

# Gas prices reach for the sky

by R. Carl Campbell  
Collegian Staff

Gasoline prices for Erie County are due to escalate by the end of the semester.

The manager of a local convenient store, who wished to remain anonymous, said that gas prices could rise as high as thirty cents per gallon.

An extra molecule of oxygen will be added to assist in the prevention of air pollution. The gas has to be delivered from Pittsburgh because the United Refinery does not have the capability of manufacturing the chemical implant. The rise in price is attributed to these delivery expenses.

The oxygenated gas burns hotter than standard gasoline, and could cause problems in some cars.

When asked about customer reaction, an assistant manger from the same local store replied, "I don't think we'll have a real problem dealing with it because they realize it's not us raising prices. Maybe one in fifty will really complain."

"The thing that concerns me most is how the gas prices will affect everything else. Everything else in the store is shipped in by truck. Usually the price of gas affects the price of everything else."

"It's going to spurn a trigger of double digit inflation again. Companies will have to raise prices to accomodate the rise of gasoline. Local governments may have to raise taxes in order to pay for gas in municipal vehicles."

"I think it's a waste because

they're not changing diesel fuel or jet fuel. They're going after cars and automobiles contribute for less than 10% of the pollution from engines," the assistant manager said.

Student reaction to the increase is not favorable.

Lacy Heitmann, a first semester business management major said, "I'm not happy about it. I have very little money to begin with. Gas is expensive as it is. Thirty cents is a lot."

Third semester MIS major Dave Stoehr said, "I'd travel to visit my girlfriend in Michigan and would cost me twenty dollars to fill my tank. Like I have the money. I live two hours away. It's going to cost a fortune just to go home. It's going to be a pain...especially for commuters."

# Acts of mercy

by John Rossomando  
Collegian Staff

Behrend's Newman Association will be visiting the Mercy Center this Saturday to play with the children for the afternoon.

The Mercy Center is a converted convent that now gives battered women a chance to put their being rehabilitated. The women's children are cared for by the Sisters of Mercy and laywomen.

Susan Joyce, the Newman Association president said, "We gather a group of students together and play with the children for one Saturday afternoon each month, and the most rewarding thing is seeing the kids happy."

Newman has been involved with the Mercy Center for the past few years. Newman initially became involved with the center through one of Sister Anna Mae Kusma's Franciscan sisters while she worked at Hope House, a

predecessor of the Mercy Center. Sister Anna Mae is coordinator of Catholic Campus Ministry at Behrend.

Eventually Newman became involved by bringing clothing and food to women and children at the center.

Newman has raised money for the Mercy Center in the past. Each year on St. Patrick's Day Newman sells shamrock shakes. All of the proceeds are donated to the center.

Last year the remainder from the shake sale was distributed to the children at the Mercy Center. The latest effort to raise money was the homecoming carnival.

Sister Anna Mae said, "You're helping the women to get relief while you work with the children."

If you are interested in participating in the Mercy Center project contact Susan Joyce at x6849 or Chris Niklaus at x6867.

## Police & Safety Report

September 25: A student was arrested for breaking the windshield of a vehicle parked on campus. The student was also charged with terroristic threats stemming from a phone call made to another student.

September 26: A car parked on campus had its side window broken. Charges are pending against a non-student.

September 28: A student reported to Police and Safety officers that he was attacked in his room. This incident is under investigation.

September 29: An employee reported finding an obscene letter left on her desk.

October 1: A student reported that the rear window of his car had been shattered while parked on campus. Charges are pending.

October 4: A student reported the theft of clothing from her room.

October 6: A student reported that someone had left a threatening note on her car.

October 6: A stolen parking permit was recovered from a vehicle parked on campus. Charges are pending.

October 9: A student reported receiving numerous hang-up calls.

October 11: A student reported receiving a threatening phone call.

October 11: A student received a citation for driving across the grass in one of the campus parking lots.

### Facts du jour

#### Food for a year

Average annual spending of a U.S. household on food and non-alcoholic beverages:

#### Eaten at home

Cereals, baked goods	\$404
Meat, fish, poultry, eggs	\$709
Dairy goods	\$294
Fruit, vegetables	\$429
Other	\$815

Total  
\$2,651

Spending on alcoholic beverages:  
\$297

Eaten away from home \$1,620

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics

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