North Shore student gets to live out hunting dream

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October, O’Donoghue said.

Nissen said the following weeks will be a good time for the hunts, since bears are fattening up to sustain themselves over the winter.

Although black bears in their hunting area can be more than 300 pounds, the average weight is usually about 150 pounds, he said.

But for Zebrasky, the size of the bear doesn’t matter. In fact, she said, it didn’t matter if she even saw one. “I am just happy to be going up there and that somebody is taking their time to teach me to hunt,” she said. “That is all I care about.”

Her father, Christian Zebrasky, who is also going on the trip, said that just the anticipation for the trip has kept his daughter energized and upbeat during a long last few months of treatments.

“She enjoys right now,” he said. “She has been put through so much, but never feels sorry for herself. She knows that if she spends her time being down about one thing, she is wasting time not having fun doing something else.”

Christian also said that although he has been a hunter all his life, he is glad to have Brittany there beside him if they do come face-to-face with a bear. “She’s a way better shot than I am,” he said. “It is all up to her.”

YOUNG HUNTER — Brittany Zebrasky gets ready for the bear hunt by taking a hunter safety course at the Dousman Gun Club.