

# Freshman from Omaha wins Miss Black UNL pageant

By Jeff Goodwin

When Rosalind Moore started school at UNL last August, she never thought that three months later she would be chosen Miss Black UNL.

"I had no idea," she said. "I can't believe it."

Moore won her title Sunday night in the ballroom of the Nebraska Union. It was the third consecutive year a Miss Black UNL pageant has been held.

Carla Johnson-Kimbrough, chief coordinator of the pageant, said she was pleased by the way the contest turned out.

"Last year there were more people, but the people here tonight were very interested," Johnson-Kimbrough said.

Johnson-Kimbrough said the number of contestants in this year's pageant — eight — was slightly smaller than in the previous two years.

Johnson-Kimbrough said anyone who wanted to could enter the pageant. However, contestants were required to attend all the practices and activities sponsored by the pageant, she added.

Moore, a freshman from Omaha majoring in journalism and the performing arts, said she entered the contest to help support black students at UNL.

"I wanted to bring the black community together," Moore said. "I thought I was a good spokesperson for the black community. I'm just happy to win."

Moore said she believes the contest was a good experience, and that it would have been even if she hadn't won.

"It was a very worthwhile experience," she said. "I gained a lot of friends out of this. It's been very rewarding."

Moore said she intends to be active in her new



Staff Photo by Dave Bentz

Rosalind Moore, newly crowned Miss Black UNL, breaks into a smile as last year's Miss Black UNL, Doreen Charles, right, congratulates her.

role as Miss Black UNL. "I intend to get out and meet people," she said. "I want to get the black community to come together as one."

Moore's comments reflected the theme of the pageant — "And Still I Rise . . . Achievement through Unity." The concept is taken from a poem by poet Maya Angelou.

In addition to talent, contestants were judged on poise, an introduction of themselves to the audience, a question-and-answer section and an interview that took place before the contest.

The evening was high-

lighted by a speech by Doreen Charles, Miss Black UNL of 1981.

Charles paid tribute to those who came before her.

"We, the descendants of great black queens, must not let down," Charles said. "We are what we are because of what they were."

Moore's victory allows her to compete in the Miss Black Big Eight pageant, which will be at UNL in February.

The second runner-up in the contest was Macy Williams, a senior from Morris, Okla. The first runner-up was Andrea Kimberly Walker.

## Pets laid to rest

# Cemetery isn't typical

By John Koopman

About three miles east of Lincoln on O Street, Pat Strnot owns and operates a combination cemetery, crematory and funeral home. It looks just like a regular cemetery, only smaller. Because there are no people buried there, only animals.

Strnot opened the Rolling Acres Pet Cemetery, Crematory and Funeral Home, 400 S. 134th St., in 1978 after running into a great deal of trouble finding a suitable resting place for one of her own dogs.

"Most pets which die at the veterinarian's office or at the Humane Society are simply taken to the city dump," she said.

Strnot operates the cemetery just three miles from the Lincoln city limit because of a city ordinance prohibiting the burial of animals within that limit. Although cremated animals may be buried inside the limit, Strnot believes the ordinance was originally enacted to prevent the spread of hoof-and-mouth disease.

Strnot said the same companies that make headstones, plaques, statues and caskets for humans also make them

for animals. Caskets start at \$38, \$10 for small pets and birds, and plots vary according to location. There is a separate section for cats if the owners desire, and another fenced-in area for horses.

For those who want their pet taken care of but don't have much money, there are group cremations and group burials. Cremations start at \$38 and burials at \$20.

Many people are so attached to their pets that they provide a burial site for them while they are still alive, she said.

While some people think only rich older people bring their pets to a pet cemetery, Strnot said that's a misconception.

She said older people are usually very attached to their pets, especially a widow or widower who owned the pet before the spouse died. The pet will remind them of their late spouse and when the pet dies, it's as if the last remaining spirit of the spouse is gone. Strnot said that she tells bereaved owners that if it will help for them to believe they will be reunited with their pets in heaven then they should do so.

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