

Coronary research program adds new information about risk

Risk in children studied in Muscatine

By JOE KONZ
Staff writer

What research project has vaulted Muscatine into national prominence in recent years and soon is to be included in a publication of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute?

What research project has the participation of about 4,800 students in the Muscatine public school system and at Hayes Elementary School?

And what research project may someday provide physicians with the data needed to determine whether parents should be concerned about potential coronary risk factors in their children which could develop later in life?

The answer to each of the questions is the seven-year-old Muscatine Coronary Risk Factor project.

Until a research team, under the guidance of Dr. Ronald Lauer, decided to study the previously untouched area of potential risk factors in children, "there's been no information available on what is normal for children in any of the risk factors," said Mary Ann Reiter, Iowa City. She is the research coordinator for the project.

Studies on normal cholesterol, blood pressure and obesity levels for adults began in the 1940's, Reiter said. "In adults, we know what is normal and we know these things can be related to eventual heart disease.

"We wanted to see if there is any relation between the levels in children

and heart disease later in life," she added.

To reach that end, the team — which includes Verna Mae Wilson, RN and community coordinator; Darlene Linville, clerk and receptionist; Karen Stanhope, RN; Teresa Gibbs, LPN; and a number of volunteers from the community including parents, members of local organizations and school personnel — began a pilot program sponsored by the Iowa Regional Medical Program.

When a year's sponsorship ended, the research project quickly was taken under the wings of the Iowa's Specialized Center Of Research (SCOR) (through a grant to the University of Iowa.

At that time, the Muscatine program shared the limelight with only two other such projects in the United States. One is at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. The other is in Bogalusa, La.

Any student in the public school system and Hayes Elementary School is eligible to participate, Reiter said. The percentage of student participation is now at 70%, she added, but "we're aiming for 100%."

The main portion of the project involves an initial check or "screening" of participating children in the odd number year. The next screenings will start this January, Reiter said, and will continue through May.

During a screening, a child's personal data, such as height and weight, will be recorded. Then tests will be taken for the child's blood pressure, level of blood fat (cholesterol and triglycerides) and skin

fold, or a measure of body fatness. The tests take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

After the test, children are provided a breakfast of juice, cereal and milk because students will have been asked to abstain from foods or liquids 12 hours prior to the test.

Results of the screening won't be tabulated until the last student has been tested in May, Reiter said. Since university lab personnel need time to compute the data, parents will be notified of the results sometime in the summer.

Rechecking in even years

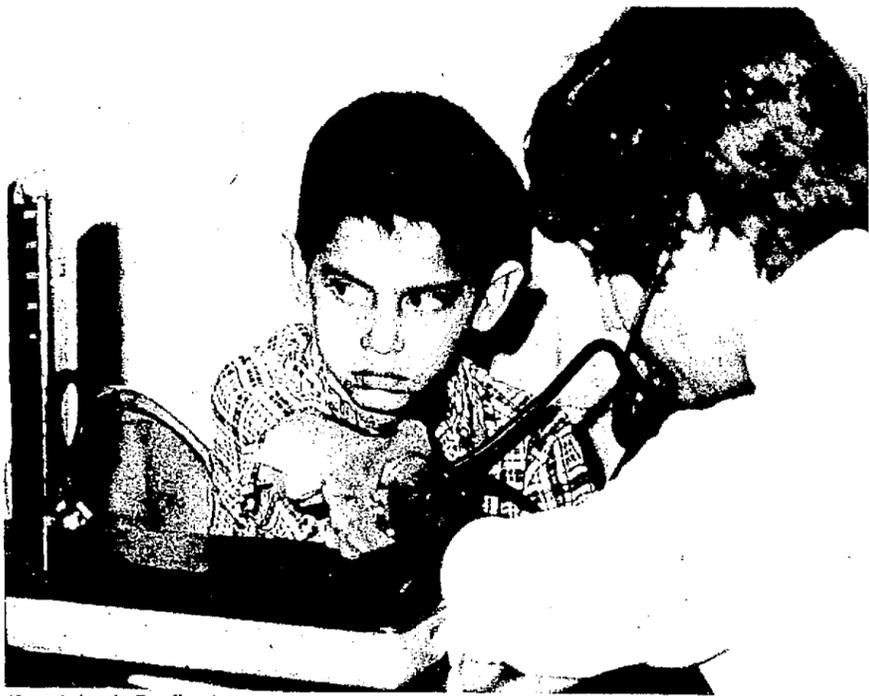
Those students whose tests show a high level in any one or more the areas being tested, Wilson said, are asked to attend a "recheck" sometime during the following year.

The recheck is to determine whether the child's high level is stable or variable. "A lot of kids will have a variation and this is not too unusual," Reiter said. Those whose tests, however, still prove to be high are asked to participate in specific Cholesterol and Triglyceride or blood pressure studies.

In these, a child is examined by a physician and interviewed by a dietician to determine what effect a particular diet has on the child's cholesterol level.

"You have to remember that it's just not for our information that we're doing this," Reiter said. "We have found

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(Journal photo by Tom Korte)

Testing blood pressure

Eight-year-old Dan Bratcher eyes the blood pressure level indicator at the left while Karen Stanhope, RN, prepares to record the reading at a recent session at Garfield Elementary School. Stanhope and a team of

researchers have been taking blood pressure, cholesterol/triglyceride and skin fold tests of school children in Muscatine for about 10 years. The tests are part of the now-prominent Coronary Risk

Factor Project. The team hopes to provide physicians with data which will assist in detecting potential heart disease risk factors in children so proper action can be taken while the child is young and before it is too late.

Gilmore may get request

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Utah Board of Pardons may have little choice when it meets next Wednesday but to grant killer Gary Mark Gilmore's request to die before a firing squad, the board chairman has indicated.

"If a person comes there and says he doesn't want it (clemency) and no reason is presented to us for it, what can we do?" said George Latimer, chairman of the three-member board to which Gov. Calvin L. Rampton sent the case Thursday after staying an execution scheduled for Monday.

In a letter to Latimer, Rampton, who leaves office in January, said he wanted the board at Wednesday's public hearing to "review the" decision of the trial judge "to determine whether capital punishment would be "appropriate."

Utah law does not grant the governor clemency powers, and Rampton, an acknowledged supporter of capital punishment, made no recommendation Thursday in delaying the execution.

Gilmore, 35, has said repeatedly he wants no delay in carrying out his death sentence for the murder of Provo motel clerk Bennie Bushnell during a robbery last July. When told of Rampton's action Thursday, Gilmore complained he was being subjected to "cruel, unusual and inhuman punishment."

Latimer, who opposed the death penalty as civilian defense counsel at Lt. William L. Calley Jr.'s court-martial for the My Lai massacre, said the board does not concern itself with the question of whether Utah's death penalty law is constitutional.

If the sentence is not commuted,

Corrections officials said mid-December would probably be the earliest Gilmore could meet his executioners.

Utah requires a 30-day lapse between sentence and execution. But it was unclear whether the 30-day rule would apply to a resentencing.

The governor acted after the Utah Supreme Court first stayed the execution and then, on Wednesday, reversed itself when it heard an unusual personal appeal from Gilmore to end the delays so he could "die like a man." Rampton said he felt the state constitution required him to intercede.

Gilmore would be the first man executed in the United States since 1957, and many of the more than 400 death-row inmates around the country fear the consequences of his rush to death.

Higher oil prices could hurt economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. diplomats, trying to head off any price increase by the oil exporting countries, are warning that higher oil prices would seriously hurt economies around the world by fanning inflation and stalling growth.

The oil exporting countries, affiliated in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), are scheduled to meet Dec. 15 in Qatar in the Persian Gulf, and oil prices are expected to be on the agenda.

U.S. diplomats say if OPEC boosts prices by 15%, for example, it would mean a \$5.5 billion increase in the American oil bill. That in turn would raise the U.S. inflation rate from its current 6 per cent to 7% and cut the economic growth rate of 4% to 3.4%.

Although the OPEC countries have not announced what price decisions will be made next month, there has been speculation price increases could go as high as 20 per cent. The Shah of Iran has suggested a 15 per cent hike.

Meanwhile, the Financial Times of London reported today that the 24-nation Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development is forecasting a world recession for the second half of next year. This forecast by the organization, composed of the major Western industrialized nations and Japan, is aimed at persuading OPEC to moderate future oil price increases.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Robert Funseth argued against any oil price increases by asserting that it would hurt OPEC countries also.

Funseth declined comment on a report that high administration officials want to threaten Iran with a reduction in U.S. arms sales in retaliation for higher oil prices.

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(AP Photofax)

Treasure from the sea

The United States F-14 Tomcat, which went to the bottom of the North Atlantic after plunging off the deck of the carrier John F. Kennedy during a NATO exercise Sept. 14, is

lifted from the sea by a West German salvage ship Thursday about 75 miles northwest of the Orkney Islands near Scotland. The jet fighter was minus its landing

gear and right wing and its recovery ended a two-month effort that cost the U.S. Navy \$1.7 million.

Ten men indicted in national stock fraud

NEW YORK (AP) — Ten men around the country have been indicted on federal charges of bilking investors out of \$1.5 million in a single month in a stock promotion swindle. Eight others have pleaded guilty in the case.

The defendants were accused of artificially driving up the price of stock of Industries International Inc., a now-bankrupt machine firm in Littleton, Colo.

The government said that over-the-counter manipulations boosted the firm's stock from 50 cents to \$6.50 a share between Feb. 27 and March 26,

1973. When the Securities & Exchange Commission stepped in, the complaint charged, black market sales continued right up to the brink of the bankruptcy.

Among various devices used to promote the stock was the fraudulent acquisition of rights to a pneumatic pump. The government charged that the defendants "grossly exaggerated the qualities of the pump and the capabilities of the company."

The SEC halted trading of the stock March 28, 1973, but the grand jury charged that the defendants "attempted to conceal the fraud already perpetrated

and to get the suspension lifted so that the fraud could continue ..."

The indictment said the defendants continued to dump stock on investors through private sales using lies about the lifting of the suspension of trading and about the firm's good prospects.

The defendants who were charged with conspiracy, mail fraud and wire fraud included Billy B. Lovejoy, 39, of Des Moines, Iowa, former president of Industries International, and two other Des Moines residents, former stock broker John J. Hughes III, 35, and broker Billie Joe Knight, 47.

More turkeys available this year

AMES (AP) — The Pilgrim Fathers had to break out the fowling piece as they prepared to seek the Thanksgiving turkey, but for the modern feast planner, the chore is much simplified.

Especially this year, with an Iowa State University turkey expert saying there are more birds available at lower costs.

The good news is for the consumer only, added William Owings Friday. The turkey's plight is obvious. The turkey raiser's problem is tied to economics.

"The cost of production is such that the turkey raisers are receiving the cost of production, or maybe a little less," Owings said, citing the high cost of feed and the record gobbler production as the reasons for the raisers' expected low profit margin.

He said the price range of turkeys this holiday season will probably be from 49 cents to 69 cents per pound, generally about a dime a pound lower than last year.

Crewmen of sunken ship clung to logs-await rescue

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Tossed about in the Pacific's "worst weather of the year," some of the crewmen from the sunken lumber ship Carnelian-I clung to floating logs from their vessel's scattered cargo and awaited rescue.

Two men were safely aboard the Panamanian-registered ship Hunter, itself in trouble with cargo shifting in its hold. Six others were rescued by the

freighter Wisteria, which arrived on the scene, 1,400 miles northwest of Honolulu, about midnight Thursday.

A Japanese ship, Shunyo Maru, was expected there this morning, but a Coast Guard cutter dispatched from Alaska would not reach the scene until Saturday.

At last light on Thursday, the pilot of a Coast Guard plane flying above the scene said he could count fewer than half the

ship's 33 crew members bobbing in the 20-foot seas.

The Wisteria's night-long rescue effort was aided by a flare dropped from a circling Air Force plane. But the Coast Guard, noting the difficult weather conditions, said most of the crewman could not be rescued before first light — about 1 p.m. EST.

Eight men were balanced on a logjam

from the cargo of the sunken ship, and three more were perched atop an upside down lifeboat from the Carnelian-I.

"A few" others were seen in rubber rafts dropped from planes to the life-jacketed men, a Coast Guard spokesman said.

A second lifeboat from the sunken ship was spotted drifting out of reach.

Ben Wicks



"Please, you must have a shot. Be my first. You'll love it. I beg you. Just one little needle!"

Weather

Partly cloudy and cold tonight with a low in the upper teens. Sunny and not so cold Saturday with a high in the mid to upper 30s. The high at Lock and Dam 16 Thursday was 33 and the low 15. There has been no precipitation in the past 24 hours. The Mississippi River level this morning at the lock's tailwater was 2.53 feet; the Muscatine gauge was 4.58.