

CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED
CLASSICAL MUSIC & OPERA
ON COMPACT DISC
& CASSETTE

CD'S FROM \$5.95

TAPES FROM \$3.95

Musique Gourmet
Catering to the
Discriminating Collector

In the Fifthpearl Building
207 E. 5th Avenue
OPEN 7 DAYS

343-9000

Great Food Within a Student's Budget!

Guido's
Open till 2:30 am

Outside Seating Everyday!

Large Portions
Air Conditioned

Open 11 am to 10 pm
to all ages for food service

13th & Alder • On Campus • 343-0681

Seniors' SAT scores go up again

WASHINGTON (AP) — SAT scores of college-bound seniors are up for a second straight year, after a 25-year slump in which educators declared the nation's schools in serious trouble.

The Class of 1993 scored an average 424 on the verbal part of the test, up a point from the average for the previous year's graduating class, and the math average was 478, up two points, the College Board reported.

At the same time, blacks — whose average scores long have lagged behind those of whites — are continuing to narrow the gap.

It was the second straight year of SAT score increases, and although that's encouraging, "academic recovery is painfully slow," said Donald Stewart, president of the board, a non-profit education group that sponsors the test.

"Too many students are not being held to rigorous standards or exposed to a challenging curriculum," Stewart said.

Asian-Americans and white students took the most classroom courses and received the highest SAT scores. Mexican-American and black students took the fewest courses and got the lowest scores. SAT scores were below the national average in large cities and rural areas, but suburban students performed above the average.

One positive sign: 42 percent of test-takers who graduated this year were carrying heavy course loads, compared with 34 percent for those who graduated in 1987.

"We think more rigorous course work is doing the job, contributing to an increase in scores," said Howard Everson, the College Board's senior research scientist.

Despite the progress, verbal scores are 39 points lower than in 1969, and math scores are behind by 15 points.

One big factor holding down SAT scores during the past 25 years is that more students — not just the cream of the academic crop — are now taking the test.

A record 30 percent of test-takers this year were racial and ethnic minorities, double the level in 1976.

More than one million high school seniors take the SAT each year — 43 percent of the projected

high school graduates in the Class of 1993. The percentage taking the test ranged from 4 percent in Mississippi and Utah to 78 percent in New Hampshire.

Will the scores continue to rise?

"We hope so; some of the education reforms we keep hearing about seem to be taking hold," Everson said.

Keith Geiger, president of the 2.1 million-member National Education Association, sounded a note of caution, saying he wanted to see increases for three or four years before concluding the tide has turned.

Stewart noted a 10-point improvement in the average math score in the past decade since publication of *A Nation At Risk*, a scathing critique of the nation's schools by a presidential commission. It called for tougher standards, longer school days and higher pay for teachers to combat "a rising tide of mediocrity."

According to the College Board:

- On the math section of the test, the 78,000 Asian-Americans who took it averaged 535; the 100,000 blacks, 388; and the 670,000 whites, 494.

- On the verbal section, whites averaged 444; Asian-Americans, 415; and blacks, 353.

- Since 1976, the math scores of blacks have gone up 34 percent and blacks' verbal scores have gone up 21 percent. The math scores of whites have risen 1 percent, and whites' verbal scores have declined 7 percent.

SAT scores in Oregon reached their highest level in 21 years in 1993, according to figures from The College Board, which administers the test.

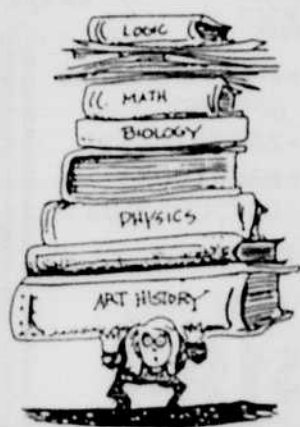
For the third year in a row, Oregon ranked first among the 23 states where at least 40 percent of all high school graduates took the test, which measures verbal and mathematical skills needed for college.

Fifty-six percent of the state's graduates took the test this year.

Oregon students scored an average of 492 on the math test, up six points from last year, and 441 on the verbal test, two points better than the 1992 average. The math total was an all-time high for the state.

ACADEMIC LEARNING SERVICES

Supporting students in their academic endeavors



Struggling with a class?

Using a tutor could be the answer!

Small group and individual tutoring available for most courses at reasonable rates. All tutors have faculty references.

A free, drop-in math lab is open at the Center during weekdays to assist students with math concerns.

Need help with writing?

A writing lab at the center is staffed with English graduate students to help students with their academic writing. Not an editing service, but individual tutorials offered weekdays on a drop-in, free basis.

Planning on graduate school?

Workshops to help students prepare for graduate school exams are available each term through Academic Learning Services. The fall schedule includes:

GRE Preparation:

Session I (Test: October 9, 1993)

Sept. 28, 29, 30; Oct. 5, 6, 7

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Oct. 4 - practice exam

5:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Session II (Test: December 11, 1993)

Nov. 6, 13, 20; Dec. 4

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Dec. 2 - practice exam

5:00 pm - 8:30 pm

LSAT Preparation:

Session I (Test: October 2, 1993)

Saturday, Sunday & Tuesday

Sept. 25 & 26

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sept. 28 - practice exam

6:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Session II (Test: December 4, 1993)

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

Nov. 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Nov. 23 - practice exam

3:30 pm - 7:00 pm

GMAT Preparation:

(Test: October 16, 1993)

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Sept. 28, 30; Oct. 5, 7, 12, 14

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Oct. 13 - practice exam

3:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Tutoring, drop-in labs, and workshops in test preparation for graduate school are just a few of the many services provided through Academic Learning Services. The Center is located off the south courtyard, lower level of Prince Lucien Campbell Hall (PLC).