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CAMPUS INSIDER

From adviser to secretary?

By James Vaznis and Marcella Bombardieri | January 14, 2007

HAMMERING FOR CREDIT: Dribbling a basketball for a varsity team counts as credit for physical education at Dartmouth College, but how about pounding a hammer?

Starting this winter, students who volunteer 13 hours to build houses for Habitat for Humanity can count their work as one credit. Dartmouth requires students to complete three physical education credits and a 50-yard swim test for graduation.

"We are trying to teach students to learn a skill or activity they can use throughout their lifetime," said Roger Demment, associate athletic director for physical education and recreation. "They are going to be handling lumber, supplies, and materials . . . It involves a lot of physical activity."

Campus Insider runs on alternate Sundays with Ask the Teacher, an advice column by a teacher, in the City & Region section. E-mail tips to campus@globe.com. ■