

Computerized GRE replaces bubble sheets

By Sarah Duey
Staff Reporter

Bubble sheets, pencil and a stiff neck are familiar to almost every college student thinking of taking the Graduate Record Exam.

Burn the bubble sheets and forget the stiff necks.

Now students have the option of taking the GRE by computer. Ray Nicosia, spokesman for the Educational Testing Service, said the advantages to taking the test by computer were numerous.

"No longer do people have to wait four to six weeks peeking in their mailboxes for scores," Nicosia said.

With the computerized GRE, test takers will leave the test site knowing exactly how they did.

"Overwhelmingly students love the test

scheduling convenience," he said. Instead of only having the option of taking the GRE five Saturdays out of the year, students can take it more frequently at computer testing sites.

Howard Vest, director of Sylvan Learning Center at 301 S. 70th St. in Lincoln, said the center offered the GRE by computer Monday through Thursday at 9 a.m.

Nicosia said he thought students also enjoyed the more private and comfortable testing environment of taking the computerized GRE.

Vest said he had four work stations set up at Sylvan Learning Center for people to take the test.

What makes the computerized GRE even more state of the art, Nicosia said, is the new adaptive format. The computer linear version was updated to the computer adaptive test, or CAT, as of Nov. 15.

Throughout the test, Nicosia said, the ques-

tions are selected for the test takers based on their performance on previous questions.

In a CAT, Nicosia said, everyone starts with a question randomly selected from a group of average difficulty questions. If the examinee answers the first question correctly, the next question will be more difficult. If the examinee answers incorrectly, the next question will be easier.

The adaptive format will prevent students from getting stuck answering only easy questions, Nicosia said. If test-takers answer early questions wrong, Nicosia said, they can still move on to more difficult questions when they begin answering questions correctly.

More difficult questions will be scored higher than easier questions, he said.

"This test really zeros in on the test taker's ability," he said. Test takers won't have to waste time on questions they don't know.

"The CAT allows us to get the same amount of information in less time," Nicosia said.

Even people with no computer experience can take the CAT, Nicosia said. Test takers can spend as much time as they wish on a tutorial prior to taking the test.

"One of the nice things about this test," Vest said, "is that you can report your scores on-line to four institutions."

By 1996, Nicosia said the paper-and-pencil testing administrations would be phased out and a new version of the computer-adaptive GRE General Test would be introduced.

Vest said once someone makes an appointment, they must keep it. The computerized GRE costs \$93, he said.

Test takers must have an identification number from the Educational Test Service or a credit card to make an appointment, Vest said. The GRE takes about 3 1/2 hours to complete.

Dead week rules violated twice

By Dionne Searcey
Senior Reporter

Two students' efforts to challenge professors on dead week violations have paid off, an ASUN senator said Thursday.

Shane Ham said he received six complaints from University of Nebraska-Lincoln students saying their professors had broken rules guiding the week before final examinations.

Two students complained their professors had changed the dates of final exams based on results of majority-rule votes in the classes, Ham said. Dead week rules state exam dates can be changed only by unanimous vote.

Ham contacted the professors about the violations. They agreed to keep the original exam dates, Ham said.

One professor was in violation of the same policy last semester as well, he said. Ham would not name either professor.

The other four complaints Ham received were not valid, he said.

Keith Benes, president of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska, said this year's dead week policy didn't vary much from that of past years.

Students who think dead week policy is being violated should file a complaint form at the ASUN office in the Nebraska Union. Students can do so anonymously.

Students' efforts to ensure they are treated fairly often pay off, Benes said.

"Sometimes instructors may not realize they're violating dead week

policy," he said. "Sometimes also it just comes about that students weren't paying attention to the syllabus."

UNL's dead week policy states:

●Final exams are to be given only at scheduled times as published in the official schedule of classes. Tests may be given at other times during finals week only if the date is mutually agreed upon by the professor and class members.

●The only exams that may be given during dead week are laboratory exams, make-up or repeat exams and self-paced exams.

●Projects, papers and speeches due during dead week must have been assigned in writing by the end of the eighth week of the semester. This refers to the project and its scope but not to the topic.

Trade

Continued from Page 1

by the NU Board of Regents for the next seven months, will report to Grew.

One of Johnson's tasks will be to try to secure financial contributions from corporations to make the partnership self-sufficient, Grew said. Eventually, she said, the partnership would probably become a non-profit corporation in connection with the University Foundation.

Grew said the partnership would be especially useful to small busi-

nesses, who, unlike large corporations, probably couldn't afford to hire experts in the past.

"We're just getting started on it," Grew said. "I think it's a wonderful thing for the university. We do want to interact with the business community in the state."

Overseas markets are becoming more important to Nebraska businesses, Grew said.

"With all this stuff in the news like NAFTA, GATT talks, trade and everything, people are going to want to know what that is going to mean for Nebraska."

Fiji

Continued from Page 1

being gathered about the case.

"It is incongruous to me that statements are being made while we are still in the process of getting the information" about the case, he said.

Sgt. Bill Manning of the UNL police department said criminal charges of hazing had not been filed. Lancaster County Attorney Gary Lacey, decided last week not to press charges against the fraternity.

Manning said the university jurisdiction had the authority to issue sanctions on the fraternity without a basis of criminal charges.

IFC President Scott Bunz said the council would present its recommendation to Spanier soon.

Bunz said the council made its recommendation Wednesday in hopes of giving the Fiji fraternity a fresh start. Their recommendation would cause the Fiji house to be nonexistent on the UNL campus until 1996.

"We felt this would give Fiji the greatest opportunity to come back as a strong chapter on campus," Bunz

said. "We are able to get rid of the old element with the option of bringing in new members."

The recommendation, he said, sends a strong message of "watch what you're doing" to members of the greek system.

"It should be a wake up call that this kind of stuff cannot occur in this day and age," Bunz said.

The council didn't ask to ban the fraternity forever from campus, he said, because of its history at UNL.

"The Fijis have a long tradition on campus," he said.

Instead, Bunz said, council members decided on the five-semester sanction to avoid resentment between members. "Older actives needed a chance to get off campus," Bunz said. "It would be difficult for those other members to turn around and see new members moving into the house."

Bunz said he hoped the severe recommendation would deter future hazing incidents.

IFC's sanctioning decisions in the future, he said, would be based on this case.

"I hope that the other fraternities and sororities can use it as a learning experience," Bunz said.

Ivy Day

Continued from Page 1

Speeches were given, poems were read and the class gift was announced.

By 1905, Ivy Day was interwoven with activities of the Innocents Society and Black Masquers, which later became Mortar Board. On that day, the clubs "tapped" underclassmen, or those who would become university leaders for the next year.

These leaders would carry on university tradition. And Ivy Day showcased the university's effort to sustain tradition. For this reason, the two came together, the 1928 Cornhusker stated.

In 1908, the senior class began to include the entire university in Ivy Day festivities. Eventually, all students were excused from the day's classes.

The day, which was celebrated on May 10, expanded to include a track meet and the crowning of the "Queen of the May." The university also used its day off to celebrate at a local park.

But just as it was reaching its peak of popularity, the festive mood of the day became dulled in 1918, when World War I was raging.

That year, Herbert Reese and Marcus Poteet, two UNL students fighting on the front lines in France, sent home the ivy sprig that would be planted.

A "strain of sadness" descended over a lighthearted spring festival, the 1919 Cornhusker stated.

After that, Ivy Day was simplified to a few events.

The Innocents and Mortar Board still use the day to introduce its new members, Strong said. As the new member reception continues, she said, the presidents of the two groups go outside to plant ivy.

Strong, a senior broadcasting and political science major, said the two clubs were trying to keep university traditions and history alive.

At its peak, the ceremony attracted about 2,000 people, Strong said, but now the clubs plan for about 250 people at most.

thePost andNickel

Downtown Lincoln at 14th & "P" St.
Great Clothes at Great Popular Prices!



Holiday Sale!

Save!
20 · 30 · 50%
throughout the store

Wonderful gift ideas...
sure to please everyone
on your list and sure
to please any budget!

Holiday Hours:
Mon.-Sat. 10-6
Thurs. 10-9
Sunday 12-5

Our gift to you... Use this Coupon for Additional Savings!

Extra Bonus Savings

Use this Post & Nickel Gift Check for Additional Savings!

This coupon is worth an additional \$10 savings toward any purchase amounting to a value of \$40 or more at the Post and Nickel



Must be presented at time of purchase. Limit one coupon per customer per visit. Void after Dec. 25, 1993

Are You Late?

- Free Pregnancy testing
- Options counseling
- Abortion procedures to 14 weeks
- Saturday appointments available
- Student discounts
- Visa, Mastercard



Women's Medical Center of Nebraska

4930 "L" Street
Omaha, NE 68117
(402) 734-7500
Toll free (800) 877-6337