

MOVIES

Continued from Page 8

against the movie company asking for \$525,000 to compensate for the disruption.

Drive, He Said flopped, and the University wrote it off as a horrible mistake.

In 1977, however, the University tried again. That spring, film crews from Universal Studios began shooting *National Lampoon's Animal House*. The now-legendary film starred John Belushi as a fraternity member at a mythical north-eastern college called Eberhard-Faber College in the 1960s.

The University devised a new contract with Universal to ensure there were no conflicts or intrusions on campus life.

"I just want a smooth arrangement," said Muriel Jackson in a 1977 *Emerald* interview. Jackson, then vice president for University relations, stressed that Universal Studios was expected to follow strictly the letter of the contract.

This time, filming went smoothly. Except for an unex-

pected dusting of snow that forced film crews to sweep the lawn in front of Johnson Hall and spray-paint it green, life on campus was undisturbed.

The University has a standard contract for campus filming that spells out guidelines intended to keep disruptions to a minimum.

The contract gives the University the right to read and approve any film's script or story board. Film makers are not allowed to shoot identifiable landmarks associated with the University.

The movie company must carry liability insurance of between \$1 million and \$3 million while it is filming on campus; the University will not be liable for any theft or vandalism to the movie company's equipment.

Last but not least, the movie company must pay the University \$1,000 per day for interior filming, and \$15,000 per day for exterior filming. Most of the money goes to the departments where filming is done; the re-

mainder goes to the University's general budget.

The contract gives the University some control over its image and helps keep its academic mission on track during filming.

"The problem is that the movie companies must have total control," said Jackson, now assistant vice president for administration. "They have it in their studios, but they do not have it at the University of Oregon. It's somewhat of a juggernaut. The producers make these intense demands and feel that the movie is the center of the universe, and this is where our contract helps us. It resolves these problems before they stem into heated confrontations."

In the past few years, Japanese and Taiwanese film crews have used the campus in documentary films.

The University has encouraged local commercials to be shot on campus, but currently has no plans for feature-length movies to be filmed on campus.



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