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Rising theft equals rising prices

by Gary Johnson
News Editor

There are items sold for \$50 each. The store selling them makes a two dollar profit on each. If one is stolen, how many must be sold to regain the price without profit? 24. Boy, that really adds up after a while, doesn't it?

And who really pays for it? "Prices may have to be raised, if the theft continues," said Cindy Pander, Wintergreen Cafe Supervisor. "Since August (compared to spring 1992), we have noticed an increase in food costs from our suppliers, and we've also noted an increase in theft."

Pander said that the bookbag rack is there so that the bags don't have to lay on the floor. The policy of leaving bookbags outside the snack bar would still be enforced, as it was before the rack was built in 1990.

There are no plans to remove the rack in the near future. Pander commented, "I really don't think that the rack will come down, nor the policy. It is there to protect honest students who wouldn't think of stealing."

Larry Silva, Manager of Police & Safety, said that "In comparison to our community, we'd like to think that we are exemplary in our stats. We're a reflection of our society."

The statistics for theft have been consistent the last three years, with 58 in 1990, 54 in 1991, and 52 in 1992.

"Last semester was really bad, but this one's even worse. Retail theft, that is theft from a store (as opposed to burglary or robbery), has become a billion dollar problem. One-third of all theft at Behrend is retail, and one-third of all crimes here is theft."

The punishment for retail theft, first offense is summary offense before the district magistrate if the value of merchandise stolen is less than \$150. Second offense is a misdemeanor of the second degree if the value of the stolen merchandise is less than \$150.

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Kristie Guldner/Photographer

Rack havoc: The bookbag rack outside of the Wintergreen Cafe, which has been the cause of some controversy in the past few weeks, is required by Gorge management in order to contain or reduce the increased theft which the Wintergreen experienced last semester.

Child care no longer an issue

by Christine McCammon
Public Relations-Behrend

Behrend has announced that the new child care center for student, faculty, staff and community use will begin operations in August at 5650 Station Road, a former Tupperware warehouse recently purchased by the University. The building, now under

renovation, is located one-half mile south of the campus, near Exit 9 of I-90.

The Child Care Center is the product of five years work by the Behrend Child Care Task Force, a committee of 24 students, faculty, and staff.

"As more and more adults return to college, the availability of affordable, high-quality child care becomes an

educational issue," Dr. Chris Reber, dean of Student Affairs and committee member, said. "As an employer, the University also wants to attract and keep the very best faculty and staff. For many employees and prospective employees, convenient child care is not a luxury, but a necessity."

The University-operated day care center will accept children

from six weeks to six years of age. Children will be divided into four age groups, developmentally-appropriate activities will emphasize gross and fine motor development, communication, music, art, critical thinking, and problem solving. Snacks and lunch will be provided daily.

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Live toward death, speaker says

Oberlin College professor to speak on mortality and death February 17

by Danielle M. Murphy
Collegian Staff

The Penn State-Behrend Protestant Campus Ministry will feature Dr. Gilbert Meilaender, a professor of religion at Oberlin College, in the 1993 Spring Lecture Series. Dr. Meilaender's lecture, titled "Mortality: The Measure of

Our Days," will discuss whether death is properly described as "natural" for human beings and how we should live toward our death. The lecture will be held in the Reed Lecture Hall at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 17. A reception will follow.

A former Lutheran minister, Dr. Meilaender regularly writes

articles on death and mortality. He is the author of five books and is a member of the American Academy of Religion, the American Theological Society, and the Society of Christian Ethics.

The Spring Lecture Series is sponsored annually by the Protestant Campus Ministry. Barry Mason, a former Hell's

Angel, was the featured lecturer last year. Currently, the Campus Ministry is arranging to feature Dave Roever in next year's lecture series. Roever is a Vietnam veteran who had been critically injured in Vietnam and now gives lectures on self-image.