. Albans, Vt. "When they use the concept of an imaginary world, it gives them a different outlet to see things, to understand."

"It also gives them the chance to form their own thoughts about issues tackled within the books," Muir said. "I think that comic

books allow their imaginations to wander out and find their own beliefs somehow."

"One of the reasons that comic books are unique is they are a little bit subversive; they are original, independent ideas," Datema said.

"The media effects how people view the world, comic books are a little bit of an opening in to another way of thinking. It is not as controlled by corporate interest as television and some of the other media," Datema said.

"Comic books are great for the imagination," said Michele Denault-Reynolds, wife of the owner of both *Hero's Kingdom* in St. Albans, Vt. and *Earth Prime*

of the comic books is apparent. An obvious change in content is the storyline.

Modern comics contain much more elaborate and interconnected stories and it is not uncommon to see stories span for four issues or more, some story lines have spanned for 12 issues, a whole year's worth of comics, according to Paterson.

Many of the original comics which were targeted towards children are now filled with substantially more graphic violent and sexual content Reynolds explained.

"Comics are about adventure," Reynolds said. "Instead of hav-

shifted dramatically, Zapcic explained.

"We do get parents who come in saying that it's their kid's first comic book which is great," he said. "More and more you see people between 20 and 45 years of age coming in for comics, most of them are male."

Part of the reason for the shift in readership is content, according to Roy Datema owner of *Wonder Cards and Comics* in Berlin, Vt. Comics have branched away from the cartoon-like images and evolved in to a medium which has adapted as a result of the influence of modern culture and the media.

mostly men. They are all drawing the idealized woman," Reynolds said.

"Looking at girls in that way can be a little subliminal," Muir said. "The images of women in comics certainly perpetuate an unrealistic standard and, in a way, it's demeaning."

A change in the way female characters are drawn may not be imminent, but just recently Wonder Woman's costume has been altered slightly.

The boots she is depicted to be wearing used to have stiletto spikes, which would be hard to run in and difficult to ward off villains with, have been changed, according to Reynolds.

Wonder Woman now adorns a pair of flat bottomed boots, minus the heels.

According to James Dalton, former owner of *The Wizard's Cave* in Barre, Vt., many parents feel that the images and content of modern comics are unsuitable for children.

"It used to be targeted strictly to kids, and it hasn't been for quite some time," Paterson said. "Kids are the smallest part of my market unfortunately. It is a matter of sadness to me that less than a tenth of my customers are under the age of 15," Paterson said.

Along with the shift in content there is another factor which can be attributed to the decline in the youth audience: technology.

Technology has had a double-edged effect on the comic market because advancements have both rejuvenated the industry and diverted the audience.

"Comics are no longer colored the way they used to be and that is a bigger change than you'd imagine, because from a process that was made fun of by Roy Lichtenstein in the 1960s where he did pop art themes, that showed the dot pattern on the character's skin, now it's



"There will always be hardcore fans and there is always the fan that the comic touches in some strange way.

They are going to be the people that the comic book companies cater to."

-Zapcic-

Comics in Burlington, Vt. "They are a way to open your imagination both visually and mentally."

The growing and changing of the industry is reflected in direct relation to the social changes of the American culture, according to Brian Metcalf, 19, a student from St. Albans, Vt. and avid reader of the Marvel title, *X-men*.

In fact, the development of the books we have today can be viewed in a similar light to the development of other forms of media such as television.

The shift in the content of some

ing a book about sex and violence, it's about having the adventure. Along the way you might grab a kiss here and there and go through angst, but it's about the story."

According to Reynolds, around the same time the music industry was dealing with issues of suitable content, the comic book industry was also tackling the same issue and adopted a rudimentary rating system similar to the rating system used with movie titles.

Today the readership demographic of the industry has



"All of your mainstream movies nowadays have gun shots and blood," Muir said. "I think that violence in various forms of media, right now, is just to a point now where it is accepted socially within America culture."

The images found between the pages of a comic today are grittier, the storylines have become more complicated and real world situations and issues are being mixed more and more into the adventures.

"Almost all the artists in the industry are young and they are

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Students prepare for Vietnam study abroad program this summer

Sarah Davis
Norwich Guidon Staff Writer

This summer, the third group from Norwich University's Visions Abroad program will be traveling on a service-learning project to its furthest destination yet: Hue, Vietnam.

This year's participants have their work cut out for them during the seven-month long preparation, which includes a three-credit course on the history and culture of Vietnam and attending logistical meetings, according to 19-year-old Tahina Montoya, a sophomore criminal justice major with a minor in Spanish.

Montoya is looking forward to learning about the country she and 13 others will be visiting.

NU history Professor Rowly Brucken will be teaching the course titled *The History of Vietnam* for the participants and the NU Visions Abroad program coordinator, Nicole DiDomenico.

Brucken will also be attending the trip this summer.

Adam Duby, a 20-year-old junior computer engineering major from Boston, Mass., is one of the students who has been involved with planning this year's trip from the beginning.

As a participant in last year's service-learning trip to Pommern, Tanzania, Duby hopes to raise other students' cultural awareness, as well as his own.

"I want other students here to know that there is a life outside of Northfield, and that they should take advantage of the opportunities Norwich offers," Duby said.

"With this trip, I will be volunteering as well as helping to (change) the image that other

hospitals, helping kids that have lost limbs and showing them how to walk again," said Arismendy Alvarez, a 21-year-old participant in the trip this summer. "I am dead-set to work at the UN after Norwich."

"Knowing that my classmates are going to be officers, fighting

Alvarez, along with Brucken and another Norwich student, have helped establish an Amnesty International chapter on campus.

Brucken is the Amnesty International specialist for the nation of Zimbabwe, and this chapter is meant to tackle issues which are neither left nor right-

Cong and get their take on the war, and what has occurred since.

"I want to connect with ex-VC and ask them about their feelings and thoughts on the war, including for America," he said.

"Through Norwich University you have the opportunity to study abroad in a foreign nation unlike your own," with completely different living conditions and traditions, Alvarez said.

He wants to encourage other people to volunteer and to take different advantages offered, like in the NU Visions Abroad program.

Senior communications major Carson Miller, a 21-year-old from Atlanta, Georgia, agrees with Alvarez's aim to drive others to take an active role in their education.

"It's great that Norwich is offering these opportunities to study abroad and learn other people's cultures while improving themselves," said Miller, who spent his summer on a Mediterranean cruise with the U.S. Navy as a midshipman.

"We went to Romania, the nation of Georgia, through the straits near Istanbul and into Spain, all while still in school."

"I think that if word gets out that NU has a solid study abroad program in place, more people would want to come here because of the opportunities that it would offer," Miller said.



*"Through Norwich
you have the
opportunity to study
abroad in a foreign
nation unlike your
own." -Alvarez-*

nations have of us as Americans," Montoya said.

"Many countries think that we are selfish and self-centered. I think going to help others around the world will help get us a step closer to breaking this stereotypical image," Montoya said.

"I look forward to working in

the wars because diplomacy failed, is why I wanted to become a SWAP major."

Although he has not decided exactly where his humanitarian career may take him, Alvarez is also looking into joining the Peace Corps or taking the LSAT to focus on international law with an emphasis on human rights.

wing, according to Alvarez.

"I hope to get a better understanding of the effects of war, including war over a span of time, like in Vietnam," Alvarez said. "I'm sure that when the landmines were placed, the end of the war was not in sight."

Alvarez wants to take time during the trip to speak to ex-Viet

US Senate candidate Tarrant speaks to students, residents of Northfield

By Geoff Ankuda
Norwich Guidon Staff Writer

Northfield voters got an opportunity to meet Rich Tarrant, a man who hopes to replace Vermont's lone senator Jim Jeffords who is set to retire from the U.S. senate this year. The event, which was a spaghetti dinner, provided voters a chance to hear Tarrant speak and ask him questions about his positions on a variety of issues.

Tarrant, a republican, who said he will be independent of all

special interest groups including the National Republican Party by not accepting any money from them, hosted the event in the Northfield Library on Feb. 8. The Northfield dinner is one of the many events Tarrant has hosted around the state.

"We have already been around the state a number of times," Tarrant said. "We have 1,000 events planned in 12 months. So north, south, east, and west I've already been around the state four or five times."

This is not Tarrant's first time in

Northfield, during his college days when he played basketball for St. Michael's College he said he played against Norwich more than once.

Tarrant said he has approached Norwich President Richard Schneider about holding an event on campus and is working to form student organizations on every campus in the state.

"We need to get the student vote out, especially at Norwich," Tarrant said, adding that he is unsure what the format for an event on campus would be but

he said Norwich was going to be a key part of his campaign this year.

"Norwich students could be a huge help," he said. "I think their political philosophy is a little different than other colleges."

"I might be more likely to get support from Norwich so it's a very important part of the campaign," Tarrant said.

Barry Mynter, a Northfield resident and former Norwich football coach was one of the people who attended the dinner and described it as "extremely

interesting.

"We learned something about a man who we only read about in the newspaper and it's always interesting to hear someone give their idea from a personal standpoint," Mynter said. "I think he has a lot of good and innovative ideas."

Mynter said he thought Tarrant was not "a mainstream politician by any stretch of the imagination."

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New course aims to build, evaluate officer candidates for corps

By Amanda Benson

Norwich Guidon Staff Writer

Upon her return from winter break, Cadet Staff Sgt. Martha Rojek, a 20-year-old junior biology and education major from Canton, Mich., was already concerned with her upcoming biology labs and physics quizzes.

Her focus was diverted when she learned that if she wanted to become an officer in the corps of cadets her senior year, she was required to sign-up for newly

developed, week-long officers' leadership course, also known as the commander's course. She learned it would take place in the evening, during the second week of classes.

Despite Rojek's frustrations about the new workload, she ignored negative feedback about the course from peers and signed her name on the list.

"I've wanted an officer position since freshman year," Rojek said, "and even though I'm busy, even though I have other things I

could be doing like complaining, I really want to be an officer and that's my ultimate goal."

Late last semester, several cadet officers created the curriculum for a series of leadership courses, which would be used in addition to the original promotion policies for the corps and the commander's course would be the first of many for cadets, according to the cadet command staff.

It all started in April 2005, when the newly elected officers for the 2005-06 academic year decided the promotion system for every job in the corps needed a change, said Col. Scott Henne, Deputy Commandant.

"The promotion system that we've had to this point is just really depressing," said Cadet Col. Ben Brewster, a 21-year-old senior history major from Plata, Md.

The original promotional board system for all cadets was based on physical training scores, grade point averages, and an interview before a board of cadets and administrators.

"I can't stand that fact that leadership is going to (be based) on those three characteristics," Brewster said. "So you might be a good student, you might be able to run around the track pretty fast for a PT test, and you might be able to impress someone for five minutes, but what are you really made of?"

Cadet Lt. Col. Matthew Reith, a 21-year-old senior criminal justice major from Fairfield, Conn., agreed with Brewster in that the

courses were designed to balance out the promotion system and to raise the standards for the corps.

"If you stay as an enlisted (soldier) or an officer over the course of your 20 years (in the service), you can expect to go back to a professional school every four or five years to get trained on what to know for the next level of jobs," Henne said.

"The curriculum for the course took three straight weeks to put together," Reith explained, adding that one of those weeks was over winter break.

Reith said he devoted his time because, "it's a prime opportunity to train the officers for next year. For example, some seniors didn't know what their jobs were, but now the juniors will know what each one is."

Henne clarified that the juniors aren't the only cadets who will take a course.

"Each academic class has a course tailored for their needs and the challenges that lay before them," Henne said.

Sophomores will be advised to take the advanced non-commissioned officers course (ANOC) several weeks following the commanders' course and, in March, the freshman will be trained on becoming corporals.

In the commander's course, the cadets were graded by the senior leadership and then listed on a ranking chart, Brewster said.

"Someone's going to finish on top as the honor graduate student and someone is going to be dead last," Brewster said,

adding that he wanted the juniors to have something to compare themselves to when they went up for their promotion.

Despite the senior officers' vision and understanding of the course, many of the junior cadets felt uninformed as to why the course was being implemented this year, Rojek said.

"We asked him, 'Why now? Why is this something we have to do that you didn't?'" Rojek said.

Rojek was frustrated with the implementation of the course until she attended the first class and Brewster explained the course objectives.

"Upperclassmen come early for cadre week, we have our own training during the year, and this just seemed like one more thing," Rojek said. "Some of us have lots of credits, but after seeing his purpose behind (the course), it seemed more relevant."

Brewster explained that the goal of the course was to screen and evaluate the potential officer candidates for next year and to create an additional learning environment for them to better understand the purpose of the officer jobs.

"The implementation of (the course) is not to say there weren't good things done in the past. It's to say we can make it better," Brewster said.

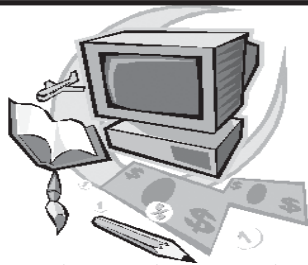
Not every cadet grasped his enthusiasm, however.

"I didn't participate because I

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Career Corner

It's your future we're talking about....



Networking – it's all about who you know! There are a lot of networking socials, hosted by various alumni clubs, coming up during spring break. The events are held during spring break for the sole purpose of encouraging current students to interact with alumni who may be able to help students find full-time or summer employment. Make the most of these opportunities by attending an event near you. Check out the Norwich Alumni Office home page for details.

Below are some practical tips about networking and professional business etiquette. If you would like more in-depth information, please visit the Career Development Center, located on the top floor of Harmon Hall, 485-2125. We have handouts available and are happy to meet with you to discuss your specific career needs. Here are those tips:

- Dress professionally. You will be mingling with people who can assist you with your career. You need to favorably impress them.
- Smile when you enter the room and when you meet new people. It shows you are pleasant, approachable and open to new opportunities.
- Wear your nametag on the right shoulder. As you shake hands, the eye automatically goes there.
- Be sure to meet a variety of people by "circulating" at the party.
- Prepare a 20-30 second commercial about yourself and what you have to offer a potential employer. Emphasize your area of study and specific skills and accomplishments. People will remember you better.
- While eating and drinking, hold your items in your left hand so your right hand remains dry and is free for handshaking. Always shake hands upon meeting and taking leave of your new acquaintances, being sure to thank them for their time. Practice a firm (but not bone crushing) hand shake. You will be judged by your handshake.
- Keep your conversations focused on business topics, such as industry trends and companies that plan to hire new graduates. In general, economic projections show that smaller, lesser known companies will be doing more hiring than larger companies. The alumni you meet may have an "inside line" on new jobs that will be opening.

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Semper Fi Society runs annual Recon Challenge

By Scott Sattler
Norwich Guidon StaffWriter

Mark Williamson and Bill Sweeney never knew each other before they set foot into the oldest private military college in America as incoming freshmen.

When they both came to Norwich University, neither of them realized how tight of a bond they were going to make with one another.

Being put in the same company in the Corps of Cadets and joining the same clubs, both Williamson and Sweeney spent a lot of time together and from this they have learned to trust one another and learn each other's strengths and weaknesses.

Williamson and Sweeney signed up to join the Semper Fi Society during their freshmen year.

Now as sophomores, they have become Assistant Pledge Masters within the society.

This year they will compete with a four-man team in the Recon Challenge event sponsored by the Semper Fi Society.

"It could be said that Recon Challenge is the hardest physical endurance course that anyone can go through at this school," said Sweeney, a criminal justice major.

A three-mile run, two ruck sack marches, a 1,000-yard swim, 200 pullups, 300 situps, and much more is what a willing participant can expect with this year's NU Semper Fi Society Recon Challenge.

The Recon Challenge is a timed endurance event, which tests all areas of physical endurance, as well as mental endurance.

"I love to push myself to the point where my mind tells me I cannot go any further," Williamson said. "This event will be the toughest physical challenge I have put myself through."

The Semper Fi Society will plan to have the event take place in mid March, so that each participant has plenty of time to prepare.

The president of the society,



Semper Fi Pledges participate in outdoor training last semester to prepare for membership.

(Photo from Semper Fi website)

Andrew Kettner, 21, from Lusby Md., worked with his staff to design an event not only physically challenging but mentally and emotionally enduring as well.

The event will first begin with a run to Abare Farm and back.

After that the participants will run to the upper parade ground and complete nine laps around it.

Next, the participants will complete a series of pull-ups and sit-ups.

From there the participants will swim 1,000 yards and then head over to the rugby pitch to do buddy carries followed by an obstacle course, which will be a sequence of low and high crawling.

During the obstacle course, participants will have to drag two water cans, two standard ammo cans and a larger ammo can as a team.

"There are more ammo cans than people," Kettner said. "There will also be graders and blank rounds going off to simulate a battlefield environment."

Finally, the participants will go to a sandbag station, fill up a sandbag for each member of their team, and run up Turkey Hill.

"Then if the contestants have any strength left, they will

hobble back all the way to Plumley Armory and they're done," Kettner said.

When participating in the challenge, each team will have to work together to complete the desired tasks.

"It will take a lot of teamwork and camaraderie," Kettner said. "The teams will have to work together if they want to finish the challenge within a reasonable time".

Williamson and Sweeney will be competing on the same team with two other midshipmen from the Semper Fi Society.

Each group competing in the event will run with a four-man group, with a required backup member.

The competition is broken into seven different categories to "test the mental and physical state of each contestant," said Matthew Mason, 19, from Matamoras, Penn., the S-5 OIC (section for events and activities).

"It is not going to be easy. This event was designed to work the contestants to exhaustion," Mason said. "The participants should begin to start practicing immediately if they want to have a competitive time."

The Recon Challenge will take place on March 25, 2006 from 6

am until 9 pm with the team registration due on March 1 and with an \$80 participation fee per team.

The money collected from each team will go to the purchase of T-shirts for team members who complete the challenge as well as "awards and a barbeque following the race for all the participants," Mason said.

"The rest of the money will go to the society to help sponsor such events as this in the future," he said.

"Any student can participate in the upcoming Recon Challenge. You do not have to be a member of Semper Fi to join, just sign up

with a team of four on March 1 with the entry fee and you're in," Mason said.

The Semper Fi society invited schools from around the area to participate in the Recon Challenge.

So far there have been two confirmed teams from "Northwestern, a team from New York, a team from Maine and a team possibly from VMI," Kettner said. "The respect of the school is on the line. With other schools participating, we do not want any school walking away with bragging rights.

"Last year there was no Recon Challenge but this year we're doing more of a time event so the fastest you complete the given course, the better time you have and that will make your team win," Kettner said.

Williamson and Sweeney will try and place in this year's Recon Challenge.

"It would be great to place in the top three, but all that really matters is that we try our best," Sweeney said. "This will truly be the toughest thing I will put my body and mind through so far."

The event will consist of over 25 teams with 10 of them coming from the Semper Fi Society Pledge class.

"The harder you push yourself, the faster it will be over," Kettner said. "This will really be a day of fun."



A Semper Fi Society pledge goes through weekly training sessions. (Photos from Semper Fi website)

TARRANT from pg. 4



Vermont Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate, Richard Tarrant meets with Northfield residents and Norwich students during a meeting at the Northfield Library Feb. 8. (Almagambetov photo)

He also said he found Tarrant's pledge not to accept any out-of-state money interesting and said he believes Tarrant is "someone people ought to learn more about and think about supporting."

During the question and answer session, Mynter raised a question about Tarrant's ideas regarding support small farms, an issue which Mynter said is relevant to him because his daughter and son-in-law are both farmers.

"I was particularly interested in his comments there," Mynter said. "(Tarrant) feels that getting technology to rural areas and to farmers is going to be a boon to them and I can't disagree with that.

"My counterpoint to him is that they cannot even afford to connect to the internet so that's something that probably not going to be a big issue for him over the long haul," Mynter said.

The event lasted for approximately two hours and Mynter said he thought Tarrant covered a large front in a small amount of time.

Election Day is Nov. 7, but to be on the ballot as the Republican candidate for Senate, Tarrant still has to win the primary, which will be held Sept. 12.

COURSE from pg. 4

felt I have used as much training as the corps is going to give me," said Cadet Sgt. Maj. Paul Tortora, a 20-year-old junior computer securities and information insurance major from Oxford, Mass., who would have liked to contribute, but because of other commitments and time conflicts was unable to.

"I'm starting to see repeats in the things they teach me and I don't know if using up any more of my time is worth it," Tortora said.

Tortora has a job in the corps as the parade announcer. So even if he's not an officer, he said the rank is ultimately unimportant as long as he had his job.

Brewster said the command staff is understanding of cadets with other commitments, especially the sports players. He scheduled make-up classes so all who wanted to could complete the course.

"Maybe if they weren't shining in the corps, they were going in those other domains and performing well," Reith said.

"You can give your all in a couple capacities and one is to give everything you have on the sports field," Brewster said.

"And if that's your contribution to the university, then that's great."

Brewster said they tested loyalties the week of the course and even though it was immediately after winter break, the week was one of the only open or event-free of the semester before the promotion boards.

"Show me the drive and determination this week and that will pay dividends in the end," Brewster said. "You have to sacrifice for anything you truly want."

Cadet Ricky, a junior who requested anonymity, attended the first class but didn't follow through with the course.

Ricky said his first impression of the course was positive in that he thought it was a good idea. When the course started to get unorganized and Ricky couldn't figure out what was expected of him, he decided to quit all together.

"I went down to sign up and apparently there was supposed to be a syllabus there that I was supposed to pick up, but I didn't see it or a note for it," Ricky said. "So I signed up for (the course) not knowing what was going

on."

Brewster said he would contribute most of the attrition to the syllabus because people saw how much work the course was going to be.

"We bombarded them with information, we've given them test and quizzes, and then on Saturday we ran them through leadership reaction courses to see how they reacted on their feet when they're leading other people," explained Brewster.

Rojek said she wasn't turned off by the syllabus and found the course to be a pleasant surprise.

"It wasn't boring, it wasn't dry, it wasn't, 'let's read out of the standard operation procedure (SOP) manual' - it was, 'alright, two cadets get up here, let's do a demonstration,'" Rojek explained.

Rojek said many of her peers didn't give the course a chance and weren't concerned with not attending because they knew the positions had to be filled somehow.

"A lot of people think it's not a big deal," Rojek said. "But when you're sitting on your board and they ask you how you did in your commander's course, you say you didn't go and you have no

good reason, then your chances of getting the job you want are shot."

Of the 129 officer positions in the corps, only 60 juniors consistently participated in the course, according to Henne.

"I want them to understand that if they think that becoming an officer in the corps is you get to have a sword in your room and stand out in front during a parade, then they've got another thing coming," Brewster said.

Reith, Henne, and Brewster understood that the number of course attendees wouldn't be sufficient enough to fill all the officer positions next year.

"I will not allow anyone who didn't participate in this course to be in a senior ranking officer position from company commander and up," Brewster said.

Ricky argued that attending the course was not a fair measurement of dedication and the only way to assign jobs was to simply pick the best cadet for the job.

"As far as being loyal or dedicated to the corps, you cannot sum that all up the second week back from Christmas

vacation in the second semester of your junior year," Ricky said. "You should be basing dedication on the work we put in throughout our entire Norwich career."

Nevertheless, Henne said that the course would be implemented and improved for years to come.

"We'll capture what worked well and what we could do better, we'll collect those things, and next year we'll clean it up and roll it out again," Henne said.

"We have a binder that contains everything from the curriculum, we're going to give that to next year's commanders, and the commandant's office is going to make sure this is implemented for years to come," Brewster said.

Brewster said the course would leave his legacy at Norwich.

"What we have to contribute to this place is so little compared to the history of this school," Brewster said. "If each class doesn't find something great to leave behind here, then I really believe they've failed as a class."

"It was cool to see the people who are going to be running the corps all get together -learning together and laughing together," said Rojek.

Upcoming Live shows*Phoenix Bar*
Warren, VT

Roots of Creation February 25

Higher Ground
Burlington, VTBen Taylor Band February 17th
Tristan Prettyman February 17th
Luke Eriksen February 17th*Nectaris*
Burlington, VTPoogie Bell Band February 17th
Ryan Montbleau Band February 18th*Cuzzins Night Club*
Barre, VT

Old City Sound February 16th

*Composed of Norwich students:***Old City Sound performs at Sugarbush's Phoenix Bar****By Jessielynn Bagnas**
Norwich Guidon Entertainment Editor

Amidst the backdrop of the Sugarbush ski slopes, Old City Sound played another successful show in the Phoenix Bar located in Warren, VT last Friday, February 10. "The longer drive was definitely worth it," said junior Craig McGrath, 21, communications major from Staten Island, New

York "I had a good time, it was like just hanging out with some friends listening to some good music"

Old City Sound consists of four University students: Eric Beauregard on guitar and vocals, Mike "Beaves" Carchedi on drums, Luke "Boz" Nabozny on



bass guitar, and Justin Murphy on guitar and vocals. The band has played in other venues such as Higher Ground in Burlington and Cuzzins Night Club in Barre.

"It was a really a unique venue because we played up above the audience in a balcony," said Mike Carchedi, 21-year-old nursing major from Pittsfield, Mass. "We were able to look down and recognize all the familiar faces enjoying friends, drinks, and the music."

As the night went on more and more Norwich students piled into the small bar located in the Sugarbush ski resort base. Since the bar only allowed 21 and over patrons in, most of the audience consisted of seniors,

and locals from the resort. Murphy's academic advisor, Professor Sevi even showed up to support the band.

"I wanted to support the band, not only because I know some of the members but I actually like their music," said McGrath.

Old City Sound not only played their own original music, they also played cover songs from artists like Bob Seger and Lynyrd Skynyrd, just to name a few.

"It was really nice to see how much support we got from Norwich especially since it was a longer drive," said Carchedi, "and people told me that it was more enjoyable than an average night at the Rustic."

It's not too late to catch a show; *Old City Sound* will be playing at Cuzzins Night Club in Barre every Thursday night.

"I definitely recommend going to see a show," said McGrath, "There's nothing better than enjoying a night out with good friends, enjoying good music."

What's happening at NU?

Activities sponsored by NUAC and S5

Sat. Feb. 18 Comedian/Lecturer
Preacher Moss
Dole Aud. 7 p.m.**Sat. Feb. 18** IEEE Casino Night
Milano Ballroom
time TBA**Sat. Feb. 24** Comedian
Justin Kredible
Dole Aud. 8 p.m.**Sat. Mar. 4** Student Senate
Dance Party
details TBA**Movies on Campus****Ice Harvest**

Feb. 17-18

Pride & Prejudice

Feb. 24-25

Conference teaches students how to lead athletic teams

By Brad Snow
Norwich Guidon Staff Writer

The NCAA holds a Leadership Conference for uprising student athletes every other year for the three divisions.

Each conference is held in different regional locations throughout the United States.

The conference gives student athletes tools to use for their sport teams and the school's SAAC (Student Athlete Advisory Committee).

Two student athletes and a staff member from Norwich went to New Jersey for a NCAA Division III Leadership Conference the weekend of Jan. 20, 2006, according to Amanda Cuiffo, Head Volleyball coach, Assistant Athletic Director/SWA (Senior Woman's Administrator).

"The NCAA Division III Student Athlete Leadership conference was an opportunity for student athletes to learn more about leadership skills and is meant for the students to bring those skills and ideas back to their teams and campus and implement them," Cuiffo said.

The athletes are chosen by coaches or advisors to represent a certain team or group.

"I was chosen as the leader of SAAC to gain leadership skills

and it would benefit me as a captain," said Allison Weber, a junior political science major from Canton, Penn.

Cuiffo explained that she went to the conference "as a representing staff member leading the charge (SAAC), I decided to go

during the night," Weber said.

She also explained that the views on the balcony of the ninth floor were beautiful as well. The balcony over looked the Empire State Building and the Chrysler building.

Both Cuiffo and Weber were im

ideas, and open to sharing things about themselves and looking deeper within themselves," Cuiffo emphasized.

The NCAA holds a Leadership Conference for uprising student athletes every other year for the three divisions. Each conference

dent athletes to learn more about leadership skills and is meant for the students to bring those skills and ideas back to their teams and campus and implement them," Cuiffo said.

The athletes are chosen by coaches or advisors to represent a certain team or group.

"It was a lot of fun. There were a lot of athletes from all over that connected with each other quite easily, which made it a comfortable atmosphere," Weber said.

Weber explained some activities the athletes and advisors took part in at the conference.

"There was a drum circle where everyone got to play different types of drumming instruments. We also got to go into the city (New York City) one night after the activities took place. It was a lot of fun," Weber said.

Both Cuiffo and Weber explained that each day was scheduled out by the minute and they did not have much time on their own.

"We started around 7:30 in the morning and ended around 9:30 at night," Cuiffo said.

"We got five or 10 minutes for break here and there," Weber said. "Basically, there was a lot going on in three days."

"The NCAA Division III Student Athlete Leadership conference was an opportunity for student athletes to learn more about leadership skills and is meant for the students to bring those skills and ideas back to their teams and campus and implement them." -Cuiffo-

with the two student athletes," Cuiffo said.

When the students got to the conference, a beautiful hotel stood before them with an amazing view from the hotel rooms.

Weber named a couple attractions out her window.

"We could see the statue of liberty in the near distance and a huge bridge that was lighted up

pressed with the atmosphere of the conference and the energy from everyone there.

Cuiffo explained that "the atmosphere was unbelievable, it was basically a whole group of athletes, students, coaches, and administrators who were really passionate about what they were doing." "Everyone was really open to change, open to new

is held in different regional locations throughout the United States.

The conference gives student athletes tools to use for their sport teams and the school's Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).

"The NCAA Division III Student Athlete Leadership conference was an opportunity for stu-

Senior football players say farewell by giving speeches

By Andreas Craig
Norwich Guidon Staff Writer

Norwich university football team members gave their senior speeches on Tuesday, Jan. 16, where the entire team gets together to listen to the seniors say farewell to the team, coaches, and the program.

The speeches have been a tradition at Norwich for many years where seniors take center stage before the whole the team to recount memories and say goodbye.

"I think it's real good that the football program holds these

speeches every year, because it gives a chance to the seniors to remind the team everything that they been through," said Eric

memories, the attitude of the each individual senior may go from being funny to touching in seconds.

were young," said Taylor Brown from Fall River, Mass.

While some players are saying farewell to the game, other play-

going to take my highs and exploit them at the next level," said Jamar Rawles from New Haven, Conn.

"I think the leadership that's getting passed down to the senior class is wonderful," said football Coach Leo Fanning. "I think they're going to take over were the last senior class left off."

After each senior gives their speeche, they are considered part of the soul of the program for years to come.

"This is not about one person," said Josh Mahoney from Easton, Mass., "it's about something that's bigger than one individual; it's about family."

"As a college football player I had some highs and lows, but I'm going to take my highs and exploit them at the next level." -Rawles-

Murphy from Fairhaven, Vt. "I just think it brings the team tighter."

Going into the speeches, seniors have different emotional mind sets. When remembering the

"The reason I think seniors are emotional when saying their speeches is because this is their last time being in front of the team and program of the sport that they were playing since they

ers are saying farewell to players and coaches as they prepare themselves for spring play at the next level.

"As a college football player I had some highs and lows, but I'm



Injuries and 'burnout' take toll on NU wrestling team

By Alexander Whitney
Norwich Guidon Staff Writer

Nolan Cisper is engaged to be married this summer.

He was a varsity co-captain on the Norwich Wrestling team.

Everything looked bright for the 22-year-old senior.

But Cisper was forced to end his season early due to a torn labrum in his shoulder.

"I have trained all my life for now, my final year of competition, and it was cut short" Cisper said.

After surgery he still has to be cleared to get commissioned the summer.

When Cisper ended his season, his record was 18-3 and he was ranked number 1 in the coach's polls for New England.

"Cisper was a potential New England Champion and All-American if he was able to finish the season," said Shaun Vacher a Criminal Justice major senior and co-captain on the Norwich Wrestling team. "I like to call myself the Alpha male on the team but Cisper was and still is a huge leader on the team with the way he acted on and off the mat."

"Wrestling is the toughest seven minutes in sports both mentally and physically," said Pat Howard a Criminal Justice major senior and co-captain. "We lose so many people every year it takes huge toll on the team."

"Wrestling takes over your life and the team becomes your family it hurts to see my teammates leave," Howard said.

The team lost people for different reasons: some cannot wrestle

needed a change," said Dennis Jones, a sophomore business major who just dropped off the team.

Kanein Madison understands because he has also faced the same challenges.

"Wrestling takes a toll on your body and the schedule is very demanding some people do not have the time management skills and it does not work out like for myself," said Madison, a freshman on the team who is now in-

"It takes a lot of discipline to balance multiple practices a day, class, homework, sucking weight (losing weight), and your personal life effectively," said Matt Thurston, a senior nursing major.

The wrestling team has a study hall five times a week for the athletes on the team with a cumulative G.P.A. below a 2.5.

The University has physical therapy to deal and diagnose

they still lose athletes to this ruthless sport," Cisper said.

"Injuries are part of the sport. Broken noses, cauliflower ear, sprained ankles tweaked knees, broken fingers, stitches and concussions are all normal things that wrestlers deal with on a day to day basis," Thurston said.

"Out of all the athletes we lost this year the biggest losses were Jake Rivers and Nolan Cisper both potential All-Americans," said head coach Rich Hasenfus. "They both recently had surgery; Cisper on his shoulder and Rivers on his Knee. Rivers is only a junior so we hope he can be 100 percent by next season."

Overall the team lost three for academic ineligibility, one who was burned out and three who were injured.

"This may not seem like a lot, but taking seven guys out of the lineup affects the team a lot," Howard said.

"We have good depth in some places but the loses forces the team to step up else where especially with River and Cisper out," said Davis Olds a sophomore International Studies major.



"I have trained all my life for now, my final year of competition, and it was cut short." -Cisper-

because of injury; some fail off the team; some get burned out and leave the team.

"I wrestled for seven years of my life I was just burned out, I

eligible. "I was not able to handle the school work while wrestling. Hopefully I will be able to get my G.P.A back up so I can wrestle in the up come years."

those nagging injuries.

The coaches, captains, and teammates are always there for each other to help each other. "Even with these precautions

Six NU football players named to all-conference team

By Andreas Craig
Norwich Guidon Staff Writer

For Jimmy Baker it seems like yesterday when he started football in Pop-Warner.

Playing all different kinds of position trying to find him one to call his own then he finally made his way into high school were Baker was a team captain and starting to find his place in football.

He then went off to college and played football for Norwich University.

His hunger of achieving started to grow day by day. Baker was standing out among the rest of the players.

But he didn't know he was being looked up to by the rest of the team.

"Jimmy Baker is a big guy, you would always see him do a little extra, not because he has to, but

because it's just him," said Eric Murphy, 22, from Fair Haven, Vt. Baker often seemed to rise above adversity and move to the next mission.

"This is just how I am," Baker

"Jimmy Baker is a big guy, you would always see him do a little extra, not because he has to, but because it's just him." -Murphy-

said.

Football is a sport that some people go to great measures to play. Even though it's a privilege, players sometimes make mistakes and feel as though they can never bounce back.

"Athletes who play sport are most likely feel that they are on

top of this world," Murphy said. During the 2005-06 season for Baker was successful. He made all-conference in the Empire eight conference.

"I pretty much knew I was go



ing to make all-conference this season, because I worked so hard during the off-season I knew it would pay off," Baker said.

Other team members who joined Baker for all-conference winners are: Jamar Rawles, Micah Liberman, Taylor Brown, plus honorable mention Billy Hribar

and Greg Abell.

Unlike Baker, Rawles has done something that no one has done before in the empire eight conference: he won the first team defensive back award and made a new category of all conference which is special team award.

He is the first all-conference winner to receive that award.

"When coach told me I was like in awe because I didn't know they had an award like that," Rawles said.

Micah Liberman and Taylor Brown were both second-team all-conference winners, but were glad they were chosen.

"I didn't think that I was going to even get second team all conference," Taylor Brown said. "It was a shock but I grateful."

Along with making All conference, Baker has been named to the 2005 New England Football Writers Division II/III All New

England Team.

Baker joins 27 other players on the squad representing 18 institutions from throughout New England.

Baker led the Empire Eight Football Conference in tackles for loss with 20.5 for 129 lost yards. He also tied tops in the league in sacks with 11 for the season. Jimmy recorded 55 total tackles (27 solo), three fumbles recoveries, and one broken pass for Norwich.

"This have been an every exciting year for me and I'm glad I spent this season with my team, no I mean my extended family," Baker said.

"I am extremely excited that Jimmy has been named to the Division II/III all New England Team" said NU head coach Shawn McIntyre.

Baker has been voted team MVP.

CABLE from pg. 1

to about \$60 each for \$175 a semester," Matos said. "It's not worth the money to watch it once or twice a week.

Matos explained that he "will turn it on in the morning and watch MTV or CMT and maybe something at night but besides that for the price it's grossly over rated just because it's not worth watching TV once or twice a week."

Most students find it difficult to find the time to watch cable, especially when they are so involved with university activities and coursework.

"It works out for some people because they watch it eight hours a day," Euse said. "We only watch for a combined total this semester of only about eight hours. I think they should offer

an intermediate package because the basic has eight channels and premium is triple the amount."

Neely said having cable is necessary "because it's one

"Compared to other towns we are very well priced. We get a lot of people who move over here from Montpelier and Barre they are very surprised at how low our prices are." -Goodrich-

thing that makes you feel like a normal kid here. It's almost as if you have to pay that in order to feel like a normal kid.

"Every time I left the room, I leave it on so I would know I was

getting my money's worth even if I didn't get to watch it" Neely said. "Sometimes I would go study somewhere else so other



people could watch it in my room."

Some students feel they are being targeted with high prices but the cable costs are the same for everyone.

ENROLLMENT from pg. 1

explained, adding that this was the only way to confirm a student's enrollment.

"The problem is if you have a faculty member who fills in the wrong dot that person now appears to be here or does not appear here and that can cause problems with a students' financial aid," Gauvin said.

Confirming enrollment is important, especially for the spring semester because returning students do not have to pick up their room keys. This semester 1,692

students have confirmed their enrollment.

Gauvin said that earlier in the semester admissions did not "lock in the spring 2006 enrollment because 156 students (had) not confirmed their enrollment despite the fact that they were sent a letter home and their were instructions sent through their email."

The return rate of students should be in within the normal rate of returns, according to Robert Schmidt, Institutional re

search.

The return population from spring semester 2005 and this past fall semester was average, 76 percent of the original freshman class came back.

So far the return rate for this semester is below average, Gauvin said, explaining that "134 students did not return after fall 2005."

Last year at this time the return rate was slightly higher with a total of 140 students not returning for the spring semester.

COMICS from pg. 3

computerized. Every page is now a painting," Dalton said.

"There are books out now that have almost museum quality work in them," Dalton explained. "It's a marvel on its own."

The movie industry has done much for the image of the bigger labels such as Marvel and DC.

Datema said that Marvel had been bankrupt during the early 1990s and it was not until late in the decade that the company pulled out of bankruptcy, around the time they started signing movie deals.

Within the last few years, there have been many movies released which are adaptations of comic books.

Many of these movies, such as *X-men* and *Spiderman*, have struck gold in the box office.

"I think that it's given the industry a boost," Reynolds said. "I think that they were smart enough to know that it would breathe new life in to the industry."

"It's difficult in movies because the first thing they have to explain is why the character on screen is wearing that silly suit," Paterson said. "You accept it in comics because it's drawn and it's very convincing because the creator makes that universe happen."

Patterson added that "with real people it doesn't work as well because real people don't look that way when they put the suit on unless they have been bodybuilding for 20 years or taking steroids."

"I think that now the movies are

more realistic and now it's skyrocketing a bit," Metcalf said. "I think the media is really helping the industry out."

Although the movies drew in millions of dollars and a wide audience of all ages, many fans were unhappy with the way the movie industry altered stories and deviated from the original comic, Zapcic said.

"No matter what they do, the screen can't capture the same design. We might not see the same thing, but on the screen we see one image," Dalton said,

"It will never die out," Zapcic said. "There will always be hardcore fans and there is always the fan that the comic touches in some strange way. They are going to be the people that the comic book companies cater to."

"I think that the price is completely outrageous not knowing exact numbers from other schools but talking to friends at U-Mass, the amount of money we spend on a semester is what they spend for a year," Knowles said.

"Compared to other towns we are very well priced," Goodrich said. "We get a lot of people who move over here from Montpelier and Barre they are very surprised at how low our prices are."

Trans-Video is currently working on running a line from Northfield to Berlin that will allow them to run three to four MEG, allowing them to get all the digital technologies.

"Once we have done this our next step is everything else," Goodrich said. "But we've got to

keep our bandwidth on there for the internet costumers."

Goodrich said that once the construction is done, Trans-Video plans to take on the digital world.

"We are going to be going digital with high definition TV with that beautiful clarity of a picture," Goodrich explained. "Instead of 64 channels we are talking 170.

"We are going to be going Voiceover IP in about eight months so you can actually have telephone over the internet, which the pricing is considerably lower than the telephone company," Goodrich said.

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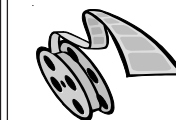
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Greg Estevez '07
“Wolverine, because he can break you in two.”



Chris Cota '06
“Superman, because I can fly.”



Stacey Picharo '07
“Catwoman, because she has a really hot costume.”



Matt Swindells '07
“Spiderman, because he gets a chick in the end.”



Ebabe Sirwayo '06
“I am my own superhero.”



Ross Lockwood '05
“Skoalman, to bring joy to all the kids of Norwich.”



Stephen Hopkins '06
“Night Crawler from *X-Men* because I could get away with anything.”



Amanda Nye '07
“Jack Bauer so I could save the world.”



Louis Morales '07
“Vision, because he is a better version of Superman and has more problems.”



Jesse Ryan '09
“Superman. He doesn't have to use a door; can go through a wall.”



Brad Whiting '08
“Chuck Norris, because I can round-house kick anyone in the face.”



Derek Shaffer
“Col. Brewster, because he is my hero.”