

# State and Local

## A&M teaching teachers economics

By JILL MONTRY  
Reporter

During a special summer program at Texas A&M, public and private school teachers from around the state are learning the basic principles of economics in an effort to get them interested in teaching economics to their students.

The program is hosted by the American Economy Institute and helps 60 teachers, chosen from 300 applicants, learn how to bring economics instruction to their classrooms. It runs for three weeks, with six hours of instruction daily.

The Center for Education and Research in Free Enterprise at A&M has sponsored the program for 13 years, though this year it's being taught differently.

Dr. Jacqueline Browning, assistant dean of economics, is trying to

make the class more interesting and applicable by bringing speakers to help the teachers put the class-taught theories into practice.

"I chose nine guests that I knew were interesting and good speakers," Browning said. "I wanted the teachers to have topics that would be interesting enough to take back to their classrooms."

One of the chosen speakers is Dr. James M. Griffin, an A&M economics professor who lectures about the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and the effects it has on the Texas economy.

Browning said class discussions involving speakers reinforce basic rules of classroom economics.

"They're a wonderful application of the open market," she said. "At the same time, they are topics everyone is interested in, so they're topical

but they also reinforce your basic supply and demand."

Browning said she tries to keep teachers from thinking of economics as the "dismal science."

Lee Mason, Browning's assistant, said the teachers who participated in last year's class asked for more hands-on instruction and less economics taught straight from the book.

"I think the way the class is being done this year gives it a more balanced approach," Mason said. "It's not purely classroom and this will help the teachers in applying it in their instruction."

While Browning teaches the essential theories of economics, Carol Millis McKenzie shows the teachers how to apply economic concepts in the classroom to help them learn

economics and how to teach it, she said.

McKenzie is the coordinator for Free Enterprise City in Richardson, Texas. The organization instructs teachers and elementary and junior high school students on the principles of free enterprise and the American economic system.

Browning said if teachers learn the economic tools and implement those tools in different ways, they find areas that are interesting to students.

"They have to have the big picture before they can put a little bit of it into their classrooms," she said. "Even those who teach kindergarten through second grade can introduce economic concepts like money and scarcity into their classrooms."

### That's 'Democratic' to you, GOP

AUSTIN (AP) — It is, officially and legally, the Texas Democratic Party.

But to Republicans, it is always the "Democrat Party," no "ic."

That irks Texas Democratic Party Chairman Robert Slagle, and he periodically tries to correct Republicans who err.

Texas Republican Party Chairman George Strake denies that Republicans are drilled in saying Democrat Party, rather than Democratic Party.

"Now that I've found it it really irritates him, I might start using it more," Strake said.

## Torture trial

Ranchhand says he helped defend drifter

KERRVILLE (AP) — A former ranchhand charged with enslaving and killing a drifter testified Wednesday that he defended the man from an attack by three other people.

Carlton Robert Caldwell, 21, also said he helped patch up Anthony Bates after the three men attacked Bates at a Salvation Army shelter in San Antonio in 1984.

Caldwell, of Alamogordo, N.M., is one of three men charged with violating the state's organized crime law in connection with Bates' death in March 1984. Also on trial are Walter Wesley Ellebracht Sr., 55; and Wal-

ter Wesley Ellebracht Jr., 33; who run a Hill Country ranch north of Kerrville.

The state claims the Ellebrachts lured hitchhikers to their ranch with the promise of work, then forced them to stay. The prosecution alleges Bates was tortured to death with a cattle prod, then his body doused in gasoline and burned.

A witness earlier identified voices belonging to Caldwell and the younger Ellebracht on a tape recording of an alleged torture session involving Bates.

Caldwell testified Tuesday he has been unjustly incarcerated for the

past two years in the Kerr County jail. He said he was not responsible for Bates' death.

On Wednesday, Caldwell said he and Bates both lived at the Salvation Army shelter in San Antonio before they ended up at the Ellebracht ranch.

One day, he said, while he was registering, he saw three men attack Bates, who was standing in line waiting to eat.

"One of the three men slammed Anthony's head onto the floor and started beating on him," Caldwell said. "He didn't even put up a fight."

## Irradiation

(continued from page 1)

from tropical, third-world nations and the added cost of irradiation would only make domestic products less competitive.

A recent report by the United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association estimates that irradiating produce will cost 2 to 3 cents a pound, not including the cost of shipping the produce to and from the irradiation facility.

The cost of building one such facility could range anywhere from \$1 million to \$10 million, according to three 1985 surveys by the association.

The irradiation of pork, which was approved by the FDA last summer, effectively rids the meat of the harmful effects of trichinella spiralis, the parasite that causes trichinosis. Proponents claim that irradiation is so effective pork could be eaten undercooked, or even raw, without ill effects.

Burns says that the irradiation of pork isn't a common practice because economical ways for reducing the occurrence of trichinosis, such as educating the public to cook pork well, have already been developed.

The irradiation of poultry and milk, which the FDA is now considering for approval, also has certain practical problems, Burns says. Because poultry and milk have subtle flavors, even low doses of irradiation

## History of food irradiation process

Although the public knows little about food irradiation, the process has been around for decades and has been approved for use in 28 nations. Below is a short chronology of its use.

1930s — Irradiation was patented by a French scientist as a method of food preservation.

World War II — The army made the first serious studies of food irradiation as a means of providing shelf-stable meats for front-line troops.

1958 — Congress classified the process as a "food additive," submitting it to strict regulations and setting back federal efforts to

make the process commercially viable.

1964 — The Food and Drug Administration approved the irradiation of wheat and potatoes.

1983 — The FDA approved the irradiation of 40 kinds of spices.

July 1985 — A chemical fumigant widely used in the fruit and vegetable industry, ethylene dibromide (EDB) was banned, rekindling interest in irradiation as a preservative.

April 1986 — The FDA approved the irradiation of fresh fruits and vegetables.

can give them a bad flavor and smell due to the break-up of sulphur compounds within the food.

Several years ago, Burns and some fellow researchers made an angel-food cake using irradiated egg whites. Burns commented that the cake smelled "like a wet dog on a rainy day" — and the remark won him an honorable mention in the Texas Monthly Bum Steer Awards for 1984.

Grocers say the ultimate test will be consumer acceptance of irradiated foods. According to February's Supermarket News, officials from the fruit and vegetable growers

association say "there hasn't been enough observation of consumer response to judge just how marketable irradiation will be."

Concerns are also commonly voiced about the safety of the irradiation process. Although it's almost universally agreed that no radiation is left in the food, irradiation causes many chemical changes in the food, including the formation of cancer-causing substances called aflatoxins, a recent *New York Times* article reported.

The same article noted that over 1,200 studies have been done on the safety of food irradiation. Fre-

quently cited is one 1974 study by the Institute of Nutrition in India in which chromosomal abnormalities were discovered in malnourished children fed irradiated wheat.

Since World War II, the federal government has spent millions of dollars studying food irradiation and, in Burns' opinion, each new study yields little or no new information about the process.

"We really don't know anything now (about irradiation) that we didn't know 30 years ago," he says.

According to a 1984 Department of Agriculture report, irradiation has been approved for more than 40 foods in 28 nations, including the Netherlands, Canada and Japan. Canada exports 90 percent of the cobalt-60 used in irradiation facilities world-wide, including 43 U.S. facilities. U.S. facilities make their money largely from sterilization of medical supplies.

Texas is home to six medical supply irradiation facilities including Texas Pharmaseal, an El Paso company, which is one of the largest such facilities in the country, says Joe Clinger, head of the Bureau of Radiation Control, a division of the Texas Department of Health.

However, there are no food-irradiation facilities in Texas, nor has the Bureau of Radiation Control received any licence applications for such a facility, Clinger says.

## GALLERY NISSAN

### 10% Student Discount

Discount is on all parts & labor on Nissan Products only. We will also offer 10% discount on labor only on all non-Nissan products.

Student I.D. must be presented at time workorder is written up.

We now have rental units available for service customers  
1214 Tx. Ave. 775-1500

## BOB BROWN UNIVERSAL TRAVEL

### COMPLETE, DEPENDABLE DOMESTIC AND WORLDWIDE TRAVEL

Airline Reservations • Hotel/Motel Accommodations  
Travel Counsel • Rental Car Reservations • Tours  
Charter Flights • FREE Ticket Delivery

846-8718

Agency is fully computerized •  
410 S. Texas/Lobby of the Ramada Inn/College Station

EVERY TUES. + THURS IS PARTY NIGHT!

T.D. Ralph

FREE PRIZES!

Starting at 9pm!

- \* Mugs, \* Posters,
- \* T-shirts, \* Hats...
- \* Fribees, \* Over 80 great freebies
- \* Keychains, \* given away FREE!!

60 oz LOWENBRAU PITCHERS \$2.00

CHEESE SLICES 99¢ AFTER 4PM 1.65 with pizza

YEA - EVERY TUES. + THURS. NIGHT ALL SUMMER LONG!

Prizes given away FREE -

Every 30 min. It's all happening at...

Flying Tomato PIZZA PAL

303 W. UNIVERSITY • 846-1616

Dis-in. Open at 11am. Deep Pan Pizzas, Gourmet Stuffed Pizzas, whole or by the slice.

TM The Flying Tomato Brothers & The Flying Tomato are registered trademarks © 1986 Flying Tomato Inc.

### First Presbyterian Church

1100 Carter Creek Parkway, Bryan 823-8073

Dr. Robert Leslie, Pastor  
Rev. John McGarey, Associate Pastor

SUNDAY:  
Worship at 8:30AM & 11:00AM Church School at 9:30AM  
College Class at 9:30AM Northgate 9:15AM  
1 Bus from TAMU Krueger/Dunn 9:10AM Jr. and Sr. High Youth Meeting at 8:00 p.m.  
Nursery: All Events

Activities Hotline 822-7063

## WYLBER LEAVE YOU CLUELESS?

HELP DESK NO HELP?

Do your computer workers associate JCL and magnetic tapes with the latest punk rock group? Maybe you need to call

### MASTER CRAFTSMAN

Our consultants can give you competent help in SAS, FORTRAN or dBASE II. Whether you are just debugging a program for a class or doing a full research project, call us at 846-2778.

### THE ORIGINAL PHILLY STEAK SANDWICH FROM THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW HOW!

## Mignone's of Philadelphia

The most satisfying in frozen refreshment. Real homemade ITALIAN ICES delivered to your door. (lemon, vanilla & others. Made with real fruits in season.)

FOR DELIVERY 268-3260 411 University-Northgate Hours 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Closed Saturday

This week's lunch special (12-3 p.m.):  
2 slices of pizza and 1 large drink for \$1.75

## CONTACT LENSES

\$79<sup>00</sup> pr.\* - daily wear soft lenses  
\$99<sup>00</sup> pr.\* - extended wear soft lenses  
\$99<sup>00</sup> pr.\* - tinted soft lenses

CALL 696-3754 FOR APPOINTMENT

\* EYE EXAM AND CARE KIT NOT INCLUDED

OPEN MONDAY THRU SATURDAY

CHARLES C. SCHROEPEL, O.D., P.C.  
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY  
707 SOUTH TEXAS AVE-SUITE 101D  
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77840

1 block South of Texas & University Dr.

## Looking Good!

Tennis Court, Pool, Laundry Facilities

Large 1, 2, & 3 Bedroom Units  
2 Blocks from Campus  
Rent from \$250 per month

Flat, Studio, & Loft Floorplans Available for You at

### SCANDIA TAOS AURORA GARDENS

401 Anderson 693-6505

### SEVILLA NORMANDY SQUARE

1501 Holleman #33 693-2108

SUMMER RATES from \$180

HOURS: M-F 9am-6pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1-6pm

\*Amenities vary at each property