



Russell White, manager of the Holden performance driving centre, is helping in the phones study

● **Picture: Michael Ross**

# Car mobiles may be at the end of the line

by Damien Hansen

A NEW study into mobile phones may result in a ban on the devices in cars.

Dr Paul Treffner and Rod Barrett from Griffith University's school of physiotherapy and exercise science's department of biomechanics-dynamics are carrying out the ground-breaking study.

Dr Treffner said drivers faced the same

distractions whether using hands-free or hand-held mobiles. Using hand-held mobiles while driving is banned but hands-free mobiles are legal.

Dr Treffner said overseas studies had already shown talking on a mobile while driving was more distracting than talking to passengers.

"Talking to a passenger allows the driver to regulate the conversation to what

is happening on the road. It's harder to modify your conversation to what's happening on the road when you are talking to someone who is far away," he said.

Research shows that driving into the vehicle in front is the most common type of vehicle accident involving mobile phones.

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