Thursday October 19, 2000 Volume 100 Issue 42 dailyneb.com Since 1901

> petaluma watson 7: the wide world of discovery In Opinion/4

NU matched the Wildcats' Intensity on the court and proved KSU is just another **Husker victim** In SportsThursday/10 **UNL professor Judith** Slater prepares to share her dreaminspired stories at a public reading tonight In Arts/8

# Sigma Nu: 'No comment' on gay story

#### **BY VERONICA DAEHN**

The magazine says UNL senior Ryan Grigsby wanted to test the limits of brotherhood.

But when the Oct. 26 issue of Rolling Stone featured Grigsby as a gay UNL student living in Sigma Nu Fraternity, it seems Grigsby may have pushed the limits too far.

Now, only a week after the national magazine came out, Grigsby won't comment on the Rolling Stone story.

"I'm not allowed to comment - I'm sorry," Grigsby told the Daily Nebraskan last week. His fraternity president, UNL junior Dan

Sindelar, also declined to comment.

"I just don't want to comment," Sindelar said. The Rolling Stone article tells about the letter

Grigsby wrote last fall to his brothers in Sigma Nu,

telling them he was gay. Grigsby spent three weeks agonizing over how to reveal his secret, the story states, and when he finally did - telling six or seven members by giving them the letter-the reaction was mixed.

A group of brothers made gay jokes outside of Grigsby's room, and, in February, Grigsby was encouraged not to bring a male date to the Valentine's Day formal, which parents are invited to attend.

Some brothers even called him a "faggot," the article states.

But despite all of that, the article states Grigsby remains loyal to his fraternity.

He has since moved out of the Sigma Nu house to live off campus, but that is a normal step for a senior to take, Grigsby told Rolling Stone.

In the letter Grigsby wrote to his fraternity broth-

ers, he said he hoped "you will not see me coming 'out' in a negative light.'

Now, nobody's talking.

DailyNebraskan

Even Russell Willbanks, a Sigma Nu member who was quoted in the magazine article and is chairman of the Daily Nebraskan Publications Board, the body that sets policy for the newspaper, declined to comment.

The fraternity's silence after the national magazine's story contrasts with Sigma Nu's national headquarters, which stated there is no problem with the article.

Brad Beacham, national spokesman for Sigma Nu Fraternity, said he had no idea why the local chapter wouldn't comment.

'We thought it was a well-balanced, well-written article that portrayed our chapter well at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln," said Beacham, who

"(I came out) because it was the truth. It's a truth that people haven't recognized in the past. This is something no one can deny anymore."

#### **Jaron Luttich** Chi Phi fraternity member

has had no contact with UNL's Sigma Nu chapter. UNL junior Jaron Luttich is also featured in the Rolling Stone article.

Please see FRATERNITY on 6

## Jay Mohr cancels **UPC** event

#### **BY JILL ZEMAN**

Students eagerly anticipating comedian Jay Mohr's campus appearance will have to wait a little longer to see the former Saturday Night Live star.

Mohr, who was scheduled to appear Tuesday, backed out of the event because he has not finished filming a movie in Canada, said Karen Wills, University Program Council adviser.

"(His agent) thought he'd be done by now, but he's not," she said.

All this

Members of the UPC, who coordinated Mohr's appearance, were notified Tuesday the actor would not be



work was finally going to pay off on the 24th, and then he backed out on us."

> Courtney Wachal committee chairwoman

already paid for television and radio advertisements - money the members wish to regain from Mohr, she said. UPC has stopped its advertisements for Mohr's performance, but must still spend money to

poning, she said. Wills said she was surprised Mohr backed out so close to the performance date.

"I guess he's too interested in being a movie star than being a

comedian," she said.

Courtney Wachal, chairwoman of UPC's novelty committee, said she had been working on bringing Mohr to campus since last year.

"All this work was finally going to pay off on the 24th, and then he backed out on us," she said.

And Wachal, who has been instrumental in organizing Mohr's appearance, will not see the benefits of her hard work because she will graduate in December, she said.

Wachal said she was surprised and disappointed that Mohr canceled. On Sunday, UPC was still making arrangements for Mohr's stay in Lincoln, she said.

Wachal said Mohr should reimburse the UPC for publicity expenses as well as the cost to refund the tickets.

"We did everything for this guy," she said. "It seems like he doesn't care about us.'

performing "I'm disappointed," she said. "Students were really excited."

By the end of the week, the UPC should know Mohr's rescheduled performance date, which will probably be sometime in the spring, she said.

Despite talk of a potential rescheduling, Mohr's no-show still impacts the UPC. The group has

#### Students one step closer to voting with a mouse notify the public of Mohr's post-In one week, senators will vote on an amendment to make

elections available at the click of a button for UNL students.

#### **BY JILL ZEMAN**

Members of student government educated themselves about online voting Wednesday before they make the decision next week on whether to bring it to UNL.

John Conley, Electoral Commission director, and Mike Echternacht, Technology Fees Advisory Board chairman, presented information about an online voting system that could be implemented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as soon as next spring.

Next week, Association of Students of the University of Nebraska President Joel Schafer is expected to introduce a

#### ASUN

bill requesting a constitutional amendment to implement online voting, said Riley Peterson, first vice president.

Schafer was out of town for personal business Wednesday.

"I think people are generally in favor of the idea," Peterson said. "I'm excited.

If the senate approves the amendment, a special election will be held Nov. 15 to vote on the constitutional amendment, Conley said.

The special election will occur after the Nov. 1 Homecoming election, which will use paper ballots.

Conley said he didn't want to place the constitutional amendment on the Homecoming ballot because he wanted more time to educate students about online voting.

Several senators expressed concern about the security behind online voting. Conley detailed more specifics about the online voting system to the senate to address members' questions.

To vote, students must first access the What About Me section on the UNL Web site.

There, they must enter their student identification and pin numbers. After voting, each ballot will be marked with a time stamp, indicating what time to vote was cast, he said.

Information Services and the Electoral Commission are still discussing whether to include a stamp that would report where a vote was cast, Conley said.

But the vote will not be tied to the student's computer, so all votes will still be confidential, he said.

Some senators also mentioned the possibilities of someone voting more than once, someone hacking into the system and candidates campaigning at places with many potential voters, such as fraternities, sororities and resi-

dence halls, which is forbidden.

Although the unexpected may occur, Conley said the system was stable and safe for elections.

Scott McClura/DN

"Our last resort would be to nullify an election," Conley said. "But I think elected officials would want to win on merit, not deception."

Conley said so far, he's heard mostly positive feedback from students about online voting.

Although the senate has not voted on the issue, Echternacht said he was pleased the group was able to discuss the issue before voting on it next week.

Student feedback before the election will also benefit everyone in the decision-making process, he said.

"The more representation we have, the better."

In other business, the senate unanimously passed a resolution supporting the 'Stop Violence Against Women' rally, which will be held at noon Friday in front of the Nebraska Union.

### Prosecution, defense rest cases in Bao trial; verdict expected today

The defendent could be convicted of first- or second-degree murder or manslaughter and could face the death penalty if convicted. **BY JOSH FUNK** 

The prosecution and defense pointed fingers in the closing arguments of Linh Bao's murder trial Wednesday, detailing their versions of a February shooting death.

The lawyers pointed their fingers like guns at the jury to describe the angle of shots Bao fired into Vu La's car, which was one of many details of the Feb. 5 night disputed at trial.

The jury deliberated from noon to 8:45 p.m. before stopping for the day. The six men and six women were sequestered overnight, and they will resume deliberating today at 8:30 a.m. to determine whether Bao acted in self defense or if the shooting was deliberate.

Bao could be convicted of first- or second-degree murder or manslaughter and using a weapon to commit a felony. If convicted, he could face the death penalty.

"This case is not about whether Linh Bao killed Vu La," Deputy County Attorney Andy Jacobsen said. "It is about the manner in which Linh Bao killed him.'

The defense argued that Bao feared for his life that night after being beaten up twice.

"Linh Bao did not murder Vu La," defense attorney Robert Hays said. "He killed Vu La in defense of his family against two men who followed him home from a party."

Jacobsen told the jury that Bao's actions make it clear that he intended to kill the 37-year-old La.

"With (Bao's) deliberate use of a gun, what else could be intended?" Jacobsen asked. The prosecution rejected the idea that Bao was protecting his family because he left his wife and child outside with the men while he went inside to load his gun.

Hays described Bao as being in a panic that night and said Bao tried to scare the men with the gun.

"I'll concede that not everything I inh Bao did that night was rational, Hays said. "He was afraid for his life."

The attorneys agreed on the following events in their arguments:

On the night of Feb. 5, Bao went to a

Vietnamese New Year's party with a friend, but he did not know many other people there.

At the party, Bao got into a fight with La and two other men, though it is unclear what or who started the disagreement. Then the men were asked to leave the party.

Bao got a ride home to the trailer park, and near his home, Bao spotted La's car following and jumped out.

Bao ran inside his house and got his .380-caliber handgun, but it was unloaded.

FLYING HIGH: Lambda Chi Alpha member Jason Friedrichsen and Kappa Alpha Theta member Katie Haller jump on a trampoline to raise money for the American Cancer Society. The philanthropy,

supported by Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity and Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority, raises money through the Trampoline-a-Thon by having members jump 24 hours a day from Oct. 17 until Saturday.