New pep band brings spirit to the Zoo

Drake student Virginia Wilber holds up a sign and sports a gag on her mouth to express her views outside of the U.S. Courthouse in Des Moines.

In response to a question about racism of the times, French said that although he did experience some discrimination, there wasn’t much in the military.

French said that it depends on who you are. “I can’t let it go. I hope that you can,” he said. “I don’t want to dwell on it each day of my life but every time I hear fireworks or shave around the scar on my neck it’s there.”

French said that he is pretty innocent, said Dr. James Castagnera, associate provost at Rider and an accredited lawyer. “There is a history of using and abusing law in times of crisis or apparent times of crisis.”

Seldes said that students should keep up with such incidents. “We have to be aware of this, otherwise we could be in deep trouble,” said Seldes. “They’re testing the waters. They just made up stories, saying that it was about trespassing. I greeted the news with shock and extreme gloom, but it was lifted when the prosecutor pulled back because of the reaction across the country.”

Castagnera agreed that college students should be especially vigilant. “If there is any place where academic liberty should thrive,” he said, “it’s on a university campus.”

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At Rider. Do I think the number of students doing drugs has increased? No, but I think people are getting more creative with the ways in which they’re doing them and it’s generally leading to them getting caught.

In support of this, Security noted that although the number of arrests has risen in the past three years, the number of incidents has not. The 15 arrests that occurred last semester were a result of only three incidents.

Resident Advisor Glenn Kasper said the recent rise in arrests has not occurred because of any specific action taken by Residence Life.

“It’s not as if we’re searching the halls like spies to get people into trouble,” he said. “On a college campus, safety always comes first and we try to make sure people understand that. If we happen to notice someone violating University policy, it’s our job to report it.”

Weaver, on the other hand, said Rider Security has toughened its stance on policies and acceptable community standards and worked hard with the police because what we do here really affects, not only us, but the local community as well,” she said. “It’s made us a lot better and a lot safer and I think it shows that we’re letting students know that the University really has no tolerance for these activities.”

The Rider pep band, which was created last semester, plays at the last men’s basketball game against Canisius. The band has been bringing an influx of team spirit to the Bronc’s games.

‘FRENCH’
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looked down at my chest and all I could see was blood.”

French, who sustained a serious neck injury that would require plastic surgery to fix, said that as he looked behind him he just saw dead land and fire.

“Fortunately enough in my unit there were minimal situations,” he said. “There were white kids, black kids and Spanish kids, but it didn’t really matter. Vietnam was us. It wasn’t about the flag, it was about us, just staying alive.”

Peters asked French if he thinks it is time to let the Vietnam War go.

“Many people in the media say that,” she said. “What do you think?”

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The subpoena asked for all records pertaining to leaders of the Drake’s chapter of the National Lawyers Guild since 2002, as well as “all records of Drake University campus security reflecting observations made of the Nov. 15 meeting, including any records of persons in charge or control of the meeting and records of attendees at the meeting.”

“When the story broke, I thought it was the darkest day for American civil liberties since the early 50s,” said Dr. Barry Seldes, a political science professor. “I thought to myself that it was Ashcroft’s dream, to return to an age of repression. That is where this administration is heading.”

Since then, the U.S. attorney in Des Moines has dropped all the subpoenas against Drake University and the activists. This may have been a result of motions to quash filed by the Guild, an organization that was involved with the subpoenas as a chapter of the Guild hosted the initial anti-war rally, as well as the national attention the situation received.

“I think it’s outrageous that something like this could happen at a university in this coun- try,” said Anthony Campbell, assistant dean of students at Rider. “It really upsets me.”

The investigators who issued the subpoenas told ThelowChannel.com that they were “looking at whether those at the conference hatched a plan to trespass the next day at a protest at Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa.”

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‘DRAKE’
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