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# Inosine compound may reduce heart occlusion

By TERESA ROACH

A compound found naturally in every cell of the body may reduce heart muscle damage following coronary occlusion, said Dr. Carl Jones, medical researcher in Texas A&M University's College of Medicine.

Thirty to 35 percent of all deaths in the United States are due to heart attacks caused by coronary occlusion, he said. The compound inosine may reduce this by 25 to 30 percent.

Coronary occlusion is a condition of the heart in which the heart ves-

sels become deficient of blood and oxygen. When this happens, the inosine level increases.

"Inosine has two major effects on heart muscle," Jones said. "It increases the pumping ability when occlusion takes place. When the heart's pumping rate goes down, the inosine levels increase and offset the bad effects by making the heart pump."

Inosine also increases the blood flow to the heart. It allows blood to go through secondary channels to reach the damaged heart. The greater the heart damage, the

greater the inosine level increases.

"If we infuse inosine intravenously into the heart, we can reduce the amount of damage further," he said.

"For years inosine wasn't important," Jones said. "It was thought to be a normal waste product, but it isn't; it's a very useful product. Inosine protects the would-be damaged muscle."

Jones said inosine can increase blood flow to the heart after coronary occlusion, but no one yet can define why inosine does this.

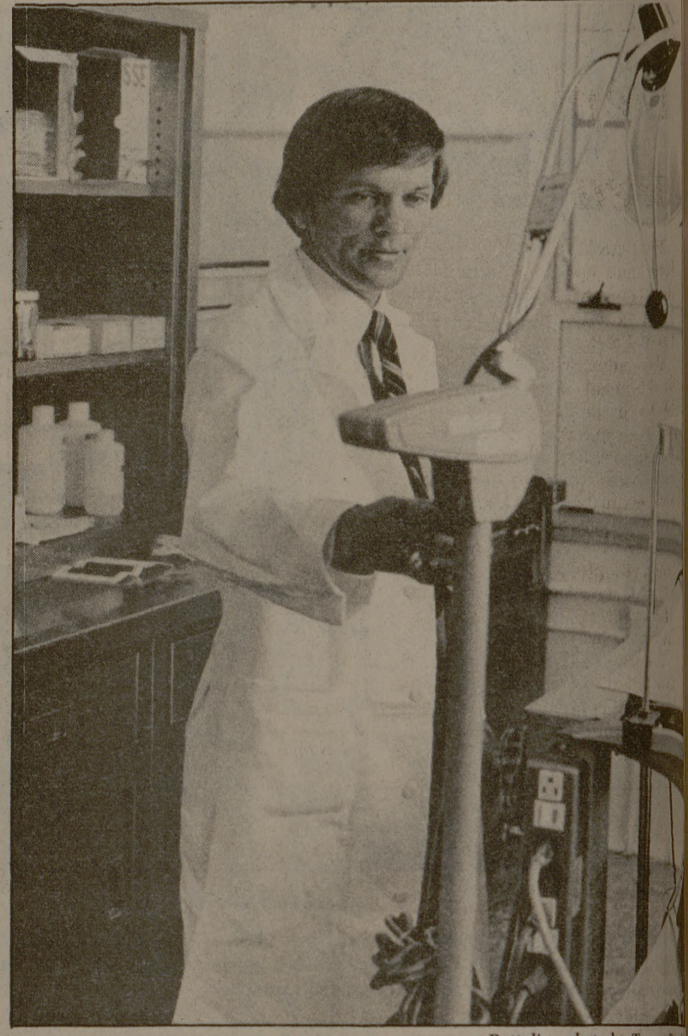
Jones' research is not being geared toward defining how and why inosine is involved at the cellular level.

Presently, inosine infusions are used only on experimental animals in the United States. The Food and Drug Administration will not permit inosine infusions on humans until the effects can be defined properly.

However, Jones said, three years ago the Soviet Union was using inosine on humans as a routine matter, and no bad effects have been reported.

Jones has been researching the effects of inosine for approximately six years. He began his research in Jackson, Miss., and continued at Texas A&M University.

The National Institutes of Health donated \$90,000 and the Texas affiliate of the American Heart Association donated \$10,000 to the research.



Dr. Carl Jones researching the effects of inosine compound on the heart prepares for an experiment. The compounds has been found to reduce heart muscle damage following coronary occlusion.

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## Intramural softball teams think up imaginative names

By BRENDA BROOKS

Have you ever heard of the Coneheads, the Natural Disaster or the Six-Packs? These are some names of the 1978 intramural softball teams.

According to the Texas A&M University Intramural Office, approximately 612 softball teams began competition Feb. 13. The teams begin playing league games and will move to play-offs.

A softball team may choose any name as long as it is kept relatively clean. If the name seems dirty, the intramural office will ask them to clean it up.

The Coneheads got their name because they act like coneheads, said team member Steve Puckett. "It messes up the other team's concentration when we act like coneheads," Puckett said. "It makes us play better."

Natural Disaster is composed of several guys who got together on the spur of the moment and decided to play, so the name seemed appropriate.

The Six-Packs, said team member Steve McDonald, got their name because they drink a six-pack before each game.

Murray Fulton, sponsored a contest last November to find a name for the agricultural economics softball team. A secretary in the department suggested the name Cow Pies for the men's team and Cow Patties for the girl's team, and won the contest.

The Crispy Critters got their name because team member Vicki Deck was joking with manager

Carlo Corso. She told him if he stayed in the sun "he would get burnt like a crispy critter." The team decided to keep Crispy Critters as their permanent name.

Aston Hall has a team called the Aston Leftovers. They got their name because some guys who were supposed to play for other teams got together and decided to form a team using the leftover guys.

One team in the Corps of Cadets is called the Outfit Boozers. According to Jimmy Willett, the seniors approved the idea because it often describes the way some of the team members return home after a night out.

The intramural softball teams are divided into two divisions, AB for

those with a winning record and BC for those who are less successful. One team that plays in the AB division is the CWBCFS. According to team member Ronnie Hamm, these teams stand for "Could've Won BC Sure."

One of the most devoted teams this season is the Davis-Q-droppers. According to Eric Knight, the team is composed of non-intellectuals. Their list priorities are first — intramural second — girls, and third — school. The team got their name because the members must Q-drop some of their classes to have more time for their intramural softball team.

## Consol board passes traffic safety program for children

By BETH CALHOUN

Trustees of the A&M Consolidated School Board Monday endorsed the Community Education Neighborhood Advisory Council's Safety City project.

Safety City is a miniature city consisting of marked lanes for traffic, bicycle lanes, sidewalks, traffic signs of all kinds, stop lights, pedestrian crossings, curves, hills and portable buildings.

This simulated city will be used to teach children traffic safety as pedestrians and drivers.

The program will be included in the curriculum for children in kindergarten through fourth grade.

The board also passed a resolution to provide a mutually acceptable site for the city. A proposed site is the land west of the A&M Consolidated Administration Building south of Jersey St.

This would be accessible to South Knoll and College elementary schools.

The building committee is in charge of the search for a site.

"Kids have never driven and don't realize the danger they're putting themselves and other people when they step out in the street," said Sue Keeley, advisory committee chairman.

In other action, the board approved the January 1978 financial report and accepted the January check register. The board also amended the 1977-78 budget to include an increase of \$15,465 for vehicle insurance.

Trustee John Reagor announced that the curriculum committee will hold an open meeting next Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the board room.

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — A cooling trend under way for the last 30 years in the Northern Hemisphere shows no signs of ending, says a detailed analysis of climatic data collected by an international team of researchers.

This cooling has progressed in spite of recent research which suggests a build-up of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from increased burning of fossil fuels should be causing a slow warming trend.

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