

Laundromat services help lighten the load

By Jana Pedersen
Senior Editor

For students whose reds and blues fall together under "wash with like colors only," help may be no further than the corner Laundromat.

Several local cleaners specialize in drop-off shirt laundering, and some Laundromats wash dropped-off baskets of laundry for a per-pound fee.

Doyle Dillow, manager of Duds N' Suds, said his Laundromat washes between 3,000 and

Manager Lois Zeisler said the Fabric Center charges 60 cents per pound for eight pounds or more for same-day laundering. For less than eight pounds, the charge is \$4.50.

Drop-off service normally includes washing, folding and hanging clothes, she said, but shirts can be pressed for an extra charge.

Apple Street Laundry and Dry Cleaners' drop-off service, located at 3230 Apple St., also includes washing, folding and hanging clothes with pressing for extra charge, attendant Barbara Trotter said.

The laundry charges 50 cents per pound and will provide delivery for older customers, she said.

Globe Quality Cleaners charges for laundering on a per-item basis, general plant manager Mark Siske said.

Drop-off of dress shirts costs \$1.20 per shirt, Siske said, which includes cleaning, button replacement, special work on spots or food stains, starch, pressing and hanging. Shirts can be boxed for 10 cents extra.

Globe also provides delivery service with a \$5.50 minimum, Siske said.

Customers also can pick up their clothes at any of seven Lincoln locations, Siske said. Globe plans to open about three new stores, including one near East Campus, before the end of the year, he said.

The main advantage of drop-off laundry is quality, Siske said. While most people use brand-name detergents at home which are not suited to local water quality, PH balance and alkaline and acid contents, he said, cleaners use detergents specifically formulated for local water. Special cleaning agents used also are more powerful than agents distributed for public use, he said.

Apple survives without frills

By Darcie Wiegert
Senior Editor

Apple Street Laundry and Dry Cleaners, 3230 Apple St., doesn't sport neon signs, pool tables or the latest video games, but it has other amenities to bring in business.

During a Sunday laundry run at about 8 p.m., the Apple laundry on the north side of Apple Street just off 33rd was far from buzzing with activity.

Six customers distributed themselves in the store quietly folding, washing and drying.

Complimentary pre-spotting solutions for grease, grass, blood, beer and anything else that plagues washables are set out on the washers for customers to use.

So that patrons get the most for their money, 40 of the last remaining Maytag big-tub washers give a 30-minute wash for a 65-cent token.

Twenty Maytag and Cook dryers bake clothes for an almost unheard of 12-minute dry for 25 cents.

Patrons also have the pleasure of doing laundry in smoking or non-smoking areas with free sun tea or coffee.

The 19-year-old Laundromat is in a convenient location for nearby apartment dwellers and is especially close for East Campus students.

It also offers same-day dry cleaning and drop-off laundry services.

Patrons can have a two-piece suit cleaned for \$4 or a wool coat done for \$5 to \$7.

Owner Bill Beachly said Apple's dry cleaning business has grown over the years, and people save money by taking advantage of bulk dry-cleaning rates.

The drop-off laundry service has different options for customers. Attendants will wash, dry and fold overflowing baskets for 50 cents a pound or they will just wash and dry for 35 cents a pound. A third option charges by the washerfull if the loads are started first.

Beachly said the busiest hours are on weekends, but there usually is no waiting. Apple is open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week and an attendant always is on duty.

The Laundromat has plenty of parking on the west side of the building and has lots of tables for folding clothes. There also are 10 wheeled carts for shifting loads from washers to dryers.

Apple Laundry is clean, air-conditioned and well-lit for studying, but the paneled walls and mustard yellow and burnt orange machines do seem to start closing in after a while.

Customers have plenty of places to sit and an up-to-date sound system, but they will have to fight

over what cable channel to watch on the Laundromat's lone color television.

A lounge area in one corner has two tables with current newspapers and a wide selection of magazines to pass the idle minutes when students should be reading geology but forgot their book at home -- again.

Overall, Apple Laundry has it all and more for doing laundry, it just lacks some of the finer things like recreation and decor.

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Drop-off laundry service 'the ultimate time-saving deal' for students who let their laundry pile up.

6,000 pounds of laundry every week and caters to university students.

Drop-off laundry service is "the ultimate time-saving deal," for students who tend to let laundry pile up, Dillow said.

"It's a need thing," he said. Typical drop-off laundry customers "wait to do laundry until they need to... They don't want the hassle of doing it."

For those customers, he said, dropping off laundry one day and picking it up the next is convenient, especially when the price is right.

Dillow said his Laundromat currently has a 39-cent-per-pound special this fall for laundry drop-off service. Normally, Duds N' Suds, 939 N. 27 St., charges 60 cents per pound, he said.

The Fabric Care Center, 4831 Normal Blvd., is another Laundromat that provides drop-off laundry service.

Duds

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tally wash a red sock in the white load.

Suds of the alcoholic type may finally be available, said Manager Doyle Dillow, if the Lincoln City Council approves a liquor license for the Laundromat.

Dillow said he has made some changes at the Laundromat in order to attain a license, and hopes the council will approve one by the end of the year.

Lincoln's is one of the few Duds n' Suds across the United States without barley suds. Dillow said the Lincoln Duds n' Suds would do better business if it could offer beer and wine.

"Odds are pretty good that we'll get our beer license," he said.

Beer or no beer, Duds n' Suds is still a place where dirty skivvies linger daily from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. -- and there isn't a whole lot of entertainment in that thought.

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