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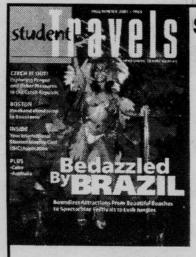
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# **ROTC addresses concerns**

■ Cadets wonder about their potential roles in response to recent terrorist attacks

By Diane Huber egon Daily Emerald

Four years ago, Dave Bergeron enrolled in the ROTC knowing that he might one day fight and lay down his life. Now the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks have left the senior wondering about his future once he graduates.

"If a conflict occurs, it has to be a worthy cause. And, yes, I think this is a worthy cause," he said.

Bergeron is enrolled in the ROTC as part of a generation that hasn't been confronted with the conflicts of past generations. ROTC representatives say it is still too soon to tell if the attacks will spark a sense of patriotism on campus and increase enrollment in the ROTC. But they also said the ROTC is prepared to respond to students' questions and concerns.

"More people have enrolled Wednesday and Thursday, but that is not necessarily because of a greater sense of patriotism," military science professor John Sneed

Sneed added that the terrorist at-

tacks have not led to any increases in recruitment efforts, and cadets involved in the scholarship program do not have to worry about deployment.

For now, cadets should focus on academics, Major Mark Chappelle said. Chappelle works at the University ROTC office.

The cadets' first and foremost duty is to finish their education,'

But Cadet Command Spokesman Paul Kotakis said ROTC students without scholarships who are members of the Simultaneous Membership Program could potentially fight if their particular unit was mobilized.

Although enrollment numbers fluctuate yearly, in the past six years cadet numbers have decreased. In 1994, 35,520 cadets enrolled nationwide, Kotakis said. Four years later, 29,277 students enrolled, and in 2000, enrollment dropped to 28,470 cadets.

Kotakis said it is difficult to speculate where these numbers will go in response to the terrorist attacks.

'Enrollment is influenced by many factors ... but these events are causing people to take a second look at what service people can be to their country," he said.

### **ROTC** history

ROTC began as a compulsory program for all male freshmen and sophomores. The program became voluntary in 1962 after debate. The program consists of a basic course during a student's freshman and sophomore years, followed by an advanced course during junior and senior years.

**National ROTC enrollment** 

1994: 35,520 1998: 29,277 2000: 28,470

Source: ROTC

The department of military science is expecting students to ask a lot of questions once school starts, Sneed said. He added that professors have been asked to address the concerns of incoming students enrolled in the program.

Sneed also met with the ROTC's senior class and spent a few minutes discussing their leadership position regarding incoming cadets.

Diane Huber is a student activities reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald. She can be reached at dianehuber@dailyemerald.com.

### **News** brief

#### White House says draft won't be used

The United States government has not held a draft since 1973, and representatives from both the White House and the Pentagon have said a draft will not go into effect despite America's response to the terrorist attacks.

'The focus of this war will be more on intelligence than massive manpower," said Kristie Greco, spokeswoman for U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Eugene.

However, every male citizen of the United States is required by federal law to register for Selective

Services through the U.S. Military within 30 days of his 18th birthday. If the President wishes to instate a draft, he must do so by an act of Congress, at which time 20year-old men will be chosen through lottery from the Selective Service System. Once a man reaches age 26, he will no longer be drafted or be able to register.

Penalties for not registering could range from a \$250,000 fine to a prison term of up to five years, or both. Often this is not a focus of the government, said Lew Brodsky, the director of public and congressional affairs for the Selective Service System. Since overall compliance is high, with 88 percent of males ages 18 to 25 registered for selective services, there have not

been any unregistered men prosecuted since before 1990.

"The government said it would not actively pursue those who did not register, but it could resume pursuance of these subjects at any time," Brodsky said.

Those who do not register are unable to receive federal student aid, cannot become citizens (if they are aliens) and cannot work in most federal jobs, Brodsky said.

Men who are 20 years old during the calendar year a draft is instated are the first to be called upon. They are called through a lottery and then examined. Brodsky said about 50 percent of those who are examined are found unfit

- Lindsay Buchele



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