



NORMAN MESMAN/for the Emerald

The Ranger Challenge team practices assembling the rope bridge, which is an event in this weekend's Reno Invitational.

Challenge team readies for warfare

□ Military sports team prepares for competition

By Heatherle Himes
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Team leader Greg Desmond's shout sliced through the chilly 6 a.m. darkness, and the University Ranger Challenge team scrambled to assemble a rope bridge.

After two months of early morning practices, the military sports team can string the rope

between two poles and put nine people in repelling seats across it in two and a half minutes.

The rope bridge is one of five events to be contested at the Reno Ranger Challenge Invitational Oct. 30.

The one-day competition will include a timed physical fitness test, a weapons assembly race and a unarmed grenade assault obstacle course.

At the end will be what team coach Greg Hayes calls "the

gruelling and arduous 10K rucksack march." Competitors race for more than six miles while carrying 30-35 pound packs and 20 pounds of gear.

Rookie Scott Ritchie describes competing in Ranger Challenge as "adrenaline pumping, enthusiastic testosterone. It's just Army, and no other sport is like it."

"If you can make it through Ranger Challenge, you can make it through almost anything," he said.

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Measure 1 could help education

□ The ballot measure may restore funding to schools, prevent program losses

By Stephanie Sisson
Oregon Daily Emerald

In 1991, House Bill 3565 — the "Oregon Education Act for the 21st Century" — was passed. The intent of the bill was to make Oregon students the best-educated citizens in the nation by the year 2000.

In the meantime, schools all over Oregon are dropping programs, increasing class size and reducing staff in response to Measure 5 cutbacks. Oregon schools don't have the financial resources to implement House Bill 3565 — some schools are having a hard time just keeping their doors open.

"There are people who drive by and see that the lights are on, there are students there, the busses are running — hey, everything's fine," said Chuck Vaughn, South Eugene High School co-principal. "But they're not in the building. They don't see 68 students in one classroom. They don't see the classes we can't offer anymore. It's easy for people not to realize it's not the same."

Two years ago, teams made up of hundreds of parents, staff and other concerned citizens began slicing away at expenses in the 4J district budget in response to lost revenue as a result of Measure 5. On their recommendations, the 1993-94 district budget shows an increase in student participation fees and reductions in athletics, instructional programs, administration and other activities.

Since 1988, the 4J school district has cut costs by \$12 million. In this year alone, the district cut \$10.8 million, including 78 certified teaching, 32 classified, and six administrative positions.

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Repair job



ANTHONY FORNEY/Emerald

Ron Summers, who works at the Physical Plant, removes graffiti from a trash receptacle. The recent outburst of vandalism has given the Physical Plant the extra work of cleaning vandalized buildings and walkways around the University.

Delegates will prepare for lobbying at session

□ Students will attend strategy meeting in Washington, D.C.

By Edward Klopfenstein
Oregon Daily Emerald

University delegates to the United States Student Association will be leaving today for a three day strategy session in Washington D.C. The group plans to prepare for a March lobbying session with Congress.

"A lot of work is already done," said Women's Center Advocate and USSA Board Member Michelle Parks. "These three days are for handing out assignments, basically."

USSA lobbies Congress for student rights and greater funding for student programs.

Oregon is one of the highest represented states at the USSA board with a total of eight student delegates, Parks said. Four of those students, including Parks, represent the University in the organization.

Other student delegates include: Diana Collins-Puente, ASUO vice president; Eden Ajrian-Omrin, ASUO multicultural affairs coordinator, and Troy Shields, ASUO safety affairs coordinator.

Some of the issues University representatives will be discussing include changes in federal funding for non-traditional students, recruitment and retention of minorities, and the role of lesbian, gay and bisexual students in education, she said.

USSA wants to lower the number of mandatory credits that must be taken for single mothers with children by changing federal funding guidelines.

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