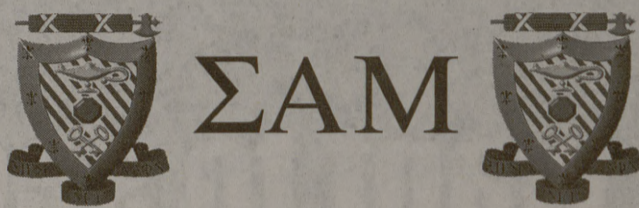


Study Abroad to
**Double Your
Employment
Opportunities**
To get a **FREE** info kit
e-mail us: Info@AbroadInRussia.com
or call Toll Free: 1-866-889-9880

**Texas A&M
Club Baseball Team**
Team Tryouts
Sept. 9-11, 13 @ 4:30 p.m.
Southwood Athletic Complex
Informational Meeting
Sept. 8 @ 7 p.m.
MSC 228
clubbaseball.tripod.com

**THE BATTALION
Classified
Advertising**
• Easy
• Affordable
• Effective
For information, call
845-0569




Historically National Jewish Fraternity

New Fraternity of Campus
Looking to grow
Opportunity to be a Founding Father
Leadership positions available

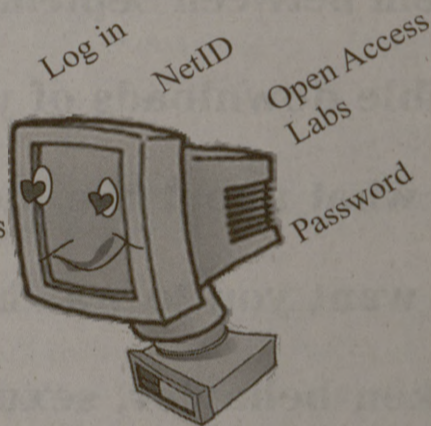
RUSH SAMMY '03

Contact us at
rwolfo5@tamu.edu

I  my WebCT

Beginning of Semester Help is available at the following locations:

- Sept 3, 1:30 - 3:30pm Blocker
- Sept 3, 5:00 - 7:00pm SCC
- Sept 4, 8:30 - 10:30am SCC
- Sept 5, 10:30am - 12:30pm West Campus
- Sept 8, 9:00 - 11:00am Blocker
- Sept 9, 2:30 - 4:30pm West Campus
- Sept 9, 5:00 - 7:00pm SCC
- Sept 10, 1:30 - 3:30pm SCC



Drop by any time during the above hours

Discrepancy between ACT, Ara SAT math scores raises doubt

By Steve Giegerich
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

First, the maker of America's second-most popular college entrance exam releases this year's test scores and declares incoming freshmen largely unprepared for math and science classes. A week later, results from the nation's No. 1 test show math scores at a 35-year high.

Something doesn't add up. In the wake of the annual release of ACT and SAT test scores, educators are still disagreeing about what to make of the results. One testing critic calls the discrepancy a result of marketing efforts aimed at setting the two exams apart.

"These are businesses in a nonprofit form," said Robert Schaeffer of FairTest, an organization that advocates balanced standardized exams.

The ACT scores for the high school class of 2003 were identical in math and science to the year before — 20.6 and 20.8, respectively, on a 36-point scale. In the last five years, math and science scores have dropped slightly on the test, taken by nearly 1.2 million of last spring's high school graduates.

Researchers for the ACT analyzed this year's results and concluded that just 26 percent of test-takers were ready to handle college coursework in science and 40 percent in math.

Meanwhile, the SAT math scores were the best since at least 1967: 519 on a scale with a top score of 800. Since the 1999 exam, math scores are up eight points.

Some educators say the number of students enrolled in remedial math and science courses at four-year schools support the ACT's conclusions.

Michael Kirst, a Stanford University education professor, said the ACT's position is com-

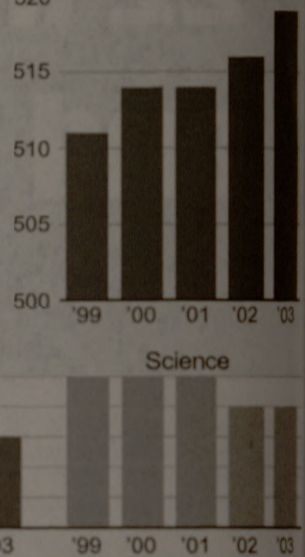
Math scores puzzle test makers

The average math score for students taking the SAT exam has gone up in the past five years. Meanwhile, the average math and science scores for the ACT exam have gone down.

Average ACT scores
The highest possible score is 36.



Average math SAT scores
The highest possible score is 800.



SOURCES: The College Board; ACT; Associated Press

patible with a study he co-authored earlier this year. It also found that many freshmen are not prepared for college math and science, despite gains in achievement scores.

But Andrew Porter, the director of the Learning Sciences Institute at Vanderbilt University maintains the SAT scores do, in fact, represent an upward trend in math and science proficiency.

"To have scores higher than 35 years ago and to be testing a larger and more diverse student body than was tested 35 years ago is pretty darn impressive — whether they're ready for college or not," Porter said.

Porter and other educators noted that the assessments of the SAT and ACT reflect the differences between the exams and the students who take the tests.

Although most universities are willing to factor either or both tests into the admissions process, the SAT is generally the

primary exam taken by students on the two coasts, educators noted. It also figures prominently in the admissions procedures at elite colleges and universities. The ACT is preferred in the middle of the country where it is the standard use at many public institutions.

Headquartered in Iowa, the nonprofit ACT is known for its findings on whether students reached "college reading benchmarks in the math and science sections of the exam."

It also gave students a questionnaire about their class which found fewer than half of students who had completed three years of science and two years of math classes.

"I don't believe it's a prediction," said Cyndie Scherer, ACT's vice president of development. "I think what we're seeing here is a real issue supporting remedial course work that reports our data."



challenge convention.
look ahead.

Texas A & M University Presentation
Global Portfolio Management
Wednesday, September 10, 2003
7:00 p.m. — Rudder Tower, Room 402
bofa.com/careers

Banc of America Securities
We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Banc of America Securities LLC, member NYSE/NASD/SIPC, is a subsidiary of Bank of America Corporation. © 2003.

D
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday,
**Invita
TE
C
O
gu