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University helps keep local businesses up and running

■ For many campus vendors and shops, student demand keeps many businesses going

By Brook Reinhard
Oregon Daily Emerald

Rain or shine, Alex Mali serves up falafel and lemonade to hungry students off the corner of E. 13th Avenue and Kincaid Street. Mali is one of the many local businesses that benefit from a prime location near the University.

"I take a vacation when (students) take a vacation," said Mali.

It's the 125th anniversary of the University this year, and some vendors have been around nearly as long as the school itself. Students are a great way for businesses to build new clientele, business owners say, and some locations wouldn't be around if the University wasn't here.

One of the oldest businesses near campus is the Campus Shoe Shop. The owner, Jerry Martin, estimates that the place has been

around for at least 85 years. It was built as a shoe shop then divided in half to make room for a shoeshine service, Martin said. He's been the owner of the store for 15 years and has since converted the shine shop into a juice bar.

Much of their business is due to student demand, and they probably wouldn't be open without the University's presence, said Martin. As it is, their summer business suffers when students leave town.

"We slow down (in the summer), probably lose about a third of our business," he said.

Most businesses on E. 13th Avenue are substantially younger than the shoe shop. Susan Miller, director of publications and information systems for the Eugene area Chamber of Commerce, attended the University from 1969 to 1974 and remembers many businesses that used to be near campus.

"Businesses reflect a lot about what goes on at the time," Miller said. "But I think some of the businesses would still exist if the Uni-

versity wasn't there. They get some (customers) from the hospital."

Some businesses now on E. 13th Avenue used to be entirely different.

"Rumor has it that there was a gay bar called Cassidy's at this location," said Campus Copy Shop owner Steve Jarvis. The copy shop has been there for about 15 years and used to be located next door, Jarvis said.

West Moon Trading Company's location used to be occupied by The Coffee People. That was just six years ago, and before that, the spot was a Kaufman's clothing store, said West Moon owner Peggi Bosworth.

The University has brought life to local businesses for 125 years. And most remain open, for the most part, because of students at the University.

"I really, really enjoy doing what I'm doing because I really, really like the students," Mali said.

Brook Reinhard is a community reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald. He can be reached at brookreinhard@dailyemerald.com.

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News briefs

Leaf pick-up to begin Monday

Workers from the City of Eugene will begin rounds Monday to collect leaves from the streets of Eugene, said Richard Zucker, who manages the leaf collection program for the city.

Residents can rake leaves into the streets for pick-up, he said.

"It minimizes street flooding and leaves ending up in the river," Zucker said. "It's sort of compensation for the citywide ban on outdoor burning."

Public works crews gather the leaves as part of the general fall maintenance schedule. They make two rounds of the entire city, covering about 900 miles of pavement. Zucker said the leaves that are col-

lected don't end up in a landfill.

"We reuse them in one way or another," he said. "Some leaves are delivered to community gardens, others go to the stockpile at Bloomberg Park."

Zucker said it's important that residents don't block bike lanes when they put leaves into the street for the crews.

— Sue Ryan

THANK YOU, UO

Homecoming and Family Weekend 2001 and the All-Greek reunion were a great success, thanks to the efforts of University of Oregon students, faculty, and staff. The UO Alumni Association congratulates and thanks everyone, especially the following university departments and Greek houses, for their participation in this successful weekend.

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