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ACT scores improve despite national trend

By Donna Sisson

American College Test scores for last fall's incoming freshmen were the highest ever according to a profile done by the American College Testing Program.

The profile, which used the scores of 2,729 UNL students, showed an average composite score of 21.7 for UNL's incoming freshmen.

Since 1975, when UNL started using the ACT, scores have consistently ranked above the national average.

Four individual ACT exams are combined to determine the composite score. Last fall's freshmen achieved average scores of 20 in English, 21.3 in mathematics, 20.9 in social studies and 24.1 in natural sciences.

The most recent national scores show averages of 17.8 in English, 16.9 in mathematics, 17.1 in social studies and 18.3 in natural sciences.

"It is an important note that while there is talk of declining scores nationally, scores of our students are going up," said Al Papik, UNL Director of Admissions.

UNL uses the ACT as an entrance examination and to award Regent Scholarships. The test should predict a student's possibility of success in continued education," he said.

Two reasons for Nebraska's score increase: First, more top academic students are enrolling in UNL; second, the majority of incoming freshmen are Nebraska residents, Papik said. "Nebraska is a state that emphasizes quality education in a supportive learning environment," he said.

During the last decade, the overall percentage of students taking the test increased, Papik said.

Papik said he was pleased with the trend reversal shown in the ACT profile of UNL students, and the improving student quality shown by the scores.

Workshop to examine women's political roles

Recent national statistics show 64 percent of women eligible to vote are registered.

This means that women are, for the first time, being sought by politicians, not only for votes, but also for their expertise, energy, time and money.

The Nebraska Commission on the Status of Women will sponsor "WOMANPOWER: Preparing for the 1984 Legislative Session" Saturday at Cornhusker Square.

The cost of the conference is \$15, which includes workshops, conference materials, luncheon and reception. On-site registration will be available without guarantees of the luncheon and reception.

Correction

Because of a typographical error in "Regents discuss proposals on NU programs' status" (Daily Nebraskan, Jan. 16), the Daily Nebraskan incorrectly reported that Del Weber was UNL chancellor and that the number of faculty positions at UNL was reduced by 19.25 members. Weber is chancellor of UNO, and the faculty positions were reduced at UNO.

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