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Have you seen any spots lately?

Too many permits, not enough space

by Sara Prosser
Collegian staff

The big question circulating around campus right now is: Why can't students find available parking spaces when they have purchased parking permits?

A rumor has been circulating that there were 50 more permits sold than actual parking spaces.

Bill Donahue, Manager of Police and Safety, stressed that this is definitely not true. Although this rumor is unfounded, it is a fact that the sale of permits was terminated only two weeks ago.

Donahue pointed out that, "As of October 4, there were 464 active resident permits sold and 475 parking spaces available."

These spots include the S lot, the F and K lots (the apartment lots), the few spaces that are behind each of the dorms, and the new spots that are on Aquarius drive.

So according to these numbers, everyone who purchased a parking permit should be able to find an available parking space, but this is not the case. Part of the problem is that students without proper permits are parking in resident spaces. These vehicles take up the 11 "left over" spaces, and probably more.

"Students need to use their common sense."
-Bill Donahue

"We understand that there is a problem with parking," said Donahue. "That is why we added the spaces on Aquarius Drive."

When there is an "overflow of traffic," students must contact Police and Safety to find out where they can and cannot park according to Donahue.



A familiar sight to Behrend students: A parking permit in the window, but no where to park. Could parking garages be the solution?

"Students need to use their common sense," said Donahue.

The Parking Update released several weeks ago stated, "Although parking is congested, all parking regulations will be enforced. Parking in the grass or other non space areas is not permitted unless directed to do so by Police and Safety."

At the current time, the overflow of vehicles is being sent to the lot adjacent to the Police and Safety Building, but this lot will be closed November 1 through April 1 from 11 at night to 7 in the morning for snow removal. So where should students park their cars then?

According to Donahue, "The lot up on the hill (new lot) should hopefully be accessible by then. Also, the fleet vehicles in the S lot will be removed and those spots will be made available to the

students."

The dorm that is being constructed would also seem to pose another parking dilemma. Where are the residents of this dorm going to park their vehicles?

When asked, Donahue replied, "It is possible, but there is no positive word. We have to see if that would help our situation."

So for now there are still a lot of unanswered questions and students

"We understand that there is a problem with parking."
-Bill Donahue

According to Donahue, "there are 40 new spaces in the lot, and there is talk about adding additional spaces."

The question of whether or not freshmen should be allowed to have cars on campus often enters the

who still cannot find parking spaces, despite all the changes that have been made.

Any problems or questions regarding the parking situation should be directed to Police and Safety.

Question of the week:
Would you be willing to pay a higher fee for parking if the difference in cost went to pay for better parking facilities such as garages?

"Yes, if main would make the parking garages happen."

-Dan Anpreus, 9th Sem., BECCN

"I believe the parking arrangements on this campus are ridiculous. We should have more spaces and we shouldn't have to pay for it, we already pay enough as it is for tuition."

-Lidana China, 5th Sem., COMMU

"I believe we pay enough but we need to figure out how to thin out the amount of cars we have now. The University should only sell as many passes as there are spaces."

-Nicole Fitzgerald, 5th Sem., MGNT

"I might be willing to pay more if there would be a promise of more parking lots, but they should definitely not sell more passes than they have spots."

-Jonna Zizak, 1st Sem., COMMU

"Yes, I think any student would be willing to pay the difference. In my five years here at Behrend, parking has been a problem. Fees continue to go up and the amount of spaces available for parking have decreased. So, we need to correct the problem because it has gotten out of hand."

-Jonathon Izbichi, Graduate

Alumni Fellow honored at Behrend

Robert D. Metzgar, Erie businessman, awarded title

by Kirsten Wright
Collegian Staff

Last Thursday and Friday, Robert D. Metzgar was at Behrend to accept the award as the 1996 Alumni Fellow, which allowed him to have an opportunity to impact students' lives. He taught classes, in hopes of opening students' eyes to the real business world and also to provide them with ideas they may not have considered before. He was a bit apprehensive about going into the classroom, but after the first few sessions he said, "Behrend has given me a very warm feeling in the classroom".

Metzgar is a well established businessman in the Erie area. He is the president and owner of North Penn Pipe and Supply Company, located in Warren, PA. In 1977, Metzgar was the plant manager for GTE when he decided that it was time to go into business for himself. With the support of his family and generous help from his local bank, Metzgar purchased his first company with his car as the only collateral.

Since 1977, his company has grown to unimaginable heights. He has also spread his business out to other parts of the nation. He is a very well respected member of the community, holding many positions in the Penn State system. The most honorable of these is his position as a member of the Penn State Board of Trustees, appointed by Gov. Tom Ridge. This honor was recently extended for two more years. He is also an active member of his local community as he is a participant in the Warren County Chamber of Commerce and the PNC Bank Advisory Board as well as the treasurer of the Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Association.

Metzgar's family was on hand at the ceremony and created an emotional scene when he began to tell the story of his life. Metzgar was attending college when his son

was still young. When his daughter was young, he was just beginning in the business world. Currently, the whole Metzgar



Dave Boulos/Collegian Photographer

Alumni Fellow: Robert Metzgar receives his award from Penn State president, Dr. Graham Spanier.

family works together on a daily basis, and Robert feels as though he is making up for lost time. "Without the sacrifice, love, and affection of my family, this dream would never have been possible." When describing Metzgar's upbringing, Dr. Lilley said, "He came from a simple and unassuming but supportive family."

Penn State President, Graham Spanier, was also present at the ceremony and actually presented Metzgar with the award. Spanier said in his speech, "The title of Alumni Fellow is one of the most prestigious awards given by Penn State, and the highest honor given by the Penn State Alumni Association."

Coffee with the Provost

by Doreen Foutz
News Editor

Tuesday night, in Perry lobby Dr. John Lilley, provost and dean, met with students to discuss concerns and University affairs.

Lilley meets monthly with students at Coffee with the Provost.

At this latest meeting, Lilley revealed plans for the Mack house at coffee with the provost last night, "It is being restored and furnished. The basic construction should be finished Nov. 15."

He said the house will be beautifully furnished and the decor will resemble the Memorial Room in the Glennhill farmhouse.

The upstairs will be used by the Development of University staff on the weekdays as office space.

"This semester is going to be really tough."
-Dean Lilley on the parking problem

The ground level is being designed to contain two dining rooms and a living room.



Coffee Chat: Dean John Lilley met with students Tuesday for issues raised included the Mack House and the parking situation.

The "club" dining room will be used for student organizations to hold formal dinners and meetings. The large dining room will be used for faculty-student dinners. Entire classes will be invited to have dinner with the faculty.

The house will have two entrances, one in the front and

one that opens directly into the club dining room.

The house was purchased by and is being furnished by an anonymous benefactor and should be open for use in the spring of 1997.

Lilley also addressed the parking issue.

"It is a real problem this year," he said. "It really jumped

up this year—more than we expected." The ratio of people to cars on campus has risen from one out of four to one out of two.

Lilley said that garages are a possibility and so is an extension of the Erie Hall lot.

"This semester is going to be really tough. We are very much aware of this," Lilley said.

Bob Misulich/Collegian Photographer