

Photo by Shu-Shing Chen

Sophomore Todd Cox (left) and junior Stanley Sykes (center) talk with John Detroit, owner of Dependable Used Rent-A-Car, about renting a clean used car.

## Students are often rental clients

By Kathy Moavenzadeh  
Of the Emerald

More and more students own a car while attending college, but students with "wheels" are still a minority.

Tripping to mom's house for the weekend, to the concert in the city, to Palm Springs for spring break or to a risky Ducks road game all require most students to look for transportation.

Even a weekend date can be a trying experience if you want to impress someone special but your bicycle has only one seat.

One of the most popular forms of long-distance and about-town transportation for students who don't own a car is the trusty rent-a-car.

One good reason to rent a car "instead of taking your own car on a long trip is that you wouldn't depreciate the mileage of your own car, and therefore your car would have a higher value when you want to sell it," said Ted Choo, a University marketing major. "You also wouldn't get into a lot of inconveniences like having your insurance go up if you get into a wreck or if your car gets vandalized because you're already covered with the renting company."

But renting a car is not as easy as it sounds. You need to know where to go, how much it will cost and the requirements of specific rental companies.

The biggest concern for most students is probably money because most students don't have much of it.

Financially stable or not, you may find that meeting rental requirements can be hassle-free, as long as you know what the requirements are.

The Eugene area has several car rental agencies students can choose from.

Brad Gearheart, an international studies and political

science major, recommends National Car Rental at Mahlon Sweet Airport.

"National seems to be more lenient toward students because you don't have to use credit cards," he said. "You could put a deposit down, which is really nice."

A \$75 deposit will get you behind the wheel, and the daily and weekly rates are \$32 and \$176, respectively. There is also a special year-round rate for students interested in renting compact cars. All rates include unlimited mileage.

Economics and finance major Edmond Chow is an old hand at renting cars, he said. "Avis, Budget, Rent-A-Volks, National, A-Way, you name it, I've rented it," he said. "In terms of prices, I'd say Rent-A-Volks is the most reasonable."

Located at 20 Coburg Road,

Rent-A-Volks requires drivers to be 21 years old. Daily rates range from \$17.50 to \$22 with the first 50 miles free, and weekly rates range from \$115 to \$139 with the first 350 miles free.

Dependable Used Rent-A-Car, at the corner of 11th Avenue and High Street, also requires drivers to be 21 years old and is also frequented by students.

"I usually rent a car to get out of town on vacation, or sometimes I rent trucks for when I'm moving," said University architecture major Debra Cederberg. "I think Dependable has reasonable rates."

Rates at Dependable range from \$12.45 to \$17.45 a day and from \$74.75 to \$102.50 a week. A \$150 deposit is required, and the cars cannot be taken outside of Oregon.

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