

Course explores rock as literature

"There have been hundreds of studies done on the effect of cinema and television upon our culture, but while rock music has undeniably affected our culture, there has been little done to analyze its impact," David Hibler said.

From this special interest in rock culture, a special topics English course has grown.

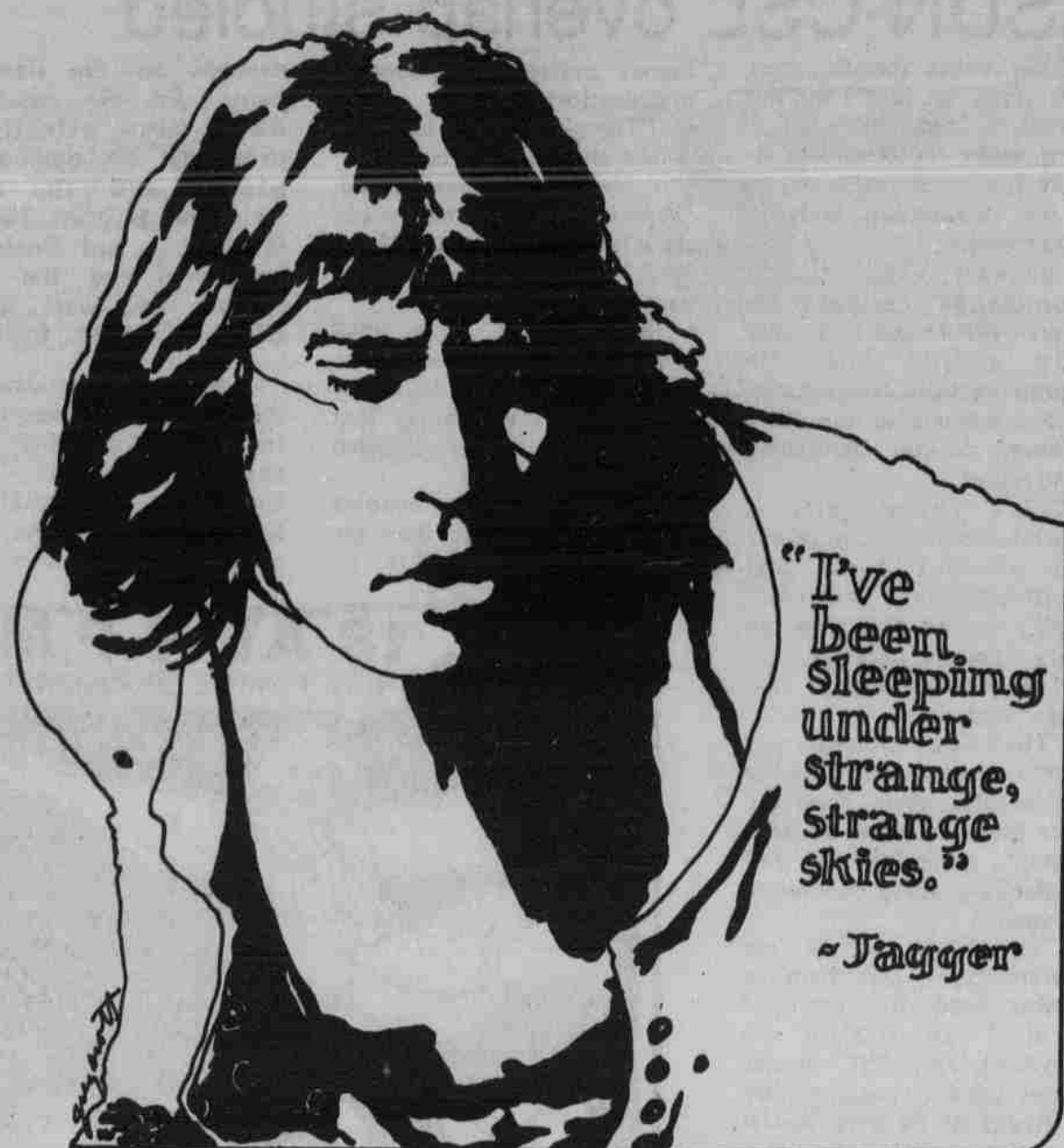
Hibler said this semester the course is being taught primarily from the English point of view of rock music as literature. Next semester the course is being offered as an American Studies course and will be expanded to include the social and economic impact rock music has had on American culture.

"People have a tendency to assume that since rock music is a personal thing, the scene they are into is the only one that exists. This is just not true and it shows a surprising lack of cultural background," Hibler said.

And since people assume that rock is a personal thing not to be analyzed, Hibler said he has the problem of the "know it all" attitude.

This semester the class involved a basic historical background given by Hibler. Students also presented individual projects about a group of their choice.

One individual project this semester has been a 90-minute tape collection of various people's opinions on rock music. According to Hibler, the wide variety of responses has been amazing.



Wesleyan trustees seat students

by Bob Shanahan

Two students recently were elected to the Board of Trustees and two others to the Board of Governors at Nebraska Wesleyan University. Those two boards are the governing bodies of the university, the Board of Governors having about the same function as the regents at UNL.

Kevin Boatright and Merry Beth Adamson were elected to the Board of Trustees. New members of the Board of Governors are Scott Robertson and Amy Bertelson.

It was the first election of this type ever held at the school.

According to Bertelson, the students have been working for these positions for the last four or five years. The students were given positions, she said, "because of the lowering of the legal age of majority and because the students have demonstrated to the boards that they are responsible."

According to Boatright, "the Board of Trustees is basically one of the governing bodies of the school. The Trustees are divided into committees that make recommendations to the Board of Governors. The Board of Trustees, consisting of 56 people, meets as a whole only once a year, in February. Because of this the students elected will not have any real functions until then."

The Board of Governors, consisting of 18 persons meets once a month and makes most of the decisions regarding the school.

Are there any special issues that the students hope to act on? Bertelson explained her aims: "We want to make the Board of Governors more aware of students. Another thing that needs to be done is getting some faculty members on the Board."

Ed Schwartzkopf, chairman of the Board of Regents, was asked about the possibility of more student input into the board. "I would have no objections to students serving on the Board of Regents. The problem is that they must be elected to a position on the board. But a student can get on the ballot anytime. I could welcome one on the Board."

"I'm a little chagrined that students haven't wanted a little more input. It's disappointing that students are concerned about issues like alcohol on campus and not so much concerned about things like educational quality."

Baha'i faith proclaims oneness of man, God

by Ron Clingenpeel

What would be the biggest news story of the 20th century? The return of Christ?

Members of the Baha'i Faith believe Christ already has returned, according to prophecies, to bring the kingdom of God to earth.

The Baha'i religion is based on the writings and teachings of Baha'u'llah, a Persian who lived from 1817 to 1892.

Baha'u'llah spent most of his time in prison because of his public proclamations of his holiness. While imprisoned, he wrote books about the kingdom of God and said mankind should be growing together as one instead of living in fear of each other.

"Mankind, throughout history, has tried many things to unify countries and people in a lasting unity," said Dean Strickland, a member of the Lincoln Baha'is. "You see great empires built, and you see great empires fall, but the lasting unity is the unity of God, brought to mankind by Baha'u'llah. This oneness and unity of mankind together with God is the major goal of the Baha'i Faith."

"At the present time, we're at what is called the formative age," said Ken Jeffers, a local Baha'i, "Which is really the early stages of spreading the word of Baha'u'llah over the world."

Spreading the Baha'i Faith has not been easy. In some countries members have had to meet in secret to prevent being arrested. But the faith has spread to every nation in the world, local Baha'is said.

About a hundred Lincolniters belong to the Baha'i Faith, including a small group of University students.

Since the Baha'is believe that the ministry of Baha'u'llah's word is more important than material objects, they do not have a church building. The group meets in homes, rented buildings and outdoors. But the faith has built five temples around the world for the worship of God. Chicago is the site of the Baha'i temple in the United States.

Baha'i services are secret, but people learn about the faith by attending Baha'i firesides. At a fireside, Baha'is may tell about Baha'u'llah, his teachings and how the faith works for the unity of mankind.

"The concept that Baha'u'llah is the return of Christ and that he is the new manifestation of God is hard for many fundamentalistic Christians to believe," Baha'i Kathy Aflotuni said. "According to these faiths, manifestations of God are to be sacrificed in blood. And since earlier prophets have died violently, the same should be true of Baha'u'llah, if he is who he claims to be, many Christians believe."

"But the Baha'i kingdom of God is new and fresh for many people," Strickland said, "especially for young people. For them, acceptance of the Baha'i faith is easier because they have fewer traditional ties and fewer prejudices than older people," he said.

Baha'is believe Baha'u'llah wrote for the modern world and gave answers for modern problems. He prophesied many historic events, such as the fall of Napoleon and decline of the glory of Berlin.

In addition to writing about a hundred volumes of books, Baha'u'llah also wrote letters to all the kings and national rulers of his day, recommending ways they could improve their governments. He reportedly received a favorable reply only from Queen Elizabeth I.

The return of Christ may be difficult for some to accept, but the Baha'is believe Baha'u'llah is the return of Christ and to them, he has brought the kingdom of God.

Carol Rogers wins Black Collegiate title

A UNL freshman, Carol Rogers, has been named Miss Black Collegiate of Nebraska. Rogers, an 18-year-old Omaha native, was selected from among 13 finalists representing six Nebraska schools.

The pageant was sponsored by the Afro-American Collegiate Society and the Nebraska Union Black Activities Committee.

First and second runners-up in the pageant were Charmaine Jones, a Creighton University freshman, and Debra Kelly, a sophomore at John F. Kennedy College in Wahoo.



Carol Rogers ... Miss Black Collegiate of Nebraska.