

Fewer area students submit SAT scores for college admission

Although Nebraska SAT scores have steadily increased in the last 10 years in contrast to the decrease in scores nationwide, the outcome has little effect on UNL because only about 10 percent to 15 percent of UNL applicants submit on SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) profile, said the UNL director of admissions.

The other 85 percent to 90 percent submit an ACT profile, Al Papik said. ACT (American College Testing) scores have remained relatively consistent, he said, and are more relevant in making score comparisons.

The number of Nebraskans who took the SAT in 1972 numbered 9,515 compared to about 1,500 last year, said Hugh Harlan, branch head of instructional service at the Nebraska Department of Education.

Harlan said Nebraska would not make a valid comparison with other states involved or with the national averages of SAT scores because of the few people parti-

cipating.

"We now have more capable students taking the (SAT) test," Harlan said. "Students who take the test today are probably from the top 10 percent of their class, where before they may have been from the top 15 percent."

Papik said students who take the SAT are usually from the coastal regions of New England or California. In these areas, SAT testing is more widespread, he said.

The UNL Office of Admissions received about 1,500 SAT reports from incoming freshmen this year, but he said many of these people do not actually enroll in classes at UNL.

"Every institute in Nebraska will now accept ACT scores over SAT," Papik said. "We don't feel that with this few a number taking the SAT test, we can make a valid profile of state trends in SAT scores."

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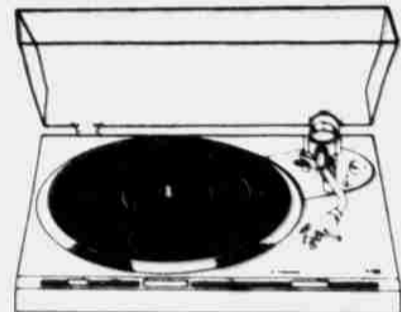


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