



Celebrating 50 years of NU Trailblazers!

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First All-American: Carolyn (Cunniff) Mullaney '84



In her time at Norwich, Carolyn Cunniff '84 emerged as a true force to be reckoned with, leaving an indelible mark on the university's athletic legacy. A dean's list student, secretary of the junior class, and a staff Sergeant in the Corps of Cadets, Carolyn's achievements extended far beyond the academic realm.

Carolyn showcased her versatility by excelling in various extracurricular activities. A member of the Spirit Club and the Outing Club, she demonstrated a passion for both community engagement and outdoor pursuits. However, it was on the sports field where Carolyn truly shone.



Cross-country and outdoor track—Carolyn conquered them with remarkable success. Her prowess in cross-country racing became particularly evident in the autumn of her first year, earning her All-New England honors. This achievement marked the beginning of a stellar athletic journey.

Not one to rest on her laurels, Carolyn continued to amass victories. Winning the Vermont Collegiate title in the 1500-meter event as part of the spring track team showcased her versatility.

By her junior year, she had earned national recognition, securing victories in the Vermont State and ECAC Championships. Her 15th-place finish at the NCAA National Championships made her Norwich's first-ever female All-American.

As captain of the cross-country team in her final year, Carolyn solidified her status as a trailblazer. A strong 11th-place finish at the New England Championships and a subsequent 16th place at the NCAA national event earned her All-American honors for the second time.

Post-graduation, Carolyn's dedication to road racing remained unwavering. Balancing her athletic pursuits with a degree in physical education, Carolyn's commitment to a healthy lifestyle and excellence in athletics serves as a beacon for aspiring athletes.

Beyond the track, Carolyn embraced family life with her husband, James, and their four children, Jake, twin girls Danielle and Briana, and Michael. Residing in Quincy,

Massachusetts, she continues to embody the spirit of a true champion on and off the field. Carolyn Cunniff's journey is a testament to the enduring impact of passion, determination, and a relentless pursuit of excellence.

Records documenting women's history and experience at Norwich are available through the University Archives. <https://archives.norwich.edu/>

In 1972, Vermont College merged with Norwich University. 2024 marks the **50th anniversary** of the first women to live on the Northfield campus and the first to join the NU Corps of Cadets—two years prior to the US Service Academies!

Women Kicking Glass is hosting Dressing for Success

An event providing our female students with professional work attire and support to succeed in work and life.

Help fill our clothes racks. We are seeking donations of gently worn and fashionable women's work outfits.

[See more here.](#)