#### PRIVATE ENTERPRISE RESEARCH CENTER **Texas A&M University**

is pleased to announce a general lecture given by

Kirby Distinguished Visiting Professor

Laurence J. Kotlikoff

**Professor of Economics Boston University Research Associate National Bureau of Economic Research** 

### The President's Proposal to Save Social **Security: Real or Just Political Hype?**

Tuesday, April 27, 1999 3:00 p.m.

#### **Room 308 Rudder Tower**

Laurence J. Kotlikoff is Professor of Economics at Boston University, Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, Fellow of the Econometric Society and a member of the Executive Committee of the American Economic Association. He received his Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard University in 1977 and served on the faculties of economics of the University of California, Los Angeles and Yale University before moving to Boston University. Professor Kotlikoff has served as a consultant to the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Swedish Ministry of Finance, the Norwegian Ministry of Finance, the Bank of Italy, the Bank of Japan, the Government of Bolivia, the Treasury of New Zealand, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Labor, the Joint Committee on Taxation, The American Council of Life Insurance, Merrill Lynch, Fidelity Investments, and other major U.S. corporations. He has provided expert testimony on numerous occasions to ommittees of Congress including the Senate Finance Committee, the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Joint Economic Committe

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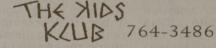


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# **Doctors monitor McCaughey** septuplets for cerebral palsy

Carl Topke, Class of '86 and a Houston resident, flies a kite at the Polo Fields Sunday.

• Specialists not ready to make diagnosis but fear signs of disability.

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**Kite flight** 

CARLISLE, IOWA (AP) - Two of the 17-month-old McCaughey septuplets are growing so slowly that there's concern they may have cerebral palsy, their mother said.

While Nathan and Alexis are being monitored for the disorder, make a diagnosis, Bobbi Mc-Caughey said.

"While there are some signs of something that could be long-term, they don't have to mean that," she said in Sunday's Des Moines Register. "They could just be muscle issues."

While Alexis can not yet sit up by herself, McCaughey said, she can stay upright once someone puts her in a sitting position.

Dr. Peter Hetherington, the children's doctor, said that Alexis' lack of strength could stem from her difficulty in getting enough food to thrive.

Alexis weighs just over 15 pounds -up from 12 in January and is still fed through a tube in her stomach

She has severe reflux and vomits frequently. She became dehydrated and lost weight while hospitalized for nine days in January with flu and diarrhea

Nathan weighs 20 pounds. The newspaper did not say what the their pediatrician is not ready to other children weigh, and there was no additional comment Sunday.

Calls to the firm that handles all of the McCaugheys' public relations, the Ambassador Agency of Nashville, were not answered Sunday.

Doctors frequently monitor developmentally delayed children between the ages of 18 and 30 months for cerebral palsy, Dennis C. Harper, a University of Iowa pediatrics professor and president of the American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine, said.

SALLIE TURNER/THE BATTAL

"It's a hard call at a very young age," Harper said. "You need to look at growth over time. ... Children's nervous systems are amazingly plastic.

Cerebral palsy is a motor nerve disorder caused by a permanent brain defect or injury shortly after birth.

Those who suffer milder cases may have spastic paralysis, while more severe cases can include seizures, numbness and mental retardation.

Physical therapists have been visiting the McCaughey home twice a month since October to work with Nathan and Alexis.

Even with their medical challenges, McCaughey said, she and her husband, Kenny, are generally optimistic.

'I wouldn't be telling the truth if I said I never, ever, worried," she said.

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