

Oarswomen to join men in Massachusetts regatta

Women's liberation has made its presence felt in the world of sports again with the formation of a women's crew team which will compete during the 1973 season.

According to Head Coach Peter Zandbergen, a women's and a men's team will compete in the Head of the Charles Regatta, to be held in Boston, Mass. on Oct. 21.

"It is the largest and most prestigious crew race in the world," Zandbergen said.

Last year in the regatta the men's team defeated such established crew schools as Dartmouth, Yale, Columbia and Holy Cross while competing in the intermediate class.

Crew workouts have been held daily since Sept. 6 at Branched Oak Lake.

Interested students should contact Zandbergen at 489-0802.

Sept. 12 & 13 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. ACTIVITIES MART*

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*Everything you wanted to know about the University but were afraid to ask.

Nebraska Union Ballroom

Chemical testing process may curb herbicide use

By Charles Wieser

While studying ways of increasing the protein in wheat, a significant discovery was made by Lowell Klepper, UNL assistant agronomy professor, which will affect weed control. The discovery, he said, was a process that explains why certain plants die when herbicides are used on them.

Klepper said the process revealed that herbicides cause an accumulation of nitrite in the plant tissue which is responsible for killing plants.

He explained that nitrite is normal in the nitrogen metabolism growth of plants, but that herbicides block nitrites' conversion to protein. When that occurs, the plant dies.

D.G. Hanway, chairman of the agronomy department, said that the process will "greatly increase" the efficiency for screening new chemicals used for effectiveness as herbicides.

"Analysis of chemicals to judge their value for being used as herbicides used to be a long and tedious process. This new process will enable us to determine more rapidly the single chemicals capable of being used as herbicides," Hanway said.

Klepper says it used to take anywhere from "one to several" weeks to test chemicals, but now it only takes "around 30 minutes" with his technique.

Being more specific in determining useful chemicals, he says, will result in the use of less herbicides. "This is an added advantage when looking from an environmental point of view," Klepper said.

Hanway said there has been "widespread interest" among herbicide companies to start working with the process.

Klepper said he obtained a patent to keep companies from using the process exclusively. "We discovered the process last October, but kept it a secret within the wheat research group in order to protect it. Then we obtained a public-use patent to make sure that the process could be used by all persons," he said.

He said some harmful herbicides now being

used are 2,4-D, Atrazine and Sencor.

"I hope this process will help develop herbicides that will better control weeds which in return would lead to a higher quality of food," he said.

Hanway said barley, wheat, corn, vegetables and citrus fields along with other food crops would all benefit by improved weed control.

"In many developing countries throughout the world weeds are one of the principle limiting factors in the production of crops. If we can develop more effective and cheaper herbicides, this could contribute directly to increased food production," he said.

Klepper could not say whether farmers would benefit from lower herbicide costs as a result of his research.



Lowell Klepper



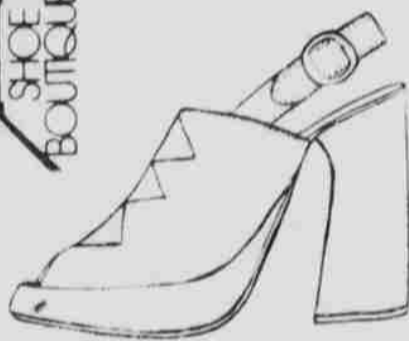
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Interviews- Thursday, sept. 13, 1973
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