

Pepper rallies senior citizens

By Michael Clapp

Of the Emerald

Rep. Claude Pepper, D-Florida, summed up the position of senior citizens in the 1984 election with a Chinese proverb in a speech Thursday afternoon.

"Cheat me once, your fault; cheat me twice, my fault," Pepper said referring to President Ronald Reagan's administration's broken promises to the elderly.

Speaking at Eugene's Olive Plaza Apartments, Pepper asked senior citizens to accept an appeal from an 84-year-old man to vote for Democratic candidates Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro.

Pepper pointed out that in 1964 Mondale co-authored legislation setting up Medicare to reduce the cost of health care for elderly people. In four years we face a problem of financial solvency of that program, Pepper said.

The Reagan administration's solution is to have people pay more and raise the age for benefits from 65 to 67, "and I reckon they'll probably raise it to 68," Pepper said.

"Yes, they can save money by doing that; I wonder if they can

save any lives," Pepper said.

Pepper also talked about Ferraro's commitment to America's elderly. Ferraro, who sits on the House Select Committee on Aging and on Pepper's Health and Long-Term Care subcommittee,



Rep. Claude Pepper

invited Pepper and actor Jason Robards to speak at a conference she organized to deal with the problem of alcoholism for seniors in her district.

When questioned on the age issue in the presidential election, Pepper stressed that per-

formance is the issue, not age.

"Age is not an accurate barometer of a good president," Pepper said.

He then recounted Reagan's closing comments in the recent presidential debate as an example of the president's performance.

"He wound up out on a highway in California somewhere and had to get cut off," Pepper said. He accused the president of bumbling around and said a good leader would have used those four minutes more to his advantage.

After the speech, Mary Lynn, a resident of Olive Plaza apartments, sat methodically working on the blue sky of a jigsaw puzzle near the back of the room.

"Yes, we voted for Reagan last time," she said of senior citizens like herself, "and I feel we got fooled. Wouldn't you?"

She said she isn't sure if Reagan is trying to fool the elderly again, or if he will cut Social Security if re-elected. "It would certainly be scary until we found out," she said.

"I don't know what we'd do," Lynn said. "That's all we live on."

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police beat

The following is a list of area crimes reported over the last week to the Eugene Police Department:

A 5-year-old girl was sexually abused in the EMU game room at 9 a.m. on Oct. 12. The victim is the daughter of a Recreation Center employee, according to Sgt. Chuck Tilby of EPD. The suspect is described as a white male, 38-40 years-old, 5 feet 6 inches tall, 140 pounds, with short, brown, curly hair.

An alarm clock and a wallet with \$75 cash were stolen from a dorm room in Douglas Hall between 9 p.m. and midnight on Oct. 19. Two suspects who were seen in the hall during the time of the robbery are being sought.

Steven James Krieger, a University student, was cited

for pulling a false fire alarm on the seventh floor of the University Inn at around midnight on Oct. 18.

A wooden plaque listing the names of University athletes with a 3.5 or better grade point average, valued at \$55, was stolen from McArthur Court between Oct. 19 and Oct. 22. The plaque was removed from the wall outside offices there.

Two automobiles collided at the corner of 13th Avenue and University Street at 8:05 p.m. on Oct. 17. There were no injuries and no citations were issued.

Michael Letto, 29, was cited for urinating in public during the Dr. Helen Caldicott speech at the EMU Ballroom on Oct. 18.

A display case near the reference desk at the main

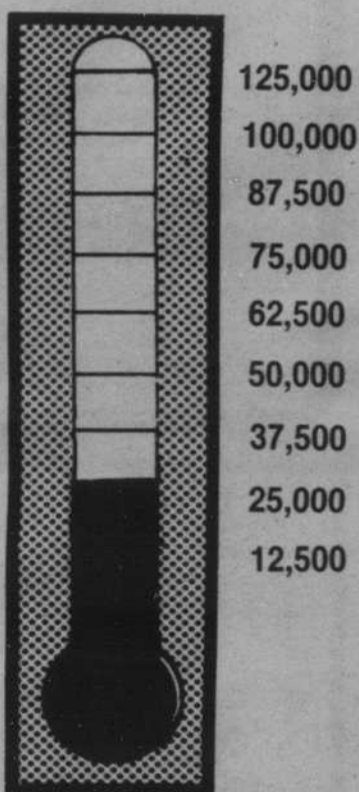
library was broken into Oct. 2. An eight-inch-tall ceramic statue of a cougar was taken.

A blue, 1979 Yamaha Excess 750 motorcycle parked outside PLC was stolen Oct. 22.

Compiled by Dianna Elliot

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On 10/16/84 Alpha Phi Omega, Circle K and SORC received 140 pledges for a total of \$3,134.

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