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Return of students has varied impact downtown

By Christopher Galen

The impact of returning college students on local businesses has been varied. Reactions from downtown merchants have ranged from "super" to "disappointing."

At the downtown Valentino's, 232 N. 13th St., business "probably went up a good 25 percent in the first weekend," said manager Tom Cathe. "We've hired about seven or eight more workers, mostly college students." Business this August is even better than for the same period last year, Cathe said, with just one problem.

"Now I'm losing all my silverware and my ashtrays," Cathe said.

On the other side of the coin, Edward Sell, manager of the Stuart Theater, 18th and P streets, said he was not pleased with his business, but he was not surprised, either.

"Since classes have begun, our business has plummeted," he said. "In fact, during the Nebraska-Penn State game, no one showed up for our 9:40 show, so we went home early."

Students generally take a while to get settled before they venture forth on the town, Sell said.

"It's a formula we follow each year," he said. "We staff down and wait a couple weeks until business picks up."

One factor which may be keeping students away is the tremendous heat, said Linda Moore, co-owner of the two Dirt Cheap Record Stores in Lincoln.

"It's been getting a little busier, up maybe 10 percent," she said. "But usually we notice more at our downtown store. Maybe it's still too hot for everyone."

Returning students often have favorite establishments they frequent, meaning better business for those places.

"We've noticed a lot of

our college regulars are back," said Pete Grillis, manager at Stooze's, 826 P St. "As soon as they get settled, more will start showing up. I think we'll see a big increase this weekend."

Perennial collegiate favorite Domino's Pizza also welcomes the return of UNL students, said Karleen Cochran, office manager at Domino's.

"Our business always goes up when college students return to town," she said. "We always hire more workers. Each store increases its staff."

UNL plant scientists given national award

Two UNL graduates and a UNL professor were honored by the American Society of Plant Physiologists.

Brian Larkins, a UNL graduate and former teacher, was named outstanding American plant physiologist. He received the Charles Albert Schull Award at the plant society's mid-August annual meeting in Fort Collins, Colo. The award is given two or three times a decade to outstanding scientists under age 40. The award includes a \$1,000 cash award and lifetime membership in the plant society.

Eric Davies, UNL life sciences professor, and Dr. Paul Kugrens, UNL alumnus on the faculty of Colorado State University, also were recognized at the meeting.

Davies, Kugrens and Sean Amberg, a high school senior from Seward, developed a project to test plants' reaction to lack of gravity. The experiment will be used on a future space shuttle mission.

Larkins, a native of Chester, received his bachelor's degree in education at UNL in 1969. He earned his Ph.D. here in 1974 and taught botany classes in 1975.

Larkins, who specializes in plant molecular biology, has done most of his work on storage proteins in corn. He is now a professor at Purdue University in Lafayette, Ind. NETV PG 16 30.5-30-1

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29	30	31	1	2	3
		MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB	MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB	MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB	MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB
5	6	7	8	9	10
		MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB	MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB	MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB	MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB
12	13	14	15	16	17
		MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB	MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB	MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB	MIDEL CITIZEN'S CLUB
19	20	21	22	23	24
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