

# Child Development Center drippin' with amendments

"Little girls, little girls  
Everywhere I turn I can see them.  
Little girls, little girls  
Night and day I eat sleep and breathe them.  
Some women are drippin' with diamonds.  
Some women are drippin' with pearls.  
Lucky me, lucky me, look at what I'm  
drippin' with, little girls.

How I hate little shoes,  
little socks, and each little bloomer  
I'd have cracked years ago  
If it weren't for my sense of humor.  
Some day I'll step on their freckles  
Some night I'll straighten their curls  
Send the flood, send the flu  
Anything that you can do,  
to little girls."

--Martin Charnin--

By Thomas A. Rhodes  
Of The Print

You probably wouldn't hear Myra Lunn, the 39-year old supervisor of the Child Development Center, singing Mrs. Hannigan's lament from the Broadway show, "Annie." But, Mrs. Hannigan may have a point. Upon walking into the Child Development Center, one immediately catches hold of the fact that everything is, indeed, little. Little chairs, little tables, little toothbrushes, it goes on.

But the fact that everything in the center is little hasn't fooled anyone into thinking that the changes made in the center are little, as well. Starting in spring term, changes will be going into effect at the center that



Staff photo by Ramona Isackson

**OFF THE WALL--** A "little pard" stares in awe (or just stares) while enjoying a typical day at the Child Development Center.

will make it easier for the parents, the progenies and the sitters to experience child

development.

Currently, children are required to be at the center every day for at least half the day. The drop-in center right next door allows the parents to drop their kids off for only a few hours. The center was geared to the full-time students. "Most full-time students don't have children," Lunn said. "So, starting in spring, we will have a two-to-five day option for the part-time students." The two-to-five day option allows part- or full-time students to drop their seedlings off according to their own schedule, rather than the center's.

Now that there is a full-time director in the department (this is Lunn's first year at the College), the center can develop a variety of services and programs on early child services. Those services include--short term workshops and mini-courses for parents, parent education programs where parents are trained to teach pre-schoolers, a grandparent-child program, and a Saturday College for kids. "I'm really excited about the potential of these programs. This community needs these programs," Lunn said.

What does the Child Development Center teach these children (all 3 to 5 years old)? The morning program is designed to meet social, physical, and mental needs of growing children. The little ones are taught school subjects which include working with numbers, letters and sounds. Music, movement, and motor activities are included. The kids are taught how to make choices, cooperate and work with big groups.

The center has taken the children on many trips during the year. Trips to OMSI and through Oregon City (See humor column on page 2) are an example. In December, the center was visited by the Pacific Indian pre-school.

The Child Development Center is open from 7:45 a.m. until 5 p.m. The hardest part of working in the center is that the kids need attention all of the time. "The hardest part is always being there for them," Lunn said.

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