

The Branding Iron Sept. 3, 1987

Defense Secretary to speak at UW

By HAROLD WHITE

BI Reporter

With the state of world affairs as they are today, and the quality of education under severe scrutiny, many wonder where our country is headed in the future.

Tomorrow, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger will address these and other concerns in a speech entitled "The Role of the University in the Defense of a Free Society."

According to Steve Ropp, UW professor of political science, Weinberger is this year's Milward L. Simpson lecturer.

"In the past we have had President Ford, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Columnist David Broder," Ropp said.

The Milward L. Simpson Lecture Series is sponsored by the Milward L. Simpson Fund, an endowment established by friends and admirers to honor Simpson's distinguished political career.

The Simpson fund also supports programs in the Department of Political Science, recognizes outstanding student achievements and sponsors a visiting political science professor, Ropp said.

Ropp himself came to UW as a Simpson Professor.

Weinberger's speech begins at 3:40 p.m. Friday in the Arena-Auditorium and will be followed by a question and answer period with the audience.

"This is not just a speech," Ropp said. "This is a statewide public event, people should be able to get some answers to important questions right from the horse's mouth."

Weinberger was born in San Francisco, Calif., on Aug. 18, 1917.

In 1938 he received his bachelor's degree, Magna Cum Laude, at Harvard. He received a law degree from Harvard Law School in 1941 and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Following law school, he joined the Army as a private in the infantry and was released from active duty four years later as a captain.

In November 1952, Weinberger was elected to the Assembly of the California State Legislature.

While continuing his law practice, Weinberger wrote a column for a number of California newspapers, moderated a weekly public affairs TV program and served as a staff book reviewer for a San Francisco newspaper and magazine.

In 1967, Weinberger was named chairman of the California State Government Organization and Economy Commission where he served until then-Gov. Ronald Reagan appointed him director of Finance of California in March 1968.

Under President Richard Nixon, Weinberger served as chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, director and deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget and secretary of Health Education and Welfare.