

Ranger

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willing to wake up with the sun to take the class. Many of them plan to go into the military after they graduate and view the class as the perfect opportunity to prepare, while others like senior general science major Nick Thomas are in it simply for the experience.

"I see it as a 'supersport,' a great workout that uses all of my muscles, and it is fun too," Thomas said.

The students are also competing for a spot on the Ranger Challenge Club Sports team. Each year, 10 students from the class are picked for the team and compete at a regional competition in November.

"The entire competition is not split up in any way," Dodge said. "We will compete in all five events: the push-ups and sit-ups, 10 kilometer race, bridge crossing, gun assembly and grenade toss, in just one day."

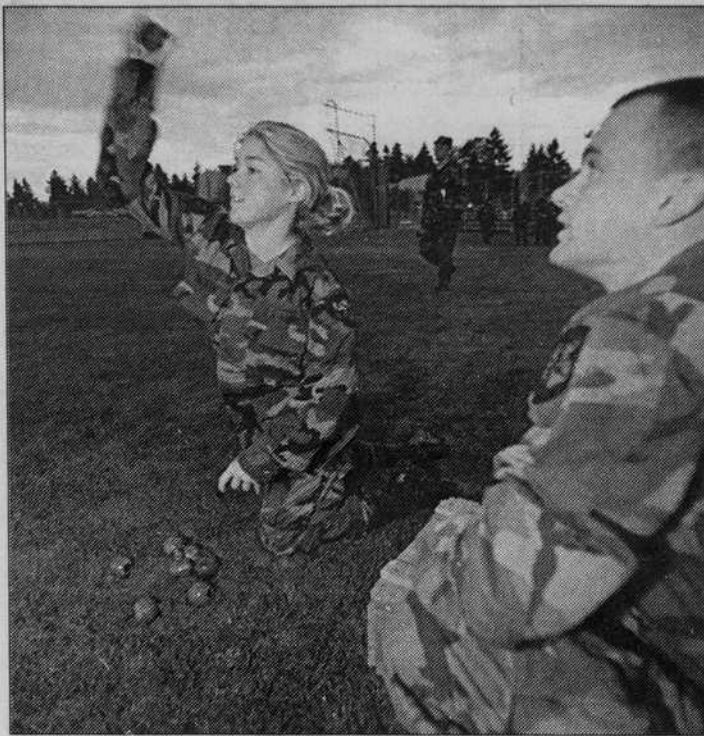
Dodge said the ammunition and grenades used may not be live, but the event is still strenuous and exhausting.

Thomas said he will still be glad he took the class even if he does not make the team.

"You start building camaraderie and making friends the first day here," Thomas said. "When we run, we do it as a group even though some could run faster. Just like any sport, I will want to cheer on my classmates whether I am on the team or not."

But despite the early hours and draining physical work, both Dodge and Thomas said they could not think of any drawbacks to the class.

"If there is a downside, I think it



Cadet Chevelle Packer throws a practice hand grenade under the supervision of Shawn Dodge. Ranger Challenge members train daily at 06:45.

would be that we cannot send everyone to the competition and that the class is only offered fall term," Dodge said. "It would be nice to have the class, and the opportunity to stay in shape, all year round."

Dodge, who will join the Army after he graduates in June, said that being team captain has helped him grow immensely as a leader.

"The military definition of leadership is getting someone to do something positive that they normally would not have done," Dodge said. "So I have to set an example, keep my game face on and use every way possible to

motivate my teammates."

He said he also thinks Ranger Challenge is a perfect example of how the military, and life, works.

"When we are doing push-ups or out there running, we have to compete against ourselves," Dodge said. "But we are all working toward a common goal."

There are no fees to take the Ranger Challenge class. Equipment and travel costs are covered in part by the Club Sports program and the ROTC, which receives funds from the Department of Defense. The regional competition will be held on Nov. 6 at Western Oregon University in Monmouth.

Jeffrey Stockton Emerald

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students that integrates learning themes around a smaller class size.

Implemented this year, Pathways is "trying to get the best of large university and small college experience," said Jim Crosswhite, English professor and co-chair of the Faculty Committee that implemented the program.

Dean's scholarships, increased focus on academics during Week of Welcome and an increased emphasis on Participatory Learning Experience were a few other ideas implemented through the Process for Change this year, Frohnmayer said.

The University will also continue to encourage diversity on campus, Frohnmayer said. This year close to \$1 million will be dedicated to scholarships targeted toward building diversity, he said.

"The most important point is this — the students, the faculty and staff, all of us are headed in the same direction, toward the same goal: a campus that is welcoming and safe for every student, every staff member, every professor, every person," he said.

He stressed listening to students and in addition a "need to continue to dream and be bold."

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