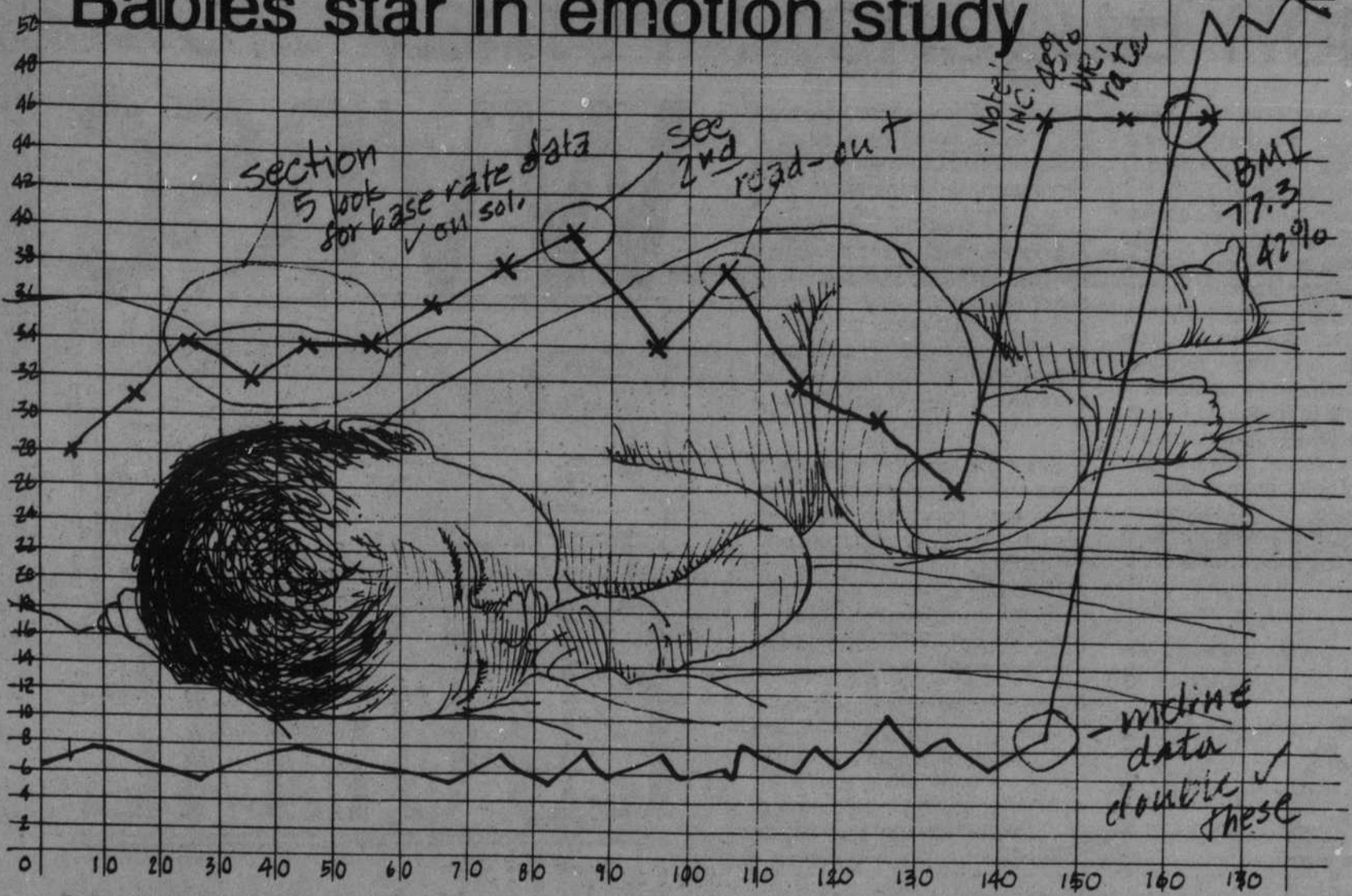


# Babies star in emotion study



By KAREN KANGAS  
Of the Emerald

On the wall next to Mary Rothbart's desk is a picture of an infant sitting in a patch of snow, bundled in a quilted snowsuit. The little fellow is gaping in toothless wonder at white flakes drifting down around him.

This child was one of the first pre-test subjects in Rothbart's research of infant temperament. Rothbart, an assistant professor of psychology at the University, has been studying infants' emotions for the past two years. She recently received an \$87,094 grant from the U.S. Public Health Service to support her research.

"Mainly what we've been doing in our research is exploring different possibilities for looking at individual differences in early behavior patterns," she explains.

These behavior patterns, collectively referred to as temperament, include infants' levels of activity and emotionality and reactions to novel and frustrating situations.

Currently, very few good tech-

niques have been developed for identifying infants' individual differences in these behavior patterns, Rothbart says.

The reason for this, she explains, is that infants are not readily available for research from the time they leave the hospital to the time they enter nursery school.

"It's only been in recent years that people have spent a lot more time and energy looking at infants and their characteristics. I would say that the study of infant characteristics is an area in child psychology that is extremely important," the researcher says.

There are two reasons why this research is important, she explains. The research will help determine whether characteristics evident at an early age persist to a later age, and it may help in early parent-infant interactions.

"Child rearing is an interactive situation in which the child is a very active participant," Rothbart explains. "Parents should be aware that there is a range of variability in children and that their (the parents') behavior is not necessarily the cause of the varying behavior in children.

"The parents' interaction with the child is important in how the child turns out, but the parent is not responsible for everything," she says.

Rothbart is studying infants between the ages of three and 12 months. "We're beginning at a time when we think differences in characteristics might be starting to show up," she says.

In her research to date, Rothbart has selected her subjects from Eugene Register-Guard birth announcements. She says the sample of children studied reflects the make-up of the Eugene-Springfield community — the majority of the infants are white, but they come from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds.

The actual study of the infants has included one week of at-home-behavior observation by the

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# IFC decides on pay limit

By ANNA HOYT  
Of the Emerald

The Incidental Fee Committee (IFC) decided Wednesday night against a proposal to standardize work-study pay allocations. Instead they voted to have state minimum wage and the maximum wage consistent with other University work.

They also voted to include a job description and a memo for recommendation for work-study positions, stipulating that once the work-study allocations are used up by IFC-funded organizations, no more money will be forthcoming.

After a heated argument which developed over the Jewish Student Union's (JSU) plea for money to install a telephone in its new office, the IFC voted to transfer \$50 from the JSU's postage allotment and \$76.75 from unallocated resources toward installing a telephone line.

The argument was raised over whether the \$7000 in unallocated resources should be left only for emergencies and the remainder added to next year's budget. Discussion also centered over what constitutes an "emergency".

The committee later came to an agreement stating that "unallocated resources will be used for emergency items such as theft and unexpected deficits. In certain rare cases, these funds will be allocated for well justified and unique special events or services. We fully expect a healthy balance of unallocated reserves at the end of the fiscal year."



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