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## Survival of the fittest: ROTC holds Ranger Challenge

By [Chelsea Yuriscic](#), Contributing Writer

Published: Thursday, October 22, 2009

Updated: Friday, October 23, 2009 16:10

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The 10 events are: Physical fitness test (push up, sit-up and run), one rope bridge, hand grenade assault course, intel gathering, land navigation, MEDEVAC (very similar to first aid for a wounded soldier), leadership reaction course, ruck march (6.2 mile/10k), patrolling exam and weapon disassembly/assembly.

All 10 events were performed in "outstanding weather," said Ranger Challenge Coach, Captain Aaron Felter, "Temperatures were low 40s with constant rain."

The scoring works similar to golf, where you want your team to have the lowest score possible.

IUP's team ranked in the top ten for five of the 10 events, giving them the final placement of ninth place, out of all 25 teams.

Not a big deal?

The competition is based on experience and IUP's team competed with only two returning competitors.

Eight members of the team had never been to the Ranger Challenge before this year.

"Our team is very cohesive, and mostly consisted of freshmen and sophomores who outperformed more seasoned cadets," Felter said.

They are a very young team, with a high morale and an intense power to excel.

"Our team has good chemistry. We're friends who can depend on each other. We are a young team with a lot of potential and that really exceeded expectations. Next year we will be a scary team," Deets said.

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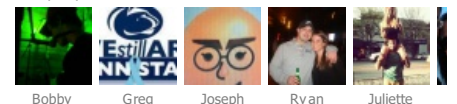
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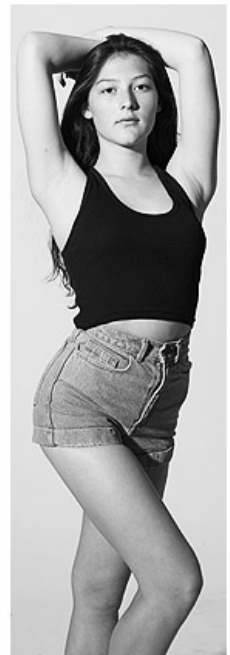
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