

# Parents look for help with the kids

*Child care a major problem for faculty, students and staff at Wayne State*

By Donna Winston  
THE SOUTH END

Wayne State students who seek quality day care don't always find it easily, but three campus facilities hope to aid in their search.

Elizabeth Marriott, director of the Wayne State Child Development Lab, said the lab has a model program on 71 W. Ferry that is frequently overlooked.

"Ninety percent of people on Wayne's campus don't know we exist," Marriott said.

The Child Development Lab, operated by WSU's Psychology Department, has a developmentally-oriented curriculum.

"We believe children learn through play," Marriott said.

Men also take care of the children. James Barringer is one of three male student assistants at the Child Development Lab.

"Our kids need to see male role models and males that nurture young chil-



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■ The children at Wayne State's Child Development Lab on W. Ferry are part of a model program operated by the Psychology Department that has a developmentally-oriented curriculum.

dren," said Marriott. "They change diapers, too."

The lab cares for 72 children, ages one through five. Unfortunately for students, however, there is a one-year waiting list. Tuition varies from \$123 to \$149 weekly, depending on the child's age.

Dymetrius Ware, a University Housing employee, found satisfaction in another campus facility, the WSU Nursery School.

"The hardest part was not finding day care, but finding someone with a reasonable price, plus the ability to give the quality care you want for your child," said Ware.

When Ware asks his four-year-old son what happened at school, he said, he doesn't get a typical "I don't know" response; he gets an earful.

"I'm very excited about that," said Ware.

The WSU Nursery offers only half-

day programs for three and four-year-olds. The nursery operates on state and federal funds, so it has certain income restrictions and other guidelines that families must meet. Qualified families can receive free service.

Another choice for on-campus day care is the Monteith Nursery located in the Helen Deroy apartment building. Monteith is a co-op nursery program requiring each family to work a minimum of four hours per month at the center.

The tuition ranges from \$26 to \$100 depending on the age of the child.

LaShawnda Wrice, a WSU sophomore and Admissions employee, has a three-year-old daughter, Natalie, at Monteith.

"Where she was before, she wasn't learning anything," said Wrice. "She's in a more positive atmosphere now."

Childcare on campus is an issue currently being studied at Wayne State. Dr. Sharon Elliott, assistant dean of teacher education, is chairperson of the research committee which plans to submit a report to the provost this spring.

"We're looking into the need, feasibility and cost of day care on campus for faculty, staff and students," said Elliott.

Marriott said more affordable centers are needed in the campus area.

"I hate to say this, but most students can't afford us," she said.

Psychology