

Minds battle to win in weekend tourney

Silence pervaded the Centennial Room of the Nebraska Union this weekend as 110 chess players participated in the 23rd annual Midwest Open Chess Tournament.

Sponsored by the University Chess Club and the Lincoln Chess Foundation, the tournament operated on the five round Swiss system with no elimination of losing participants, according to Anton Sildmets, certified tournament director and foundation member.

With the end of the third round Saturday night, 12 chess players, including three Lincolnites, remained undefeated. The Lincoln players were Thomas Brakke, Robert Narveson and Loren Schmidt, president of the University Chess Club.

In the tournament, winners play winners and losers play losers, and the participant accumulating the most points wins, said Sildmets. Games are played within a four-hour limit, with each player making 45 moves in two hours.

Most of the players are college students and young persons he said.

All contestants are required to be members of the United States Chess Federation. Each player has a handicap number which rates his playing strength, and these ratings are published by the federation.

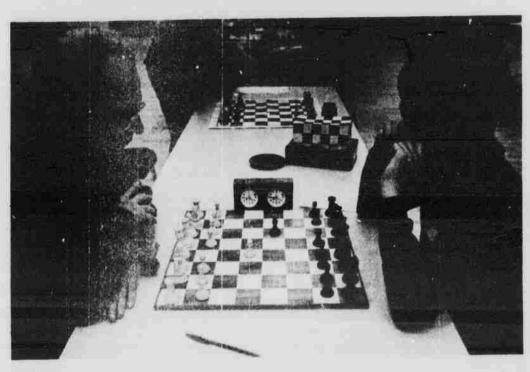
Chess Master Winslow Elliot of St. Louis was the only Master participating in the tournament. He remained in the lead Saturday night.

Participants from South Dakota and Iowa as well as Nebraska attended the three-day session.

The chess players met for the final round Sunday at two o'clock.



Photos by Mike Theiler





daily nebraskan

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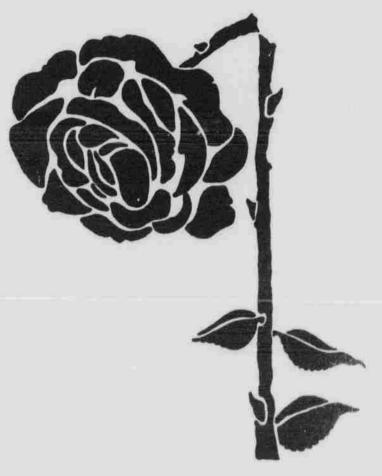
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