

Students capture opportunities to play chess

SPOTLIGHT

By Gary Gregg
Staff Reporter

Kings, Queens and Knights took over the Nebraska Union last weekend.

But the only battle took place on the chessboard.

The Nebraska Mathematics and Science Coalition, along with the Sheridan Chess Club of the Lincoln Public Schools, held a two-day chess camp for elementary students Friday and Saturday at the Nebraska Union.

Chess author and teacher Robert Snyder of California was in town to teach the youngsters the finer points of the game. But young kids were not the only chess enthusiasts brushing up on their skills.

Gary Coulter, a junior electrical engineering major, participated in the Ice Castle Chess Tournament Sunday.

Coulter has been interested in chess since childhood.

"My dad taught me how to play when I was 10 years old, and I played in my first tournament when I was 14," Coulter said.

Coulter said he was busy this semester, not only playing chess but also organizing the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chess Club.

The chess club started this week and will provide an opportunity for students to play and learn about chess as well as "have a lot of fun," Coulter said.

Coulter said he had been a member of the Lincoln Chess Club for four years. Few LCC members are students, he said.

"I felt a chess club was something the university was lacking when I first came here," Coulter said.

This is not the first time a chess club has been available to students. Coulter said a student chess organization disbanded a few years ago.

"I have to start a new club from



Travis Heying/DN

Gary Coulter, president of the newly formed University of Nebraska-Lincoln chess club, thinks there needs to be an outlet on campus for chess lovers. "Chess isn't just for intellectuals," Coulter says.

scratch," he said.

Coulter said he wanted the UNL Chess Club to meet weekly to practice. Hosting student tournaments starting later in the semester is also a possibility, he said.

"Tournaments make chess more fun when you are actually competing

for money or prizes," Coulter said.

Coulter said there were only five annual tournaments in the Lincoln area, and he thought there should be more.

Coulter said he expected a high degree of involvement in the club because of the level of interest in

chess he had seen on campus.

The recent UNL intramural chess tournament had more than 80 participants, he said. The Office for Student Involvement has been receiving calls from students interested in a chess club.

Coulter said the chess club would

be open to all students, regardless of their skill level or experience.

"Chess is not just for intellectuals. It is a game for everyone. You don't have to be super smart to come and play," he said.

The UNL Chess Club meets every Tuesday and interested students are welcome.

Spielberg scores another hit in his portrayal of Holocaust



"Schindler's List"



By Joel Strauch
Senior Reporter

"Schindler's List" joins the list of classics directed and produced by Steven Spielberg.

This film is a powerful story about the Holocaust and one man who was able to bring light and hope to a people who knew only suffering and death.

Oskar Schindler (Liam Neeson), a German businessman, uses the rise of Nazi power for his own personal gain. Exploiting Jewish workers, bribing SS officials and dealing on the black market allow Schindler to amass a huge fortune early in the war.

While dealing with the Nazis, Schindler forms relations with the commandant of Plaszow concentration camp, Amon Goeth (Ralph Fiennes). Goeth's sadistic cruelty to his Jewish slave labor bothers Schindler, who begins to see what the Nazis have planned for the Jews.

Schindler gradually becomes closer to his Jewish workers, especially his accountant Itzhak Stern (Ben Kingsley). When the war moves toward a close, and millions of Jews are

shipped to Auschwitz and other extermination camps, Schindler decides to act. He pays Goeth for the rights to take his workers to an arms factory he is constructing in his Czechoslovakian homeland.

He uses the rest of his fortune to ensure that the Nazis use none of the munitions produced by his factory.

Schindler saves the lives of more than 1,100 Jews by bringing them to his factory. They present him with a gold ring bearing the inscription "Whoever Saves One Life, Saves the World Entire."

A unique feature of this show is its black-and-white filming. Spielberg uses 1930s cinematography techniques, such as eliminating colors like green that have a bad tint on black-and-white film.

The film has a very realistic feel. It is filmed entirely on location in Krakow, Poland, one of the few European cities not devastated by World War II. Spielberg even uses Schindler's original factory and apartment.

The acting is also exceptional. Neeson's portrayal of Schindler is only slightly less moving than Kingsley's astounding performance as Itzhak Stern.

Spielberg does an excellent job of directing a difficult film that he could have easily sensationalized or underplayed. He brings the reality of the Holocaust to a generation who sees it as history and not a part of people's lives.

An original score by John Williams is the icing on this near perfect cake of "Schindler's List."



Courtesy of Universal Pictures

Liam Neeson as Oskar Schindler (left) and Ben Kingsley as Itzhak Stern star in "Schindler's List."