

Husband and wife first team to receive custodial awards

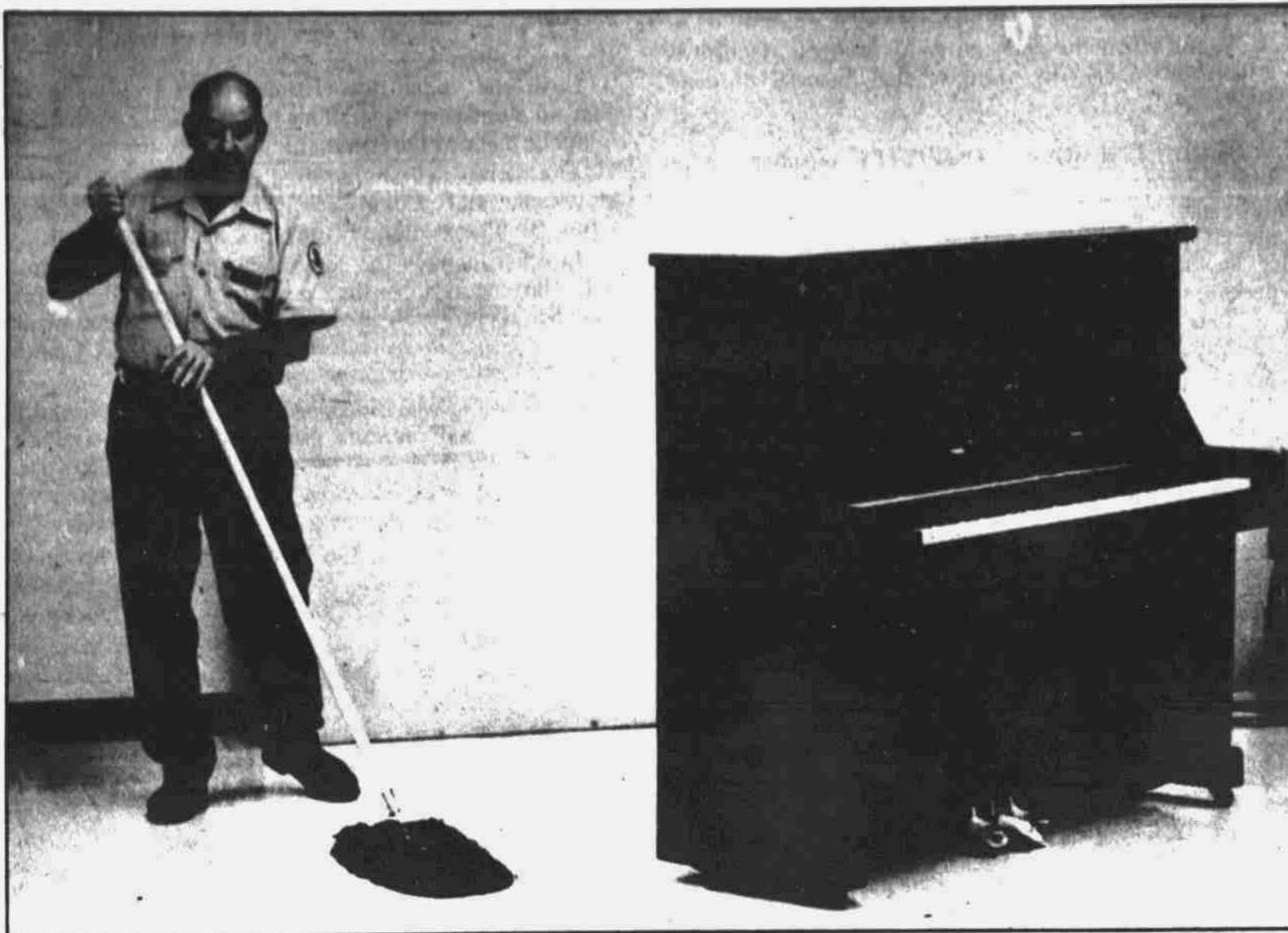


Photo by Tom Gessner

Custodian Kenneth Spradley sweeps into his janitorial duties which earned him the "Custodian of the Month" award.

Husband and wife Kenneth and Lucille Spradley are both past recipients of the "Custodian of the Month" award presented by the UNL Physical Plant.

Mr. Spradley won the honor for his work in July. "Custodian of the Month" is a means of giving recognition for outstanding work in the UNL custodial division of the Physical Plant.

Each recipient of the award receives a 5 percent raise, said Spradley.

Spradley and his wife are both custodians in the Westbrook Music Building. They have been employed as custodians at UNL since 1974, but have worked together for only about one year.

While it is not UNL policy to hire husband and wife teams, Spradley said they were an exception. The two had worked together previously and were both hired at about the same time.

Mr. Spradley received the award once before in 1977 while working in the Temple building. At that time, a 5 percent raise was not part of the prize. The raise has been a part of the program since 1978. Mrs. Spradley received the honor in March, 1978.

"The award is based on the appearance level of the assigned work area after inspection by peers and supervisor," said John Dzerk, operational manager for the Physical Plant.

Supervisors for the different work areas submit names of employees with superior areas each month. Six to eight areas are chosen from this list for inspection, Dzerk said.

One supervisor and two custodians inspect restrooms, custodial closets, floors and blackboards and check the general appearance of the area, Spradley said.

This is the fifth year the award has been given, Dzerk said. "It is a means of job enrichment," he said.

According to Spradley, the award is something for which his fellow employees. He called the raise an extra incentive.

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