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served on numerous panels and committees.

Among other awards, she was named Outstanding Young Woman of America in 1984 and has published many articles on black writers.

Although Joyce has published extensively, she says she places as much importance on teaching as on her research.

"My publications are important to me," she says, "but I haven't let that turn me into a selfish person by limiting my involvement with students and committees."

Joyce is straightforward. She speaks to students on their level. Although her appearance is exotic for Nebraska, Joyce projects blunt sincerity.

She tells her class she admires Hurston because the writer was not "a rural-based person pretending to be city-bred."

At a cocktail party, Joyce met a black writer who spoke with a British accent.

"No man bred in America, no black man especially, talks with that accent. I just wanted to say, 'Hey brother, get down.'"

"I have enough problems of my own without judging others, but that didn't stop me that time," Joyce jokes.

Professors often are unwitting role models for students, Joyce says. They have a profound effect on society, because of their prolonged contact with future parents and leaders.

Joyce knows what she's talking about.

While she was a pre-med student at Valdosta State College in Georgia, Willa Valencia, an English professor, influenced Joyce to abandon a career in psychiatry for one in English.

Valencia's poise, enthusiasm and intelligence struck Joyce. Valencia's skill as a teacher made Joyce aware of her own love for books.

Joyce says she had the same effect on a pre-med student when she taught at the University of Maryland. But Joyce convinced the student he could indulge his love for books without changing his major.

Joyce says her goal is to get students to internalize books, to spur them to ask questions. Those questions usually lead them to evaluate their place in society, she says.

Books challenge students' feeling of security with threatening ideas, she says. In an Afro-American literature course, those ideas cluster around racism, she says.

"White people have a lot of guilt, particularly young whites. They say to me that they aren't responsible for racism, their ancestors are."

"That bothers me. It's like an ostrich with its head in the sand."

Joyce says that because if students fail to accept the responsibility for racism now, they will fail to deal with it effectively as tomorrow's leaders.

And the legacy is passed on.

Black literature is politically based, Joyce says. It allows oppressors to see themselves through the eyes of the oppressed, she says. Black writers create self-parodying tales to cope with the horrors of life, Joyce says.

**'My publications are important to me, but I haven't let that turn me into a selfish person by limiting my involvement with students and committees.'**

--Joyce

"They deal with it humorously, like Richard Pryor, Eddie Murphy and Arsenio Hall," she says. "It's how they illuminate racism so they can get up and go to work everyday."

Yet Joyce is careful to show students the beauty of Afro-American literature, a quality missed if books are taught only as social documents.

Joyce not only interprets what the authors say, she looks for the beauty in the style of how they say it. Joyce says her articles on authors and their

works focus on the wedding of style and content in black literature.

Many writers tend to interpret these works from a sociological view and that can shadow the beauty of the books, she says.

A scientific interpretation of literature, especially of black literature, is more likely to be sanctioned by UNL's Research Council, Joyce says. It's one reason why she worries her work may be overlooked by the council.

The council gives grants to professors. Joyce says the money often is used for travel expenses to national conferences or further research.

But UNL seems to take Joyce's work seriously. The university granted her tenure immediately, bypassing the customary six-year probationary period.

Frederick Link, chairman of the English department, says Joyce deserves special consideration because of her reputation as a teacher and her publication record. Also, she already had earned tenure at the University of Maryland.

Joyce taught at Maryland 10 years before she decided she was stagnating. Nebraska promised a change of scenery, giving Joyce the chance to teach and continue her research, she says.

Her husband, Walter Gholson, 41, is a news-editorial student at the UNL journalism college and just got a job as coordinator of the youth program at the Malone Community Center.

She says she has enjoyed her first eight weeks in Nebraska.

"Well I'm not attracted to cold weather, but people here appear to be more sincere and less pretentious."



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# police

**Repeating motorcycle accident, Oct. 1**

11:35 a.m. - Pizza sleeve and sandwiches removed from stolen vehicle parked in Abel Hall lot; \$30.

12:17 a.m. - Bicycle reported stolen by Nebraska Union; \$200.

1:25 a.m. - Woman reported to have fallen in South Hall hallway. Transported to Lincoln General.

1:45 a.m. - Black pickup reported in Area 10, near Harvey Avenue; \$1,000.

3:10 a.m. - Motorcycle parked for sale reported stolen; \$1,000.

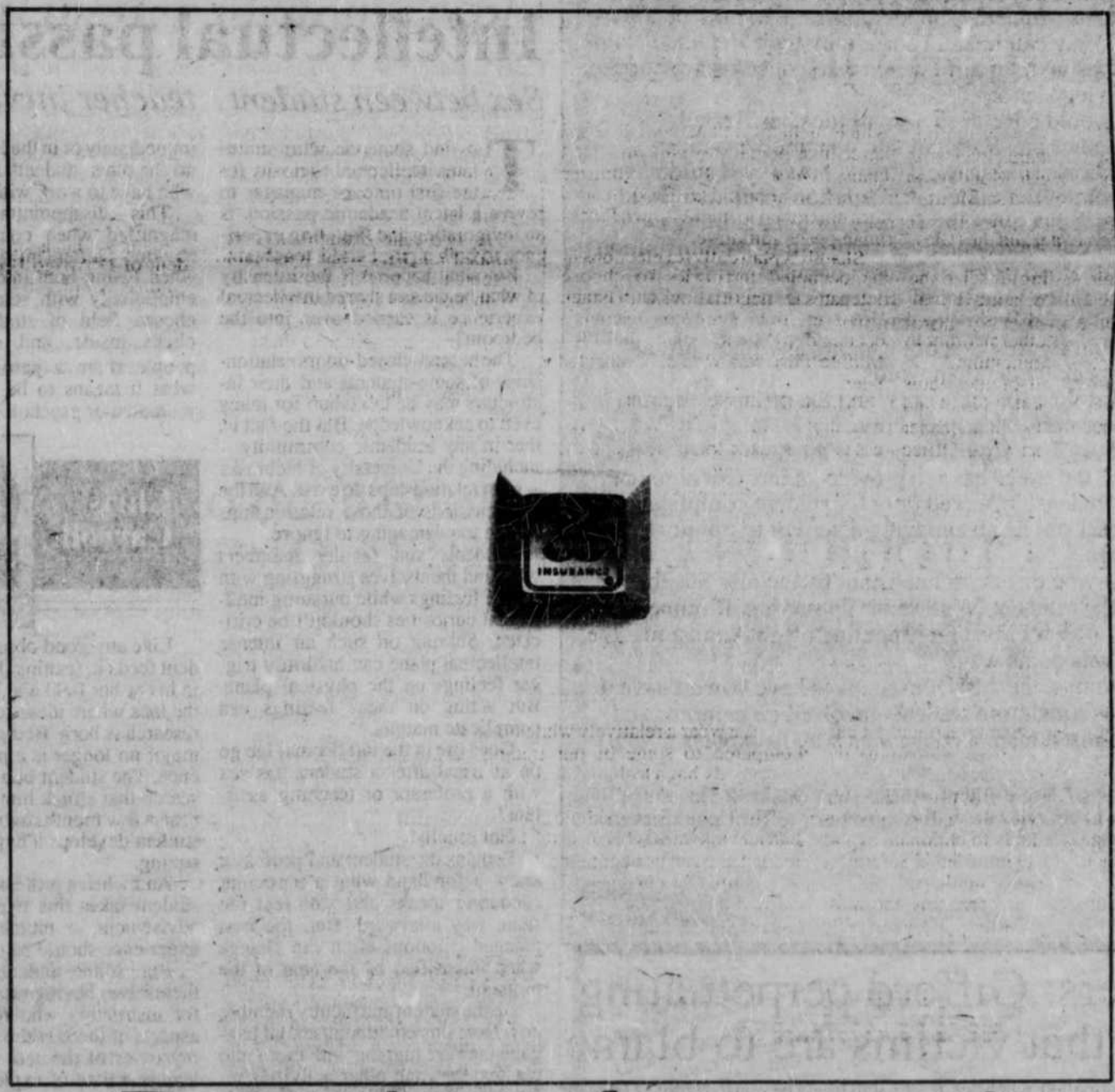
7:54 a.m. - Convertible top reported out of car which parked in Area 1, 11th and K streets; \$50.

9:38 a.m. - Bicycle reported stolen at Tom Kappa Epsilon fraternity; \$240.

9:41 p.m. - Two-vehicle accident reported in Area 12, 19th and R streets; \$23.

10:02 p.m. - Coat reported stolen in Area 4, South Hall; \$275.

10:02 p.m. - 1982 Ford reported stolen from vehicle parked in Area 25, 14th and S streets; \$13.



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