

# Daily Nebraskan

November 23, 1993

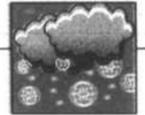
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 93 No. 66

SPORTS

Huskers  
dunk  
Marathon Oil  
109-91

Page 7



Tuesday

30/18

A chance of light  
snow or freezing  
drizzle today.  
Wednesday, cold  
with high around 30.

## Gay greeks take skeletons out of closet

### 'Straight' society poses challenges

By Mike Lewis  
Staff Reporter

In a sense, David Fellows lived in one of the smallest rooms of his fraternity house.

It was a closet.

Fellows, 23, never told anyone he was gay during the five semesters he was a University of Nebraska-Lincoln fraternity member.

From the fall of 1988 to the fall of 1990, Fellows attended fraternity meetings, parties and other activities. He lived in the house his first year. He built strong friendships with his brothers. But he kept his sexual orientation secret.

Today, the senior biology major from Omaha is both out of the closet and out of his fraternity.

His memories of greek life are mostly positive.

"I had a great time," Fellows said. "It was probably no different from anyone else's experience, except I wasn't dating women."

"I have people who are still friends now. We're going to be friends forever."

No one knows how many gays belong or have belonged to greek organizations at UNL. Most keep their sexuality quiet while they are in fraternities or sororities, Fellows said.

"I could probably name alumni (who are gay) from every fraternity house," Fellows said.

Jayne Wade Anderson, director of greek affairs at UNL, said she knew greeks both locally and nationally who were gay.

"I'm sure I know a lot more who choose not to identify themselves," Anderson said.

The experiences of gay greeks differ from person to person, just as the experiences of heterosexual greeks do.

Some gays feel uncomfortable belonging to a system in which many social events are geared toward heterosexual interaction. Some, for whatever reason, choose to leave their sororities or fraternities.

Others, like Fellows, have a lot of fun and make a lot of friends.

They may get involved in leadership positions.

Paul Moore, a gay man from Loup City and a former UNL speech communications major, served as rush chairman and pledge educator when he belonged to Acacia Fraternity at UNL.

"I really liked (the fraternity)," Moore, 27, said. "It gave me a lot of opportunity to grow."

Moore was an active member from the fall of 1987 to the spring of 1991. He lived in the house his first three years and became an Acacia alumnus after his fourth year.

Moore said the fraternity helped him develop interpersonal, communication and leadership skills. He also said he made great friends. "I felt like I fit in perfectly," he said.

But Moore and Fellows, like most gay greeks, faced some unique challenges.

Both went along with gay jokes and gay slams to keep their sexuality hidden.

"I was scared ... wasn't confident with myself at that time," Moore said. "It was a way to protect myself."

Fellows said he expected the gay jokes when he joined his fraternity, which he declined to name.

"It didn't scar me," he said. "I just took it in stride."

But being in the closet was tough, Fellows said.

"Basically you're lying to everyone—often times yourself included," Fellows said.

Fellows said he was attracted to some people in his fraternity, but he had no strong feelings for anyone.

He said when he was a pledge, he made a pass at the fraternity president. They were both drunk, Fellows said. But that incident didn't affect their friendship, he said.

"He never brought it up again," Fellows said.

Moore said he also found some members of his fraternity attractive, but he had no romantic interest in anyone.

"That's the furthest thing from my mind," he said. "The whole context was that these people were my good friends."

### Coming out

Moore said he kept himself so busy with extracurricular activities that he didn't have time to think about romance with his fraternity brothers.

"I became a workaholic so I wouldn't have to deal with it," Moore said.

He joined activities such as the Union Board and the Nebraska Human Resources Institute. In the process, he became widely known on campus.

So when he finally came out of the closet during his fourth year in Acacia, he came out not just to his fraternity but to the entire campus. He publicly revealed his sexual orientation during an October 1990 meeting of the Associ-

See GAY GREEKS on 6



William Lauer/DN

Paul Moore, a former member of Acacia fraternity, came out of the closet during an October 1990 ASUN meeting. Moore said his announcement was controversial but received support from his fraternity members.

## MU students jailed for statue theft

By Jeff Zeleny  
Senior Editor

A weekend outing for about 25 University of Missouri students turned into an extended stay for five men, when they were arrested and sent to jail for stealing an Abraham Lincoln statue.

The five students remained in custody Monday night and faced felony charges in connection with a weekend theft from the Sheldon Memorial Sculpture Garden.

All five men were arrested for

criminal mischief and theft of the 3-foot-tall statue early Sunday morning. A county judge has not yet set bond for the men.

The students were scheduled to be arraigned Monday afternoon, but at the request of the county attorney's office, the hearings were delayed until Tuesday.

The Missouri students arrested were Jason Mott, 19, Jason Meyer, 18, Richard Daniel, 18, Brad Schuster, 18, and Craig Rehmert, 18.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Police Sgt. Bill Manning gave the

following account of the incident:

A Lincoln police officer saw five men carrying the statue down the sidewalk near 30th and Y streets at 3 a.m. Sunday. The men told the officers they found the statue, but the officer confiscated it.

UNL police discovered the statue was missing at 7 a.m. Sunday and notified gallery officials.

The five students, all members of Farmhouse Fraternity in Missouri, were visiting the Lincoln chapter, Manning said.

See STATUE on 3

## NU back Jones named father in suits

From Staff Reports

NU running back Calvin Jones has been named as the father of two children in paternity suits, according to petitions filed in Douglas County, an attorney for Nebraska Child Protective Services in Omaha said.

Patty Jacobs-Kivett, lead counsel for paternity cases filed in Douglas County, said both Marguerita Rena Watson and Zaneta Rae Green named Jones as the father of their children. Watson gave birth on Jan. 23, 1988,

and Green gave birth on May 9, 1991. Both women were residents of Douglas County at the time the petitions were filed, Jacobs-Kivett said.

She said the case was ready to go to trial. She could not confirm the trial dates, but said the case probably would be heard in January.

Jacobs-Kivett said little had been done with the case against Jones at this point.

"I don't think Calvin Jones can be cast in a negative light because there has been no legal determination at this point," she said.

Jones is a junior human development and the family major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Jones' lawyer, Richard Lydick, refused to comment on the case.

"I don't want to create a story on this," Lydick said.

Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne and NU Athletic Director Bill Byrne could not be reached for comment Monday.

If genetic tests and court testimony determine Jones is the father of the two children, he will be forced to pay child support to the two women.

## Judge to determine Baldwin's treatment

By Dionne Searcey  
Senior Reporter

Scott Baldwin's need for both physical and mental treatment may require a special treatment plan to be created just for him, an attorney said.

Carol Pahlke, attorney for the Department of Public Institutions, said Lancaster County District Judge Paul Merritt Jr. planned to issue an order for Baldwin's treatment later this week.

Baldwin, a former University of Nebraska-Lincoln football player, was found not responsible by reason of insanity in the January 1992 beating of Gina Simanek. In a subsequent psychotic episode, Baldwin was paralyzed from the waist down when Omaha police officers shot him in September 1992.

Baldwin has been committed to the Lincoln Regional Center, a state mental hospital. He is under control of the Department of Public Institutions. Officials at the regional center refused to comment.

The department has recommended Baldwin be placed in the Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital, which deals with physical rehabilitation only,

Pahlke said.

Baldwin's case is special, she said, because he requires mental and physical rehabilitation. Few centers in Nebraska deal with both elements, Pahlke said.

If Baldwin is committed to the hospital, she said, he will need to seek mental treatment elsewhere.

Baldwin has requested to return home to New Jersey to seek treatment. All decisions on Baldwin's placement are pending, Pahlke said.

The judge said at a hearing Thursday he would decide where Baldwin would be placed.

If Baldwin remains committed to the Department of Public Institutions, Pahlke said, he could lose Medicaid or Medicare payments.

Peggy Hain, public relations coordinator for the Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital, said arrangements for security and liability would be made by the judge.

"Our mission is to help people to get to the highest level of functioning they can. We would help anyone on that," Hain said. "It's not our mission to judge who the people are."