## Course trains preschool teachers

Kathy Wood, director of The Early Learning Center in Farmington, will launch a new course oriented toward a professional career in "Early Child-hood Development" set to begin in

January.

It is designed for those seeking certification for day care and pre-school agencies: those who wish to attain an associate of arts degree, or a bachelor of arts degree.

It has been hailed as "innovative"

by Don Nichols, dean of Oakland Com-munity College's Orchard Ridge Campus, who will be cooperating by offering the basic general studies re-quired for the degree aspirants.

"THE JOB MARKET is way down-hill for anyone with a degree to teach K-12 now, but it is a different matter altogether for those certified to teach pre-achoo!." and Narry Bates, admin-strative assistant as the center. She said the idea for formulating the new course came after "a couple

Mon.-Sat. 10-5:30 Thursday to 8 p.m.

workshops Kathy gave. We became acutely sware there was a need for this...

Both Mris. Bates and Ms. Wood stressed that the course was designed not so much as a class, but more like a career oriented program...

They emphasized that whether the students choose to go for certificates or degrees, they will have enough specific skills to enter the job market immediately.

Ms. Wood added that those who finish a one-year course and decide to go on for a degree "would have a means of support for the mext two or three years of schooling."

The practical experience with pre-schoolers, which is an intrinsic part of the course, will be done in conjunction with the youngsters who now attend the Early Learning Center sessions at 2700 Parmington Road. "And the greatest of the course, with a precipitation of the course, with a precipitation of the course, with the done in conjunction with the youngsters who now attend the promote of the same proposed of the property of the providence of children.

"EVERY PERSON is very unique."

velopment of children.

"EVERN PERSON is very unique, and in planning the educational program, we repect the individuality of each child "special below the procession of the each child "special with the procession of the each child is functioning and not particularly according to his chronological age in terms of months or years."

or years."

She also said she believes there are critical periods in which the child is most vulnerable to a lack of appropriate stimulation, and it is at these times that innovative programs for the early learners are necessary.

She considers all aspects of the child's development: social, religious, physical and psychological, "for they

make up the whole person," she said.
"Through providing children with learning experiences, developing personal relationships, allowing self-expension and creativity, thus providing guidence appropriate to each stage of growth, we will find a child sensing his personal worth and satisfaction with life."

The Early Learning Center is part of John Wesley College's program for total human development.

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MS. WOOD holds an master of education degree in guidance and counsiling from the University of Detroit; an MA in human development from; Wayne State University and a BA in education and psychology from Trecca Nuzarene College.

Her educational experience is supported by six years as director of two day nurseries and kindergartens in the Detroit area and a teacher in Southfield's Christian School. She is the mother of two children. She worked as a graduate assistant to the chairman of Family and Consumer Resources at Wayne State University, has developed numerous workshops in Early Childhood Education, and has done courseling and creativity workshops for day care centers.

Ms. Bates believes the course is tailor made for someone who is planning a second carner, set their own children are gone. It's almost like being all dressed up with no place to go For them. I campt tinks of a more likely carrier to get into.\*

Registration begin are complete brochers on "Early Childhood Education," address requests, 10 Nancy Bates. Order for Lifecing Learning, 2000 Farmington Road. Farmington, 4800.

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