

Blacks' test scores rose relative to whites'

By JIM ZOOK
Staff Writer

After months of charges by education experts that American education has hit mediocrity, a UNC professor has released a study showing that something in education is on the rise.

Lyle V. Jones, professor and director of the psychology department, presented a study to the annual convention of the American Psychological Association on Monday which concluded that black students across the nation are gaining on white students on standardized test scores.

Jones' study is based on information compiled over an 11-year period by several national testing agencies, including the National Association for Educational Progress. Scores of students tested between 1969 and 1980 were used for the study.

"Each year since 1969, the NAEP administered achievement exercises to large samples of the nation's youth from all over the country," Jones said. "They gave the same exercises to nine-year-olds in '71, '75 and '80 to observe the change."

"We've gotten data like this and have been able to find an average score for white kids," he said. "We found that over the 11-year period the black achievement levels have risen relative to the whites."

One of the tests used in the study was the Scholastic Aptitude Test, taken by high school seniors. Those white students who took the SAT and were born in 1958 scored on the average 118 points better than their black peers.

But white students who were born in 1964, the age of students who are currently college freshmen or sophomores, scored 100 points better on the average than did black students.

Jones said there are several reasons for the narrowing of the gap.

"One hypothesis is that black children who've entered de-segregated schools, say in kindergarten or first grade, are benefiting quite a bit from their education, more than had been the case when black students had entered all black schools," Jones said.

Another reason may be that blacks now have more reason to do well in school, he said.

"I suspect that the incentive to do better in school is greater than it was 20 years ago," Jones said. "Twenty years ago, it tended not to make much difference to a black person's career choice whether he did well in education. They had limited opportunities."

President's liaison on women's issues resigns post

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Dee Jepsen is planning to resign her \$52,517-a-year position as President Reagan's liaison on women's issues, an aide to her husband, Sen. Roger Jepsen, R-Iowa, said Wednesday.

But spokesman Tom Lafferty denied that Mrs. Jepsen's decision to leave the White House Office of Public Liaison had anything to do with mounting criticism of the president by several women's groups.

"When Mrs. Jepsen accepted the job, she said it would be for a short period," Lafferty said. "It's never been a question of 'if.' It's been a case of 'when.'"

A White House spokeswoman said Mrs. Jepsen was tied up in a meeting and could not immediately answer a reporter's questions.

On Tuesday, however, Mrs. Jepsen was quoted as saying she would have an announcement on the matter "very shortly."

In an interview with the Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette, Mrs. Jepsen insisted that her job has "not been downgraded" and that "no one has tried to muscle me out" in the wake of fierce criticism of Reagan's policies on such issues as the Equal Rights Amendment.

Lafferty said he wasn't certain when

Mrs. Jepsen would relinquish the White House job. Nor was he sure whether she would return to her previous position as an unpaid member of her husband's staff.

But Lafferty did say that Mrs. Jepsen would play a "key role" in her husband's 1984 re-election campaign.

"I know the senator and she will both be working together in his campaign," the spokesman said.

Jepsen, who is chairman of the congressional Joint Economic Committee, is completing his first term in the Senate. He is expected to face a tough bid for re-election by Rep. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa.

SPEAK EASY



Chesca Varcoe



Ray Wallington



Lee Roecker

On Oct. 1, you must be 19 years old to buy beer and wine in North Carolina. An easier-to-prove charge — driving while impaired — will go into effect, as will more severe punishments for driving while impaired, loaning an ID and underage drinking.

What do you think of the tighter alcohol laws?

Chesca Varcoe, freshman from London: "Coming from England where you can drink anything at the age of 18, I find the law very strange. I find it ridiculous to differentiate between liquor and beer and wine because they will all get you drunk. I do think there should be stricter control over drinking and driving."

Ray Wallington, freshman computer science major, Madison: "I'm in favor of it. I don't drink to start with, and I feel that it's getting ridiculous to even get on the highways now because of drunk drivers. Something needed to be done. But even though the rules may be a little harsh, they had to start somewhere."

Lee Roecker, graduate student in chemistry, Genoa, Ohio: "I don't think that just because someone is 18 they have a right to drink, and I think that it's unfortunate that they even have to have a law against it. Accident statistics have gone up and I think that stricter penalties for driving under the influence nationwide would be appropriate. I have no sympathy for those who are punished."

Annis Taylor, sophomore business major, Durham: "I think it's a good idea, because it will reduce underage kids from getting beer and crack down on drunk driving laws. It will just make it safer to everyone involved."

Lynne Gerber, assistant dean of the UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill: "I think they're going in the right direction and the law should be tighter, not necessarily for younger people but for everybody. I don't think age makes any difference in what happens to you if you're drinking and driving. The laws should make people realize that they have a responsibility to themselves and others."

Marymelda Hill, freshman journalism major from Fayetteville: "I think it's really bad, especially in a college town because it limits the freshman class from a lot of social activities. It makes it harder for the halls to have parties and mixers."

Interviews conducted by staff writer Heidi Owen.



Annis Taylor



Lynne Gerber



Marymelda Hill



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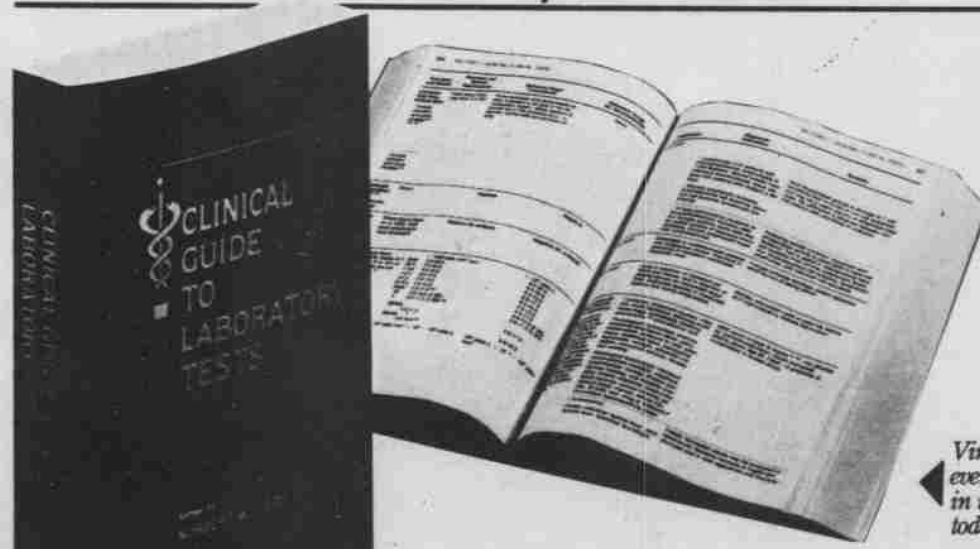
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Edited and with contributions by Norbert W. Tietz, PhD, and Director of Clinical Chemistry, Univ. of Kentucky Medical Center, 700 J. P. Way, May 1983, 320 pp., \$8.95

IM entry deadlines announced

Entry deadlines for the first of this year's 71 team and individual activities sponsored by the Carolina IM-Rec Sports Office have arrived.

Grail softball, a single-elimination tournament, opens the IM-Rec schedule. The entry deadline is today with play beginning Tuesday.

Tag football will kick off on Sept. 12. The entry deadline for all teams is Friday. Friday is also the entry deadline for all

participants in team tennis and Napoleon basketball (6-0 and under), with these events beginning Sept. 12 and 19, respectively.

IM-Rec activities are open to all full-time students and faculty and staff members who have purchased privilege cards. For more information, stop by the IM-Rec office in 203 Woollen Gym or call 962-1006. To make court reservations, call 962-1153.

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