

# UNCA freshmen score higher on SAT

By Libby Ramsey  
Staff Writer

This fall, the entering freshman class scored a mean of 933 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), some 13 points over last year's mean.

Universities and colleges use the nationwide test to determine a student's entry level. A perfect score is 1600, 800 on both the verbal and mathematic sections.

In comparison with four other state universities, UNCA ranked third in overall freshman SAT scores:

- UNC-Chapel Hill, mean SAT score of 1,087 (up 17 points)
- N.C. State University, 1,023 (up seven points)
- UNCA, 933 (up 13 points)
- Appalachian State

University, 904 (up seven points)

• Western Carolina University, 845 (increase or decrease not available)

"These institutional research figures give us a basis of comparison; however, each of the five universities compared has a varying degree program which attracts different types of students," said Dr. Archer Gravely, director of institutional research at UNCA.

UNCA's 181 male freshmen scored higher on both verbal (462) and math (502) for a mean SAT score of 964 than did their 200 female classmates.

The females had a mean of 448 on verbal and 457 on math for a total of 905, according to Gravely.

Math scores were higher than verbal for both sexes at all five universities where complete figures were available.

Also, a recent survey of nationwide SAT scores by the College Board indicated UNCA freshman scored better than the national average in both the verbal and math sections.

UNCA's overall average of 454 on the verbal section is 23 points above the national average. While the nationwide math average was 475, UNCA's was four points higher.

The national average combined SAT score was 906. UNCA's was 27 points higher.

Some administrators felt UNCA's SAT scores show a student's probability for success.

"SAT scores are one

of three indicators of success at UNCA. The other two are life achievements and class rank," said Chancellor David Brown.

There are some students who do well here in spite of the fact that they do not have a high SAT score, Brown added, but "usually success at UNCA is signaled by previous success in life.

"I believe that the SAT test taken alone is not an accurate measure of a student's probability of success in college, but do believe it is a key indicator of a student's likelihood of success," he said.

Gravely attributes the increasing SAT scores to the Honors Program that began in 1985.

Dr. Phyllis Betts,

director of the university scholars honors program, said that the honors program was conceived to attract "more talented and more motivated freshmen.

"We are beginning to scout students this fall, using scores provided by the college SAT. The absolute bottom SAT score has to be at least 1,000. In December, we are having an open house for prospective incoming honors freshmen," Betts said.

The program will seek out the top 20 percent of high school graduating seniors and the top 10 percent of incoming freshman applicants.

"SAT scores," according to Betts, "are reviewed every two years. There is a demonstrated correlation between high SAT scores and success in college."

## Internships may lead to permanent positions

By Libby Ramsey  
Staff Writer

While offering a student hands-on experience in a chosen field, a summer internship often becomes a full-time job after the student graduates.

Although some internships do not earn the student credit, they can be valuable to a student, according to David Johnston, director of the UNCA career center.

"It makes sense for companies to hire students who have worked with them before and already have experience," Johnston said.

They also give students an opportunity to get experience in their desired field before graduation and to explore the reality of this field. Also, the experience looks good on a job resume, according to Johnston.

Most internships require a minimum 2.5

grade point average. Students generally should complete their sophomore year and be returning to campus in the fall.

Other eligibility requirements, pay, credits, and dates of service vary with each position.

Students at UNCA expressing interest in an internship can apply for currently listed internships or create their own.

Faculty members within a student's department may help in deciding upon an area of interest and applying for internships the department has already arranged.

Johnston encouraged students to write their own internships, with the assistance of their department head, if none exist in their field of interest. The department head will decide if the student will receive credit for their work.

There are three steps, according to Johnston, in creating an internship:

• The student chooses a field of interest and the geographic area he/she wants. For instance, a student may want to work with an advertising agency in Raleigh. He prepares a list of all ad agencies in that area and sends each a resume. Then he follows up with a phone call.

• The student makes contacts in his/her field of interest by asking familiar people in the field about others. This is called networking.

• The student looks through any printed directories available which offer internship information.

Reference books listing available internships are in the Career Library at the Career Center.

These reference books catalog internships

available at the state, national and international levels. Fields for internships include journalism, photography, hospitals, theatres and foundations. The application deadline for next summer is Jan. 16, 1987.



Staff photo-Michele Samuel

### Is it worth the wait?

Students April Scott, Ken Baldwin and others patiently wait for dinner. Long lines sometimes are a problem at the cafeteria.