

# Coed cares for grounds

By Mary Cariotto  
School of Journalism

Alma Black came to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln from Dallas, Texas, to see snow and to be involved with the Centennial Education Program.

A passerby is likely to see her on campus this summer dressed in jeans, with a scarf tied around her hair . . . planting flowers.

Miss Black is the only girl doing outdoor work for the grounds department. She plants flowers and other ground cover, waters what she plants and the existing vegetation and helps care for the nursery.

A senior in art, Miss Black lived in Texas until she came to Nebraska as a freshman. She said she doesn't find many differences between the two states, as "they're both basically flat," but she said Lincoln is friendlier than her home town of Dallas and colder in the winter.

## Doesn't skate

Although she doesn't ski or ice skate, she said she has enjoyed looking at the Nebraska snow during the winter. "I am getting a little tired of it, though".

Miss Black applied for a job as janitor when in the market for summer work. She changed her plans when she found the

open job with the grounds department.

Miss Black is not a stranger at working the earth. She had a vegetable garden for two years in Nebraska and she also has de-tasseled corn. "I guess I'm pretty lucky with the things I grow," she said. "I've become interested in growing things since I moved to Nebraska."

Miss Black works only half the day with the crew. She goes to summer school in the morning the in the afternoon, she's off to the city campus, east campus or the nursery.

## Enjoys outdoors

Miss Black enjoys being outside and getting the exercise her job supplies. She said the only bad part about working outdoors is heat. She also said she enjoys getting dirty.

Being the only girl on the grounds crew leads to questions. She said she has not gotten comments from fellow workers but "people who see me working stop and ask me why I wanted to do this."

Dave Biskup, forman of the UNL nursery, said Miss Black "does her work really well. . . she seems to love outdoor work and the men she works with all get along well with her, and she with them." Biskup said he would be willing to have other women working with Miss Black and thinks others will be hired due to the high number of students applying for jobs.

Miss Black's experience with the grounds department this summer has made her think about enrolling in horticulture courses, but she doesn't think she will be changing her major she said.

## Regents okay handball, tennis, basketball court

The Board of Regents authorized the construction of new recreational facilities on East Campus at their Saturday meeting.

The recreational facilities are planned for an area east of the College of Dentistry and north of the married student housing.

The first phase of construction, estimated to cost \$174,000, would provide six lighted tennis courts, five lighted handball courts, three lighted basketball courts which during the winter could be converted into an ice skating rink. A fireplace and benches also will be built.

The first phase now can be funded from accumulated student fees specifically designated for recreation building use.

Long range recreational plans call for nine flag football, six softball and two soccer fields and later a golf driving range, putting greens, an archery range and parking area. Money for these projects, expected to bring the total cost to about \$330,000, currently is not available.

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