

Senior week: Breaking down aging myths

By JOCK HATFIELD
Of the Emerald

We call them old. Sometimes we call them Grandma and Grandpa. We lend them to Boy Scouts for aid crossing the street. Seldom do we think of them as contributing, creative and sexually active human beings.

This, the University Gerontology Association believes, typifies usual student reaction to senior citizens. Today through Wednesday, the association will attempt to create a more realistic impression through Senior Citizen Appreciation week.

"We hope bringing senior citizens on campus will help break down stereotypes that many students have about senior citizens," says Mark Norton, chair of the Gerontology Association. Norton, along with association member Ruth Egger, organized the week. "We hope to show that the aged have something creative and interesting to offer the student."

The week opens with a senior citizen craft fair in 169 EMU from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Twenty booths sponsored by various senior citizen organizations will display and sell hand-made crafts, including quilts, patchwork, hand-woven baskets, dolls, wood carvings, cut bottles and paintings.

"More than just trying to sell our work we want to show students the kind of things we are doing and the interests we have," says Emil

DeSalvo, president of the Eugene Men's Club, one of the contributing senior citizen groups. "We want to show that even though we are retired, we are not dead."

Two speakers will address both the problem of finding job openings for the elderly and job opportunities for students who want to work with the elderly today from 1 to 3 p.m. in the EMU Forum.

A multi-media presentation of films and discussions will be held on Tuesday from 9 a.m. to noon and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon. Students will have the opportunity to talk with representatives from several groups including the Grey Panthers, Friendship with the Elderly and the Gerontology Association.

Most people, according to Norton, believe senior citizens have no sex life. A senior citizen sexuality workshop on Tuesday from 1 to 4 p.m. will attempt to dispel this belief through a panel discussion. "There is a preconceived notion," explains Robert Kime, health education professor, "that men lose their sexuality by age 50 and certainly by age 70. This idea is completely in error. Their process simply slows down." Kime and psychologist Carole Kirkpatrick will make up the panel.

Hazel Floss from the University Widowed Services Program will speak on the problems of being a widow Wednesday from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Forum. Of the 12 million persons in the United States who have lost a spouse, accord-

ing to Floss, 10 million are women and most of those are 56 or older. These women, she says, find themselves unprepared to take on the responsibilities of their husbands. "The littlest problems loom like hills to the new widow," says Floss. She also hopes to correct the misconception many have about widowhood with a test, designed so participants can discover and remove their own

stereotypes about widowhood.

The Earl Willis Band will fiddle in the EMU Forum from noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday. A 40-piece, all senior-citizen band, the Ya Po Ahs, will perform, also free of charge Wednesday, from 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Along with an understanding of the senior citizen, Norton hopes students will gain a better under-

standing of themselves through senior citizen week. "Every student is aging," says Norton. "Every student is getting old."

A student can try to understand this now by meeting and talking to senior citizens, or they can wait until they are senior citizens themselves, when the opportunity to better prepare for the appreciate this part of life has passed.

Foreign grads blast tuition plan

A group of predominately foreign graduate students expressed their displeasure with Gov. Bob Straub's recommended 68.5 per cent increase in non-resident graduate tuition over the next two years at a workshop held at the EMU Thursday.

The tuition workshop was conducted by Jim Bernau for the Oregon Student Lobby (OSL) and Mark Cogan, ASUO vice-president for state affairs. Straub's tuition proposals and the policy of the OSL were discussed.

Straub's state budget for the 1977-79 biennium calls for a resident undergraduate increase of less than three per cent, a 12.4 per cent increase in resident graduate tuition, a 12 per cent hike in non-resident undergraduate tuition plus the 68.5 increase for non-resident graduates.

Two weeks ago the OSL voted

to go along with Straub's non-resident proposals but called for a six per cent decrease in resident tuition and to maintain graduate tuition at its current rate.

Cogan said this is the first time the state has tried to make a distinction between resident and non-resident graduates. All graduate students currently pay the same amount in tuition. He said the ASUO has not yet adopted a position on the tuition issue.

Foreign student representatives pointed out that the non-resident graduate increase would hurt them particularly, because, unlike other graduates, they cannot apply for and gain resident status after one year.

Bernau said the state Legislature won't consider Straub's recommendations for at least six

weeks. In the meantime, students' testimony and personal letter writing will be needed to support the lobbying efforts in Salem, he said.



Jim Bernau

Vigil called to support Korean reunification drive

A candlelight vigil in support of Korean self determination is scheduled tonight from 7:30 to 9 at the Korean Consulate in Portland. The vigil is sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee of Portland (AFSC). The Korean Consulate is located in the Bank of California Towers, 407 SW Broadway.

March 1 is the 58th anniversary of the Korean national movement against Japanese invaders who took control of the Korean peninsula in 1910. The fall of the American-backed Rhee regime in April 1960 was precipitated by demonstrations starting March 1. Maud Easter of the AFSC said Korea-watchers know the first of March is an important day to look for unrest, especially now under the Park dictatorship.

South Korean political and religious leaders were arrested by the Park regime March 1, 1976. The arrests followed the reading of "The Declaration for Democratic National Salvation" in Seoul. Kim Dae Jung, the opposition candidate in the last election and Yun Po Sun, president of Korea during a brief period of democratic rule, were among those arrested. Sentences were recently reduced from three to five years.

The AFSC will cable Ham Sok Hon, the Korean Quaker leader arrested last March 1, with messages of support for the declaration which calls for self determination for Koreans, reunification of the peninsula and a return to democratic rules.

The AFSC will also cable Pres. Carter calling for an end to U.S. economic and military aid to South Korea.

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