

# Arts & Entertainment

## Sidetrack's tourney attracts fans of facts

By Tish Mockler and Donna Slisson

Does a turtle have teeth? What state is bordered by eight other states? The answers to questions like these are the main course for the "Knowledge is Good" trivia contest that takes place Tuesday nights at The Sidetrack, Seventh and P streets.

"Knowledge is Good," was started two and a half years ago by Joyce Durand, who owns The Sidetrack. The title for the contest came from Faber College in the movie, *Animal House*, said Darrin Durand, one of Joyce's sons who helps run the contest. In the film, the base of the statue of the dean of Faber College, is the saying, "Knowledge is Good."

The contest attracts many regulars, but everybody can enter, Joyce Durand said. Contestants and spectators include college students, lawyers, paralegal secretaries and government workers, she said.

All it takes to enter the trivia contest is a team of five members. People often come to the contest with only three people and want to play. They usually can pick up two exam players at the bar, she said.

Each round of the contest consists of conference questions and buzzer questions. Conference questions are directed to the entire team. The team discusses them, and a spokesman answers.

Conference questions keep the game from being a matter of who has the fastest hand. However, the conference questions are usually harder because there are five heads working on one question, Durand said.

Buzzer questions are asked openly to the two teams. Whoever buzzes in first gets a crack at answering the question. If the team that buzzes first does not correctly answer the question, it goes to any individual on the opposing team.

After two sets of conference questions and two sets of buzzer questions, one round of the tournament has been completed. The team which answered the most questions wins. The tournament runs like any other tournament. A team begins with a qualifying round; it wins the round, it continues to quarterfinals, semifinals and then a final round.

If a team wins four rounds, it wins



Craig Anderson/Daily Nebraskan

The Talking Feds compete at last week's "Knowledge is Good" playoff. Team members are (from left to right): Mike Graves, Jerry Guinan, Rick Fedde, Tom Hoffman and Kyle Kamerer.

the tournament.

The tournament champions win a party at which they and their friends can run up a \$100 tab at the expense of The Sidetrack.

There has been little problem with discrepancies over questions and when there is, the question is thrown out, Durand said. The biggest problem is with professors who think they know it all, she said.

She spends eight to ten hours a week preparing the questions which she takes from dictionaries, encyclopedias, quiz books, old Jeopardy games and from old television quiz shows. She says she always keeps a pad and pencil with her in case she thinks of a question.

The questions cover sports, history, geography, current events and music,

including the least-answered questions — those about grand opera. The music questions are frequently posed in a *Name that Tune* format, with Durand playing some notes on a piano and the participants guessing what the song is.

The Durands are going to try out some new audio/visual questions, such as taping a video game and asking what game makes that noise, Durand said.

This type of ingenuity results in an evening of spontaneity, holding some intrigue for everyone. The crowd loves it and frequently interjects answers after, and occasionally before, the teams make their guesses. Durand estimated that half the crowd that gathers to watch is made up of trivia night regulars.

Because many teams come often,

some teams have adopted a traditional response to questions they don't know the answers to, such as, "Rose Kennedy," "Sid Vicious," and "Frankfort, Kentucky."

All the questions Durand has asked are indexed, and she has repeated some of them over the past year. But she is careful about which teams receive them because a couple of teams have been playing for two and a half years and complain when they recognize an old question, she said.

Judging from the enthusiastic crowd last Tuesday night, the "Knowledge is Good" contest will endure and grow. Joyce Durand obviously enjoys the teams and becomes attached to them. In fact, she said she wondered whether college kids who have had the nerve to graduate had their priorities straight.

## HOTSPOTS

### Television

• *City News*, this week's offering on PBS' *American Playhouse*, is a humorous, off-beat look at an underground newspaper, the people involved with it and its attempts to survive. The play airs at 9 p.m. on Channel 12.

• If last year was the year of the child, this may very well be the year of the religious mini-series. A number of biographical looks at past and present religious figures have graced the airwaves over the last few nights. The latest is a two part mini-series on CBS called *Peter and Paul* about the two apostles. It begins at 8 p.m. on Channels 6 and 10.

### Radio

• The Nebraska Chamber Orchestra will be featured in the *Lincoln in Concert* series at 8 p.m. on KUCV, 90.9 FM. Cellist Jerry Grossman is the guest soloist.

### At the Sheldon

• Peter Davis' *Hearts and Minds* will be screened in the Film Theatre today at 3:30, 7 and 9:15 p.m. The documentary won an Oscar for its brilliant indictment of America's involvement in the Vietnam War. Admission is by donation.

• An exhibition featuring art by graduate and undergraduate art students and undergraduates in textiles, clothing and design will continue in the Art Gallery through May 6. Gallery hours are from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. today, Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday 2 to 5 p.m.

### At the Sheldon

• Two films starring Eddie Murphy — *48 HRS*

and *Trading Places* — will show at various locales around campus, beginning tonight. *48 HRS*, which co-stars Nick Nolte, was the film which changed Murphy from a television star to a motion picture commodity. *Trading Places*, Murphy's second film, stars another *Saturday Night Live* alumnus, Dan Aykroyd. The films will be presented at 7 p.m. in Harper Hall, 1150 N. 14th street. There is no admission charge. The films are being sponsored by UPC.

### Around Town

• There will be a recital, sponsored by the Zeta Mu chapter of Delta Omicron, the international music honorary, at Engel Hall, on the campus of Union College, 48th and Bancroft streets. The concert will feature Mary White, and four UNL alumni: Becky Craft, Judy Rulla Pearson, Diane Butherus and Joe Allen. Featured will be compositions by Kibbe, Telemann, Campra, Verdi, Bellini, Beethoven, Schubert and Ravel. The concert is set to begin at 7:30 p.m. There is no admission charge.

• The Rumbles, one of Lincoln's most celebrated bands, will be playing at Judges, 2630 Cornhusker Highway, tonight through Saturday. The cover charge is \$2, which also includes admission to Little Bo's. There, Puppet holds the stage through Saturday.

• Other local bands putting in night club appearances tonight include The Table Rockers at the Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.; Takers at the Drumstick, 547 N. 48th St.; and MX at the Royal Grove, 340 W. Cornhusker Highway.

## Cards & Letters

### Review uneducated

As a senior art student I would like to reply to the Daily Nebraskan's Thursday review of the student art show at Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery. In this review, uneducated reference was made to the "lack of detail and direction . . . reflective of most of the abstracts at the show." This and other comments ignore crucial issues involved in viewing student work.

The show displays work of students at many levels of artistic competence and experience. Freshmen through seniors are represented. When looking at student work it is important to look for promise. Finish — proof of the integrated whole — is only one small aspect. Beautiful elements exist in all work.

Learning to make art is a process which takes a lifetime. Studying art for four years gives no assurance of mastery. Much of learning art is a mental and motor mastery of design, intellectual process and technical process. Student work must be looked at as a stage towards this and not as an end.

This year we fortunate to have a number of works by mature advance students such as Connie Boje, Tim Dittmer, Mark Hendricks, Leslie Hawk, Renee Witherwax and Deanna Bailey, to name a few. The show is well worth seeing. I would also like to use this space to thank the director and staff of Sheldon for giving us, as undergraduates, the opportunity to exhibit in a museum.

Rebecca Jane Ross  
senior  
painting