

NU graduate describes his genetics research

by H. J. Cummins

Myths surround genetic engineering because people with "more imagination than brains" think science will soon include humans in genetic experiments, Dr. M. J. Kopac told about 200 people at a special UNL convocation Thursday afternoon.

The native Nebraskan said the science of microsurgery is now limited to cell reassembly and transplanting embryonic nuclei, specifically frog eggs, to

new eggs.

The latter process produces clusters of genetically identical organisms.

This means, he explained, that in lower animals it is possible to maintain the "original genetics" of an organism to create generations of identical descendants.

KOPAC'S DISCUSSION, supplemented with slides, explained his work at the New York University microsurgery laboratory with computer-assisted machines that allow

surgery on single-celled organisms.

Kopac said he has been involved in experiments where drops of oil were injected into a single mouse egg.

"And if you can get a drop of oil into a cell, you can get almost anything—including chromosomes," he said.

THE EGGS were then transplanted into a "suitably prepared mouse" Kopac said, claiming the mice developed from the transplanted eggs are impossible to distinguish from

those grown by the "normal procedure."

With amoebas, single-celled organisms, Kopac has injected acid indicators to determine the acid-base balance of the organism: injected oil that he predicts "can carry almost anything with it;" has drawn the oil out later; extracted the nucleus; and transplanted microscopic plants into the amoeba.

"Nuclear transplantation" has been achieved, Kopac said, with the help of a new \$3,000 machine. It occurs when an organism accepts a foreign nucleus instead of its original, he said.

The UNL graduate said he sees his research as leading to the "ability of somebody to come into a cell and take out

the defective parts."

HE MADE IT clear that he does not "see this within our realm" at this time.

Kopac acknowledged that mammalian eggs are much more complicated than any other, but he said he sees it as "a challenge."

The recently-retired chairman of the department of biology at New York University is a native of Ravenna. He obtained his Bachelor of Science and Masters degrees at UNL and his doctorate PH.D. at the University of California at Berkeley.

KOPAC WAS A guest of UNL's scientific honorary, Sigma Xi, and the zoology and biology departments.

Short Stuff

Freshmen who missed the first semester of ROTC still have an opportunity to catch up. During second semester Army ROTC will offer a compressed course of both semesters into one. Interested students may contact the Military Science Dept. Faculty, Rm. 110 Military and Naval Sciences.

NEW COURSE OFFERING:

Computer Science 61: Intro. to Computing for the Social Sciences. (3cr.)

This course is designed for mature students in the social sciences, humanities, etc. who wish to use a computer as a research tool in their own field. The course is intended for well prepared undergraduate and graduate students who have a special interest in quantitative procedures, (e.g. statistics). It is assumed the student has no prior knowledge of computers or programming. For further info and assurances that this course is for you, see Lee Alley or Dr. Lester Lipsky, Computer Science Dept. Ferguson Hall.

A public hearing will be held by the Dept. of Environmental Control on Thursday Nov. 18, 1971 at 10 a.m. in the East Lounge of the State Capitol building for the purpose of adopting rules and regulations for Particulate Emissions. Opportunity to be heard will be afforded upon written request to the Environmental Control Council, T.A. Filipi, Acting Administrator, Dept. of Environmental Control, Box 94653, State House Station, Lincoln Nebraska 68509.

The Deadline for application to the U of N College of Medicine is Nov. 1, 1971. Applications should be requested from American Medical College Application Service, Suite 301, 1776 Massachusetts Ave Northwest, Washington D.C. 20036. For more info contact the Office of the Registrar, 541-4206, UNMC.

Leading naturalist, Fran Hall will present the movie, "Small World" which takes a close look at many tiny creatures that inhabit the

earth. The film, sponsored by the UNL Extension Division, the U of N State Museum, and National Audubon Society, will be shown Monday Oct. 25 at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the UNL Love Library Auditorium.

The Wesley Foundation, 640 N 16, is presenting songs from Jesus Christ Superstar with a choir, ensemble and songs by the congregation at its 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services this Sunday.

A benefit dance Saturday night in the Nebraska Union will feature the Rockets and Last Chance bands. Proceeds will help pay for the kidney transplant of a young woman.

MIDCITY TOYOTA
"auto sales & service"
1200 Q

SDX hears housing panel

Low income families may try to move into vacant dormitory rooms at the University of Nebraska to protest the low-income housing shortage according to Bea Richmond, President of the City Wide Tenants Association (CWTA).

She and Lincoln Housing Administrator Carl Kopines addressed the NU chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, a professional journalism society Wednesday.

Mrs. Richmond said following the meeting that the move-in is one idea CWTA is

considering, however a firm decision on such an action will not be made until after the association elects new officers Tuesday. Student help would be needed for the move-in to work, she added.

CWTA has long been critical of the university for its failure to provide what it termed adequate married student housing in Lincoln.

Low income people are frustrated, Mrs. Richmond said. "The lid is going to blow off in Lincoln, she predicted. "It's going to be a real hot winter..."

TRY
A NEW kind of alcoholic beverage
RIGHT TIME
THE NEW FLAVORED SPARKLING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE
Right Time is deliciously different. It's spirited, light, and very refreshing. It comes in two great flavors - Red: Slightly sweet, and Gold: Slightly tart.

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR
A CELEBRATION!
9:30 & 10:30
this Sunday
METHODIST CHAPEL 640 N 16th

TODAY! Through Sunday
Public Sessions Friday at 8:00-10:00 p.m.
Sat & Sun: 2:30, 3:00-5:00, & 8:00-10:00 p.m.
ICE SKATING
Make it a real-cool date
You'll have a super time!
Admission \$1.00 - Skate Rental 50¢
AUDITORIUM WE SHARPEN SKATES

The University of Nebraska Corn Cobs presents
THE BOB HOPE SHOW
After the NU-Iowa State Football Game
Saturday, November 6, 1971
Univ. Coliseum
Lincoln, Nebraska
8:00 p.m.
ALL SEATS RESERVED
\$7.00 & \$5.00
Tickets on Sale By Mail Order