

Trivia...

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The secret to the teams success lies in a strict training program, Nocera said.

"We get here a little early and drink three to four pitchers each — it loosens your subconscious," he said.

Sisson rarely has missed "Knowledge is Good."

"I think I've missed two Tuesday nights even including vacations since 2 1/2 years ago," Sisson said.

Ed's Roommates also have been successful in newer trivia tournaments sponsored by P.O. Pears

and Chesterfield's.

P.O. Pear's, 322 S. 9th St., started its first Trivial Pursuit tournament in August. Last summer the upstairs room where the competition is held was often packed, Assistant Manager Kirk Welsh said.

"Trivial Pursuit has been on kind of a downslide, but it's starting to pick up again in the winter months," Welsh said. Only two teams competed last Tuesday at Pears. Welsh blamed the low turnout on poor scheduling. "It's too close to finals week," he said.

The game originally was organized for people who didn't have Trivial Pursuit at home, Pears General Manager Ben Brett said. But the friendly competition has become heated on occasion, Welsh said.

Pears uses a regular Trivial Pursuit board for its tournaments. Questions are pooled from all four editions of Trivial Pursuit. A problem with using the regular game is that some players have the questions memorized, Welsh said.

Winners of the current tournament at Pears, will receive \$30 cash. Finals are Tuesday at 8 p.m. The bar will start new competition in the middle of February, Welsh said.

Chesterfield's (245 N. 13th St.,) tournament is the most recent addition to Lincoln's trivia playing field. The bar sponsored its first trivial competition four weeks ago.

Entertainment manager Michael Anderson admits that the tournament is still in a planning stage.

The first few weeks response

was poor, Anderson said. Teams were actively recruited from UNL and the Chesterfield's regular crowd, he said. But things have picked up a little recently, he said.

Anderson said he spends about four hours a week collecting questions from textbooks, UNL professors and other sources. Some questions are taken from Trivial Pursuit. Each question is awarded a point value (between one and five) according to its difficulty. Winners must accumulate 35 points.

Chesterfield's weekly winners each receive a free lunch. Anderson is negotiating for a bigger prize for the tournament finals, which are Monday at 9 p.m. — maybe even a trip for two on the shuttle Discovery if NASA agrees, he said.

Eventually, Anderson said, he hopes to organize an all-university tournament and inter-collegiate trivia contests.

There are no entry fees or cover charges for any of the three bar-sponsored trivia tournaments. The only eligibility requirement is that team members be of legal drinking age.

Best of all, no studying is required to compete in the trivia tournaments.

"The game has nothing to do with intelligence," said Ward Reesman, Chesterfield's competitor.

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