

History department too busy to help secondary teachers, chairman says

By Cindy Wostrel
Staff Reporter

Although U.S. universities should work more closely with high school history teachers to improve instruction, University of Nebraska-Lincoln history professors are too busy to help secondary teachers right now, said UNL's history department chairman.

Benjamin Rader said he is "horrified by the absence of historical literacy" in the United States.

He said he agrees with a report recently released by the Bradley Commission on History in Schools, formed in 1987. The report suggested that college history professors work more closely with

high school teachers to prepare future history teachers and to improve textbooks.

The report was part of the book "Historical Literacy: The Case for History in American Education."

Rader said many high schools have substituted social studies and contemporary problems courses for history courses in their curricula.

Knowledge of history is important, Rader said, because it improves communication. If a newspaper makes a reference to Hitler or Stalin, for example, a reader knowledgeable about history can understand the reference, Rader said.

"It provides us additional vocabulary," he said.

Universities nationwide have

instituted programs that bring in high school teachers to update them on historical research, he said. Some universities even have summer programs, he said.

The federal government has sponsored some of these programs, Rader said, and private foundations have sponsored others. The universities apply for these grants.

UNL's history department has not applied for these grants or instituted such programs because professors do all the research and teaching they can handle, Rader said.

"It is perhaps unfortunate," he said.

UNL needs a professor to act as coordinator for secondary schools, Rader said. But right now, he said, professors are too busy to do that.

STRESS from Page 1

because of illness. Of the men, 56.6 percent said they had not missed any classes due to illness in the previous four months, compared to 46.3 percent of women.

Almost twice as many women as men said they had missed two days of class in the same time period due to illness. As the number of days missed reached eight or more, the difference

between the sexes narrowed, but women still were slightly ahead of men.

The survey also asked students if they had ever left or considered leaving the university because of health problems. About 4 percent of the students surveyed answered "yes."

"If that many are leaving . . . I think that's something that the university should address," Eager said.

She urged students to contact counselors at the mental health clinic before deciding to drop out.

"A lot of times there are things that we can do to help them," she said.

Eager said some people still think seeking psychological counseling is admitting a weakness.

"Actually it takes a lot more strength to say 'I have a problem,'" Eager said.



★ Holiday Sale ★

A Christmas gift is magic . . .
and the magic comes from you
and the Post & Nickel!

Special Gift Ideas at Great
Sale Prices on Men's & Women's
clothing, sportswear & footwear!

Special Christmas Hours
Weeknights till 9:00 p.m.
Saturday till 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00-5:00 p.m.

the Post and Nickel

Downtown at 144 No. 14th St.



AMERICA'S No.1 COMEDY NITE CLUB

End the semester on a lighter note with New York City's
William Coronel as seen on the Carson show, along with
comic **Jason Dixon** and your host **Steve Pollard**.

Come See America's TOP touring stand-up comedians

Wed., Th., Sun. 8:30

Fri., Sat. 7:30 9:30

Must be 21 or older

1/2 off Admission

(except Friday, Saturday and Special Engagements)

Receive 1/2 price admission, front row seats with dinner show package.

808 "P" St. Call for reservations and information 438-BONE

Twister's Prices Just Got Lower

\$5.97
Cassettes

\$9.97
Compact Discs



Prices Good
Through
12-25-89

Twisters

MUSIC GIFTS

14th & O St.
477-6061

East Park
464-8275