ednesday, August 24, 1983/The Battalion/Page 9B

Birth control nasal spray?

United Press International DETROIT — Additional search on how the brain gulates production and ree housewite ease of sex hormones may a with dean ead to a nasal spray conand grooming ta show the raceptive within a decade, ta show the according to a University of and plants Michigan researcher.

per shampor Dr. John C. Marshall said the key is a hormone called GRH, for gonadotropineleasing hormone. recomme

examine evaluate th GnRH is the brain's chel of new targ ical messenger that reglates the pituitary gland's exual functions, including a fresh per the attitude he production and release of e new gro marketin ormones that control sexual velopment and the producon of eggs and sperm.

Besides serving as a birth ontrol aid, Marshall said SnRH also could improve On herapies for sexual underde-velopment and treat tumors the reproductive system. Marshall and colleagues de-eloped the methods that re-"Beat It."

v gone "m worldwides earchers use to measure mi-pute levels of GnRH normally lion copies

present in the body. In 1979, he and Dr. Robert P. Kelch demonstrated it was possible to induce puberty by adminis-tering GnRH. GnRH, discovered in 1971,

was approved for use as a drug this year.

'Persons without sufficient GnRH never go through pu-berty," Marshall said at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. "But if we administer GnRH, we can produce normal sexual de-velopment. We also know that for normal sexual functioning, not only is the amount of GnRH important, but that the message must be delivered in-

termittently.' Every 90 minutes, the brain sends some GnRH to the pituitary gland to tell it to re-lease and make more of the luteinizing hormone for sexual development and the folli-

cle-stimulating hormone for production of eggs or sperm. "Giving a patient GnRH ev-ery 90 minutes isn't very prac-

tical, so in an effort to get around this problem GnRH was chemically modified to make it more potent," Marshall said.

"A version was developed that lasts for eight hours and has to be given only three times a day."

But after several trials, "a curious thing occurred," Mar-shall said. The pituitary gland was "switched off" by the con-stant high level of GnRH.

"So we have seen two different actions," he said. "Persons with too little GnRH fail to develop sexually and always remain pre-pubertal. If we give a constant high level of GnRH, however, we block either ovulation or sperm production.

"Thus a constant level of GnRH could be used as a con-traceptive," he said, calling GnRH "a possible contraceptive of the 80s and 90s." Administered as a nasal spray once a day, GnRH can

block production of an egg without requiring estrogen

hormones that raise the risk of blood clots, he said.

Clinical trials for a GnRH contraceptive already have been conducted in Sweden for a vear, he said.

Marshall also described GnRH's promise for treating certain tumors.

Some tumors are fed by male hormones produced in the testicles. To stop such tumors requires stopping hor-mone production — either by surgical removal of the testicles or by administering female hormones.

"Neither treatment is desir-able, but perhaps constant GnRH could stop hormone production and reduce the psychological consequences of treatment," he said.

"If we can understand the mechanisms of action of GnRH, we have tremendous potential for using that information clinically.

"The groundwork has been done," he said. "Now the applications are just beginning to be known."

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network to isic field with Friday ed by the supe, for soldiers who now fight up with Sammund the clock, and for the n-odd firms that make ht vision equipment a world-e \$200 million industry.

But the technical developake ents that make night vision ssible, mostly made in the 15 as since the U.S. Army introted the old "Starlight Scope" Igh We tham, promise profound mages in the way we do things. And it is the technical de-topments that you have to action Since the ability to see in dark base been made come dark base of the ability to see in the way we do things. And it is the technical de-topments that you have to action to the ability to see in the dark base been made come to solve that problem, West-inghouse, RCA and Machlett Labs of Stamford, Conn., de-to solve that problem interprise the interp

igrams for the dark has been made com-omen. arcially feasible, the market-ose tallies grend of the business has taken that used light from the moon on the amo y eat and do a shake and what industry specialists by escalate d "zero generation," the in-intake beford file scope. Perfected af-amounts, but the Korean War, such de-In 1966, ITT and the Dallas-

pick up light on that end of the spectrum. have remained the stable pro-ducers since, Wood said.

United Press International DALLAS — It's a great leap ward, being able to turn ht into day, for search and cate pilots, for undercover for soldiers who now fight for soldiers who now fight this technique appeared in Viet-U.S. Night Vision Manufacturers, whose Chicago-based NiTek, Inc., was one of the

size and weight, the scope made

snipers using it vulnerable be-

cause anyone else who had in-

nam as the Starlight Scope. Then the 1973 Yom Kippur War in the Mideast sent shock-waves through the military technology community. "It became known worldwide pioneer developers. Aside from its cumbersome

that night vision was a major factor in the way the war came out," Wood said. The Army was procuring second-gen devices, an improve

goggles for helicopter pilots and vehicle drivers.

totally feasible, the market-totally feasible, the market-that used light from the moon and stars, filtering photons and infrared light from the invisible end of the spectrum and pro-guided weapons, the industry developed the third-gen, a complacing the tri-alkaline cathode with one of galium, aluminum

ve remained the stable pro-cers since, Wood said. The "first-gen" devices using reads heat emissions and projects them as visual images.

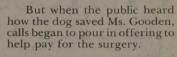
> Meanwhile, several non-military uses for night vision equipment have been found. Police and border patrol agen-cies are using them; the U.S. Forestry Service has them for spotting forest fires; they are a natural for night searches over water and desert.

Heroic dog gets help from public

United Press International HOLLYWOOD, Fla. — The public is offering to help pay for surgery for Muffin, a German shepherd that was wounded while chasing away an armed bandit who had tried to hold up the dog's owner.

Muffin, a 4-year-old male not have \$600 to pay for the dog who loves children, was re- operation.

destroy the dog because she did



Muffin pursued the gunman as he fled. Finally the man climbed onto a car hood, shot the dog once in each leg and then escaped







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