

Center helps schools prepare for new curriculum

By **KATHLEEN WEST**
Reporter

Teaching a 5-year-old child about the American economic system is not an easy job. But Texas A&M's Center for Free Enterprise is helping make the job easier, says Larry Wolken, associate director of the center.

Beginning with the 1984-85 school year, a statewide curriculum will require that economic concepts be taught at each grade level, kindergarten through 12. The Center for

Education and Research in Free Enterprise is helping school districts prepare for the new curriculum by providing teachers with material and instruction in economics, Wolken said.

The center sponsors a four-week workshop each summer for teachers of various subject areas and grade levels. Wolken said the teachers are taught the basic concepts of economics and are shown ways to incorporate economics into the courses they are teaching.

Under the new curriculum,

kindergarten students are introduced to the basic concepts of money, Wolken said.

"The children learn what money is, what it's used for and what life would be like without it," he said.

When students reach the fifth grade they are introduced to the role that banks have in the economic system, Wolken said. Eighth grade students learn about the development of banks and the Federal Reserve System, he said. High school students are taught the divi-

sions of the Federal Reserve and how it relates to private banks, Wolken said.

About 150 teachers apply for the workshop each year, but only about 50 are chosen to attend because of limited facilities and space, he said.

"The people who will have the greatest impact are generally the ones picked," Wolken said. "If a music teacher and a social studies teacher both applied we would probably choose the social studies teacher."

"The teachers earn five

hours of graduate credit — three in economics and two in education — for attending the workshop.

Dr. Svetozar "Steve" Pejovich, director of the center, said determining how successful the center's programs have been depends on what criteria are used.

One criterion is the rate of return to the summer workshop.

"Teachers do come back in large numbers," he said. The center also conducts in-

service programs throughout the year for Texas school districts. Some of the topics presented include supply and demand, Reaganomics, the energy crisis, Social Security, economics of colonizing space, and labor unions.

Although most of the center's activity revolves around education, the center also researches free enterprise, which Wolken said is an economic system characterized by five features: private property, economic freedom, economic incentives,

competitive markets and a limited role of government.

When studying free enterprise, researchers look at the impact that these features have on public policy, Wolken said. Areas in which the center has done research include the effects of the minimum wage laws, the profitability of major oil companies and the influence of Marxism on the economy.

Today last day for Q-dropping

By **KARI WEEKS**
Reporter

Students at Texas A&M have their final opportunity to drop a class without penalty today.

According to the 1983-84 Texas A&M University Regulations, when a student drops a course after the 12th class day of a semester or the fourth class day of a summer term a Q is assigned to that student's record. However, the student must Q-drop during the official period.

After 5 p.m. today the official period is over, and a drop will be recorded as a withdrawal. Unlike Q-drops, a withdrawal on students' records indicates if a student was passing or failing.

The regulations do not indicate how many Q-drops a student can have or if certain conditions must exist before a

student can Q-drop.

The associate registrar for admissions and records, Donald M. Carter, said students need to check with the individual policy in their college if they have questions about Q-drops.

Some of the colleges, like the College of Education and the College of Liberal Arts do not place a limit on the number of drops a student can obtain.

The records secretary in the College of Liberal Arts, Jodi Playter, said students must talk with an adviser in their major department. Then, the students must have an adviser fill out a Q-drop form, she said. Once the form is completed, the students take the form to the liberal arts college office, where the drop becomes official. Student are encouraged to keep a copy of the drop form in case

an F appears on their record by mistake, Playter said.

As for the importance of a Q-drop on your record, Playter said that it does not look good to Q-drop, but it does not do that much damage either.

Other colleges are more rigid about their Q-drop policy. The College of Engineering allows only one Q-drop in a student's curriculum. The College of Business Administration allows two Q-drops.

The curriculum in some colleges does not make Q-dropping easy for the students.

Janis Reidlinger, a clerk for the College of Medicine said that students in that college do not really Q-drop. Their course schedule is too structured, and the students can not afford to drop a class that is necessary for

the next class, Reidlinger said. If students have difficulty in a class they usually get a rather than drop, she said.

Dr. Kenneth R. Poenisch, assistant to the dean in the College of Science, said the primary consideration in Q-dropping will hurt some students' chances for professional studies. Actually a Q-drop probably won't hurt them, less the student makes a habit of it every semester Poenisch said.

The College of Architecture and Environmental Design has no limit on Q-drops, said Melynda Cloud, the student records secretary. The limit will be placed on the number of Q-drops per class hour a student can have, Cloud said.

Former bubble boy's reaction to marrow transplant is serious

United Press International

HOUSTON — A doctor says the reaction to a bone marrow transplant affecting David the former bubble boy's recovery from an October procedure is serious, a spokeswoman for Baylor College of Medicine said Thursday.

Dr. William T. Shearer, chief of the Baylor-Texas Children's Hospital team attending David, 12, the severely immune defi-

cient child, previously had not characterized the severity of a graft-versus-host disease.

"The GVH (graft-versus-host) reaction is serious. It is not the worst that has been seen. But if it were mild, David would not be receiving the steroids," said Baylor's Susannah Moore Griffin.

"Dr. Shearer said GVH reactions range from being mild to being fatal. And David's reac-

tion is somewhere in between," she said.

David's condition remained serious and stable. Gastrointestinal bleeding from an undiagnosed source continued.

The doctor said David was alert and able to walk around his hospital room, a sterile environment visited only by people dressed in surgical clothing.

A person with graft-versus-host disease suffers from the

transplanted cells attacking tissues.

David is receiving intensive treatments of corticosteroids for intestinal bleeding, so far there has been no improvement with injections of monoclonal antibodies — an immunization damaging mature T-cells from his sister are present in David's blood.

Shearer on Monday said David had graft-versus-host disease despite its mysterious appearance more than two months after the transplant. transplant recipient gets a reaction, it is usually in the 10 days, he said.

David received bone marrow cells from his sister, Katherine, 15, on Oct. 21, despite the cells not matching David's. Before the two ounces of cells were injected into David, donor cells were "cleansed" to kill cells that might harm David.

Before the transplant, David was the oldest untreated person with severe combined immunodeficiency. He survived by living inside disease-free plastic bubbles since the first minutes of his birth in 1971.

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