Lower gas prices still compromise student budgets

By Michaela Marx
Editor

In an oil-producing state like Oklahoma, people often enjoy lower gas prices. Consequently, many people have been disappointed to see gas prices rise to record highs this summer.

Currently, a gallon of gas can be found at many stations for about $1.37 per gallon, after a summer high close to $1.80 per gallon.

Although the price has gone down, it’s still far from last summer’s dollar a gallon and sometimes less.

Many OKCCC students are feeling the pinch because the community college is a commuter college. That means there is no campus housing and most students drive to attend classes.

OKCCC student Niki Keodara of Norman drives to the college approximately three to four times a week for classes.

She said filling up her 1994 Firebird has always been expensive, but now she pays at least $28 once, sometimes twice, a week.

She said the gas prices have affected her budget tremendously.

“I am a cosmetologist,” she said.

“I can’t spend that much money on products, because of the gas prices.”

Keodara said she believes if one gas station owner would lower prices, others would too.

She said gas prices around one dollar per gallon are reasonable.

Psychology major Meitra Doty of Lexington said she uses a tank of gas each week to drive her older model truck to the campus two or three times a week.

“I spend over $20 [each week] just to go to school,” she said.

Doty’s parents pay for the gas she uses to get to and from school. She said they hope the prices will go down soon. Doty also said about one dollar per gallon would be a reasonable price for gas.

She said she has heard various reasons for why gas prices have gone up.

Her father believes that price increases of 30 to 40 percent more than likely exist solely to make someone rich.

There are several different theories about why gas prices have been so expensive.

Most people expect gas prices will increase during the main travel season of summer. However, according to CNN Online, this year, a combination of politics and business strategies may have enhanced this effect.

The site has oil industry analysts saying crude oil prices have increased because of uncertainty over whether the oil embargo would be lifted against Iraq.

Prices were driven up

See “Auto,” page 8

Swimming on the rocks: Lifeguards in the Aquatic Center dump $3000 worth of ice into the college swimming pool to make the water colder for the Region 3 Swim Meet. Competitors are used to colder water temperatures than those of OKCCC’s pool.

See “Gasoline,” page 8
Music theft or song sampling?

Free Promotion or internet piracy?

When music is being downloaded for free from the internet, it’s hard to tell the difference.

Napster has been in the news lately, supposedly putting copyrighted music on the internet and letting the general public download it for free.

First, the news and the media need to get their fight in order. Napster is in no way putting that music on the web. They simply designed a program that allowed users to access each other’s computers to download MP3s.

It was the decision of the public to put copyrighted music on their computer and make it available to everyone else.

Big name bands, specifically Metallica, have been attacking the creators of this program, and I think they don’t know this.

I download music from Napster at least 5 times a week. I hear a song I like on the radio, and I go find it on Napster.

This is not pirating. It is listening to something before I buy it. I have bought a few CDs because of this. The winners are new or offbeat artists.

Now I do admit that I have burned a few CDs from songs I downloaded from Napster.

Otherwise, I would not have been able to get a hold of CDs by DJ Jean.

I checked into buying them at all my local music dealers, and found that they not only didn’t have the CD I was looking for, but didn’t even know who the artist was.

So how is the public supposed to hear these underground bands on a daily basis if the radio stations won’t play them, and the music stores won’t carry their stuff?

Another thing that makes Napster not as big of a threat as it is made out to be, is that fact that not everyone has a computer with internet access and a CD burner.

If your local music store was able to download a CD of your choice and burn it on the spot, that would eliminate a lot of the cost. The price of a CD today is $17. The price of a blank CD and jewel case is $2. It would make it possible to go to Hastings, and get your CD for about $5.

I think that the music industry should look back and see that this “piracy” has been going on ever since reel-to-reels have been around. What do they think bootleg concert recordings are?

I believe that rather than fighting this internet battle, the bands and the music industry should embrace it and let technology make way for a new world.

—Ryan Johnson
Staff Writer

Opportunities for rewards offered

To the Editor:

Opportunity knocking!

Members of the OKCC family are well known for volunteer efforts that make the College a great place to work and the community a better place in which to live.

Now, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education have come up with two ways to reward willing hands and caring people.

First, America Counts and America Reads will provide our work-study eligible college students with training, $7 an hour (plus travel time to and from off campus sites), and a great resume builder for college students willing to tutor students in grades K-9.

Second, Smart Start for Brain Gain: Oklahomans Serving Children and Youth in Education, an AmeriCorps special program, will provide educational vouchers to help cover college costs or pay back student loans. Up to 3,600 positions statewide will be funded. These positions may be filled by prospective, current, or former students, faculty, or staff who would like to serve by assisting students, K-16, either on or off our campus.

Smart Start applications are available in the Office of Enrollment Management. Once completed, these applications will be processed through the Regents’ office. Approved volunteers will then be asked to choose which positions they are most interested in filling. Interviews will be conducted and training provided.

For more information, or an application, call J.P. Johnson at 682-1611 ext. 7533, or Jennifer Johnson, America Counts and America Reads Coordinator, at ext. 7748.

—J.P. Johnson
Coordinator of College Clubs

Use these pages to share your ideas, thoughts and comments with the rest of the world.

Write us: 7777 S. May Ave., OKC, OK 73159, e-mail the editor at editor@okc.cc.ok.us or drop by 2M6 of the main building.

STRAIGHTJACKET BY: M.C. GAREY

Hey Honey! I’ve found the perfect gift for your mother!
Comments and Reviews

The world through a criminal’s eyes
From the dark streets to treatment and prayer

The scariest part of the criminal mind is how much it works like our own.

This reality is made painfully clear by writer Bo Cox in his recently released collection of memoirs entitled “God Is Not in the Thesaurus: Stories from an Oklahoma Prison.” Cox, who is serving a life sentence, takes his readers on a haunting journey into the heart of darkness, then coaxes them tentatively back into the light.

The light starkly outlines the harsh results of a life wasted on drugs, alcohol and senseless violence. It also holds the only ray of hope that penetrates the prison cell where the author has lived for the past 13 years: the promise of God’s love.

It took four years of continued drug use behind bars before Cox finally made the decision to face life sober. His quest for sobriety began in April 1990.

At Christmas time his resolve was sorely tested. In “Silent Night” the reader stands by the writer’s side as he hides in his cell, avoiding social contact as he struggles with his emotions and fear of failure.

Then a friend drags him to an evening meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous where the warm embrace of fellow alcoholics Anonymous takes his readers on a

The nebulus
world of Dr. Vu

Babies: lots of cute but lots of questions

I love babies.

They have that fresh-from-the-factory smell; they’re conveniently packaged; and they love apple juice —drinking it and recycling it, just like me.

Everything they do is cute, especially when they make a doo–doo or a poo–poo or the ever popular woo–wooo. Yes, my name is Vu Vu.

Their heads are bigger than their bodies, acting like an anchor so they won’t hurt themselves.

They have no teeth, which looks cool. They drool on you, but baby drool... it’s just too cute.

It’s awesome watching them explode with laughter when playing peek–a–boo.

It’s fun watching their eyes glow with amazement as they see things for the first time, or the expressions on their faces when they taste something sour. And they love it when you read Sports Illustrated to them.

Babies. We love them.

Even author Jonathan Swift wrote about them in his essay, “A Modest Proposal.”

Babies are very dear to us. Who could forget the heartache felt for the babies in the Murrah building, or all the babies who died in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in World War II.

All were innocent victims, brought to death by enormous explosions.

At least for most, it was a quick and painless death. “Precious miracles,” they’re so often called.

But every baby grows up.

They become politicians, garbage technicians, mechanics or lawyers.

They face issues dealing with nuclear proliferation.

They ask themselves questions.

Do we want a missile defense system to protect us, even though it may cause countries to build more nuclear weapons, thus the proliferation?

Or do we choose to forgo a missile defense system and live with the threat of minimal nuclear devastation?

They join groups like Green Peace or the Republican Party.

They come up with their own eggroll recipes.

They have difficult choices to make.

If only they remembered when they were babies, drooling and pooping.

Can I say “pooping?”

—Vu Vu
Staff Writer

Paul Cotton: Better left unheard

Since I work for a newspaper, and I am assigned to write reviews, I am sometimes required to write a review over something I would otherwise never listen to or do.

I listened to “Firebird,” the new CD from Paul Cotton.

You might remember him as being in Poco with Timothy B. Schmit of Eagles fame.

His new album is chock full of sad country songs. But what else is new from a country song?

They have names like “Woman with a Broken Heart” and “Not Out of Mind.”

His voice could use some work too.

I am a vocals kind of guy myself, so when I hear him sound like he is straining on parts of the songs, it kills the whole CD for me.

There is one song on the CD that I do think is OK.

It is instrumental, so I can deal with it. But it still has a “twang” country feel to it. Sorry, folks, but country is not me. Because of the instrument part, I give this CD 2 out of 5 stars.

Unless you are a Paul Cotton fan or like country, then I would not buy this CD.

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Unless you are a Paul Cotton fan or like country, then I would not buy this CD.

—Ryan Johnson
Staff Writer
GED classes help students realize educational dreams

By Michaela Marx
Editor

Helping students succeed is one of OKCCC’s priorities according to Chuck Morrison who is in charge of the General Education Development program at OKCCC. At 6:30 p.m., July 27, students in the GED program who met all the requirements will receive high school diploma equivalents in the college union.

Students, families, friends, and faculty members who helped the students succeed will be in attendance.

Morrison said the program is offered year round on campus.

Twelve classes are offered during the fall and spring semesters and a limited number of classes are offered during the summer semester, he said. GED testing is also offered throughout the year.

A total of 574 students who have taken the required classes and passed the testing will receive their diploma this year, he said.

“We tested 904 people from June 1999 through May 2000,” Morrison said. “Of those 904 people, 574 passed their GED test.”

According to the GED examiner’s manual, the Tests of General Educational Development are developed by the American Council on Education to “enable persons who have not graduated from high school to demonstrate the attainment of developed abilities normally acquired through completion of a high school program of study.”

Morrison said to be eligible to take the GED test within the State of Oklahoma, a person must meet the following requirements:

1. Is not enrolled in high school and does not have a high school diploma.
2. Lives in Oklahoma.
3. Is 16 years of age or older. Those who are 16 or 17 will need to have an approved Test Agreement for 16- and 17-year-olds.

The Test Agreement form is available at the GED Testing Centers and must be signed by a parent and a school official of the school district of current residence.

For more information about the GED program, call 682-1611, ext. 7428.

Second floor of main building to join 21st century carpet-wise

By Ryan Johnson
Staff Writer


Starting July 24, the second floor of the main building will get a makeover when 2200 square feet of old yellow and off-white carpet is replaced.

In many areas of the college, the carpet is original from the day that section of the college opened in 1972.

Much of the second floor in the main building fits that description.

John Knight, director of the physical plant, said the change will be noticeable.

“It is a major improvement,” Knight said.

“In some cases, the carpet is original. I think it is a much needed project.”

The cost of recarpeting the entire second floor will be $23,308.

The project is expected to wrap up Aug. 20.

Offices located within the area being carpeted will be temporarily relocated to other areas of the college.

“Some of the areas will be relocated entirely,” Knight said.

“Others will be doubled up on the space they already have.”

Employees of the college are happy about the change about to take place.

“I think the new carpet will be great,” said Francine West, payroll bookkeeper.

“The relocating will be a mess, but I’m sure that when payday rolls around, everyone will still be able to find me.”

The theft of a piece of art and two cameras was reported to campus security July 6.

The items were reported by Visual Art Professor Mary Ann Moore.

Moore reported two Pentax 35mm cameras worth a total of $358 missing from the pottery lab.

The cameras are stored in an unlocked cabinet in the pottery lab, said Susan VanSchuyver, dean of Arts and Humanities.

The cameras were used by art students to make a record of artwork in their portfolios.

They were also used to take pictures of the mosaic in the courtyard to record the changes that are expected to take eight years, she said.

LaWanda LaVarnway, photography lab assistant, said the cameras were on loan from the photography department.

VanSchuyver said the pottery lab door was locked but in the future, the cabinet door will also be locked.

On July 3, an acrylic painting belonging to Cherri Ledbetter and on display in the library lobby was reported missing.

Michael Taylor, whose painting was also on exhibit, noticed Ledbetter’s painting missing and reported it to security.

The painting had been on exhibit since June 15.

The painting, titled “Ghetto Queens,” is valued at $250.

Ledbetter was not available for comment.
GED graduates who will be taking part in the ceremonies at 6:30 p.m. July 27 in the coliseum will be taking part in the ceremony.


Elaine Paolo, Jana Parker, Daniel Parker, Bryan Parsons, Christy Partin, Steven Paulk, David Peak II, Gina Pena, Rem Poule, Betty Peterson, David Peterson, Jonathon Phi lipps, John Pitt, Chris Pittman, Christopher Pitts, Lang Pynanthor, Gabriel Pollock, Olivia Ponce, Patricia Kristel Portwood, Lisa Powers, Jason Pratt, David Pritchett, Justin Purser, James Quellette.

Sharon Ragan, Frank Ramirez, Andrew Rasmad, Heather Ratz, Douglas Ray, Tony Reason, Mike Reed, Michele Reed, Kris Reeves, Alania Reid, Paul Reser, Coby Rhodes, Ryan Rhodes, Kevin Richardson, Ryan Rider, Alycia Rivard, Robert Rivera, Maria Rivera, Tina Robertson, Robin Roper, Sam Roads, Stephen Rodgers, Jim Rodrigue, Andrea Rodriguez, Crystal Rodriguez, Rebecca Young, Alsha Roussell.

Tammy Ryland, Lisa Saeger, Jacob Saldivar, Sherry Sanders, Linda Sayasana, Kyle Scarberry, David Schomerus, Lannita Schooller, Mark Schue, Andrew Schulz, Dorothy Marie Sellers, Montoya Sellers, John Senecal, Alicia Sharp, Katherine Sheehan, Jose Silva, Kyle Sisemore, Andrea Slagle, Shannan Smith, Chris Smith, Pretis Smith.

Josh Smith, Steven Smith, Johnny Soliz, Melinda Soule, Jeri Sparks, Theresa Stejskai, Kenisha Stell, Ronnie Stephens, Brandon Stone, John Story, John Strother, Anja Sugg, Alanna Suggs, Anwar Swann, Jennifer Tartaglione, Adam Tarver, Jennifer Teague, Penny Thieb, Shane Tho mas, Angela Thompson, Lavren Thompson, Deborah Thompson, Steven Timanus, Jody Tompkins, Dolores Torres.

Robert Towler, Dung Tran, Jeffrey Trude, James Trueblood, Cynthia Truman, Brandon Tucker, Enoch Tufs, Beverly Turso, Timothy Vaught, Michael Vitatoe, Luan Vong, Tommey Walden, Richard Walford, Cheri Walker, Laura Wall, Jennifer Wallace, Shauna Wallace, Velma Wallin, John Warsop, Vickie Watson, Angela Webster, Dixie Weidemaier, Bruce West, Melanie West, Jessica Whelen, Lisa Whittaker, John White.

Ray Whitfield, Bradley Wienes, Sara Wilder, Jennifer Wilhite, Lauren Willett, Tara Wilsey, Chad Williams, Daniel William, Ladonna Wilson, Julian Wilson, Chris Woeste, Mark Worley, Jamie Wright, Sarah Yanikman, Woods, Kenney Word, Megan Wright, Patricia Yanell, Jerry Young, Randy Yoder, Eric Young, Rebecca Young, Barrett Zimmerman.
Highlights

Donations still needed for Children’s Art tent
The following items are still being collected for use in the Children’s Art tent during Arts Festival Oklahoma: smooth rocks, beads, ribbons, yarn, lace, sequins, buttons, tissue paper, card stock, feathers, wiggly eyes, beans, fish gravel, macaroni, rice, fishing line, matting, stickers (of any kind), paper (of any size and kind) and embroidery thread. Bring donations by the OKCCC Child Development Center.

We be jammin’ mon
The 5th Annual Bricktown Reggae Fest will be July 28 and 29. The festival will be held outdoors at the corner of Sheridan and Oklahoma Avenue in Bricktown. All ages welcome. Admission is free until 7 p.m. on both days; after 7 p.m. admission is $8 at the gate. Children 10 and under are free with a paid adult. There will be continuous live music plus food, drinks, clothing and Jamaican novelties for sale. For more information call 236-4143.

Last chance to learn to swim
Two final Learn to Swim lessons will be held at Ripper Park in Bethany. The classes are offered by OKCCC instructors who are certified by the American Red Cross. Enrollment is under way for classes meeting from 9 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. or 5 to 7:20 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. The final session is slated July 24 through Aug. 3. Cost is $29. For more information, call Roxanna Butler in the Office of Recreation and Community Services at 682-1611, ext. 7425.

Foreign Exchange student needs good home
Veronika Isaak, 17-year-old German exchange student, will be attending OKCCC this fall. She needs a host family to provide her with a place to live while she is in Oklahoma. A qualified family would receive $225 per month and gratification in the knowledge that they are helping someone succeed. For more information, call Dr. Manuel Prestamo at (405) 682-7579.

Campus Green Party organization
A new organization, the Green Party, is encouraging interested students to be involved. The Green Party is a progressive political party committed to environmental justice, grass roots democracy and nonviolence. Right now, the group is petitioning to have consumer advocate Ralph Nader and Native American Winona LaDuke placed on the ballot in Oklahoma and creating heightened awareness of issues included in the 2000 Green Party Platform. For more information contact Adrianne at synopsist@us.net, Dave Charlson at djcharlson@okc.cc.ok.us or go to their website at www.greens.org/oklahoma

Workshops for fitness professionals scheduled
“Resist-a-Ball Training” will help organize your floor and step choreography to the musical phrase. By using the 32 count phrase, instructors will create more energy and make routines easy to cue and easy to follow.
To register, call 1-800-AEROBIC (237-6242) or register online at www.ndelta.com

“Students have a chance to meet other students. If they’re new to the school, they learn the ins and the outs, and get good ideas.” —Janice Raney, Student Life Assistant

The great outdoors awaits OKCCC student club leaders as they get ready to attend the annual leadership retreat at Lake Murray State park in Ardmore Aug. 11 through 13.
Team Quest from the University of Oklahoma will facilitate the annual retreat, sponsored by the office of Student life. Team Quest is a corporate training program that helps coworkers learn about themselves by requiring participants to set their own limits and bypassing that limit with the encouragement of their peers.
The program is designed to help make the leaders of the future, said Mike Jones, coordinator of student activities. It will also help strengthen the leadership skills of those people attending.
The program enhances leadership skills and helps leaders develop conflict management techniques.
Funding comes from the student organizations. Janice Raney, Student Life assistant, said the retreat is a good opportunity for students. “Students have a chance to meet other students,” she said. “If they’re new to the school, they learn the ins and the outs, and get good ideas.”

Lake Murray is the site for the get-together

By Vu Vu
Staff Writer

The end result, members of Team Quest said, is for people attending to realize they can do more than they think.
Programs will stress trust, problem solving, communication skills, organizational change, leadership development, conflict resolution, customer service and team building.
For more information about the leadership retreat, contact the Student Life office at 682–1611, ext. 7523.
For more information about Team Quest, call 325–0464. Or e-mail mrose@ou.edu
Classifieds


FOR SALE: '88 Olds Royal 88, champagne color, very clean and good condition. Asking $4,000 (OBO). Call 943-8049.

FOR SALE: '87 Fiero. 4-cylinder, AC, AM/FM Cassette, Auto., 75K miles. Asking $3,000. Call 387-9853.

FOR SALE: '93 Lincoln Cartier, very good condition, 89K miles. Asking $9,950. Call 691-1119.

FOR SALE: '88 Conquest. Call 634-6787.


FOR SALE: '89 Honda Accord LX, 4-door, auto., power everything, good condition, 130K miles. Asking $3,000. Call David or Woody at 525-8939.


FOR SALE: '96 Honda Passport EX, loaded, very clean. 72K miles, green with gold trim. $14,299 FIRM. Call 823-5284.

FOR SALE: '77 Suburban, needs body work. 454 engine, 400 turbo transmission — both GC. New rear end, radiator recently re-cored, new exhaust. $1000 firm. Call 793-2774 evenings.

HOUSEHOLD


FOR SALE: Oak dining table with leaf and 4 chairs on casters. $250. Call 621-0021 or page at 440-7696.

FOR SALE: Montgomery Ward refrigerator, $150; 5-piece black laquer dining room set, $75. Call 364-6051 or 862-1611, ext. 7544.


NEED TO HIRE? USE THE PIONEER!

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Graphic Design Services Newsletters, web pages, brochures, resumes, letterhead, business cards, catalogs, etc. 326-9017

Positions

College Book Store Job Opportunities Temporary positions for stocking and assisting customers. $7.00 per hour • M-Th 8-2:30; Fridays and weekends as needed • M 3:15-8:15, T-Th 2:15-7:15 and Fri Noon-5; and weekends as needed Must be able to work 30-40 hours during rush in August. Complete application in Human Resources Oklahoma City Community College 405-682-7542 

ADVERTISING SALES REPS. Needed for Statewide Law Enforcement Magazine Day Shifts available, M-F Earn $300-$500 weekly So. OKC office 636-0434

LEARN AS YOU EARN Ideal hours for students at FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH MASSAGE CENTER Southwest Oklahoma City, Ask for Linda 682-9222

TO ADVANCE IN ANY CAREER IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE in the PIONEER $$$

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HOU
Gasoline prices on slow decline

"Gasoline," Cont. from page 1

after American companies cut production thinking the market would become flooded with Iraqi oil.

Another theory for the rising prices is the high cost of crude oil.

A barrel of crude oil has increased from $11 a barrel last year to $830, said financial analyst David Swowerby.

NBC correspondent Gary Sideman said in a recent report that, in the Midwest. oil companies have blamed the high prices on taxes and the cost of introducing new federally-required cleaner fuel this month.

He said the price spike has prompted the Federal Trade Commission to open a formal investigation into possible price gouging and collusion.

Oklahoma gas station owners explained why the gas prices in Oklahoma suddenly fell approximately 20 to 30 cents in the past few weeks.

Laura, a Texaco clerk in Moore, said her station has been able to lower prices of all its products.

"Generally when our costs go down so does the price of gas," she said.

"Customers are thrilled that the gas is down to under $1.50."

For students who are still having problems making their incomes meet because of the still fairly-high prices, use the tips listed in the sidebar on this page to save gas and money.

You could advertise here locally for $16 a week, nationally for $20 a week. Call Susan at 682-1611, ext. 7674 for more information about our low advertising rates!

Gas saving tips to help increase fuel economy

The Internet site www.freewell.com offers the following tips to better fuel economy:

1. **Engine warm-up**
   - Avoid prolonged warming up of engine, even on cold mornings — 30 to 45 seconds is plenty of time.
   - Be sure the automatic choke is disengaged after engine warmup. Chokes often get stuck, resulting in bad gas/air mixture.

2. Don't start and stop engine needlessly. Idling your engine for one minute consumes the gas amount equivalent to when you start the engine.

3. Avoid "reving" the engine especially just before you switch it off. This wastes fuel and washes oil down from the inside cylinder walls, creating loss of oil pressure.

4. Alternate jack-rabbit starts. Accelerate slowly when starting from dead stop. Don't push the pedal down more than 1/4 of the total foot travel. This allows carburator to function at peak efficiency.

**How to Buy Gasoline**

5. Buy gasoline during coolest time of day — early morning or late evening is best. During these times gasoline is densest. Keep in mind, gas pumps measure volumes of gasoline, not densities of fuel concentration. You are charged according to "volume of measurement."

6. Choose brand and type of gasoline carefully. Certain brands provide you with greater economy because of better quality.

7. Avoid filling gas tank to the top. Overfilling results in sloshing over and out of tank. Never fill gas tank past the first "click" of fuel nozzle, if nozzle is automatic.

8. Drive steadily. Slowly reducing down or speeding up wastes fuel. Also avoid tailgating — the driver in front of you is unpredictable. Not only is it unsafe, but it affects your economy if you slow down unexpectedly.

9. Exceeding 40 mph forces your auto to overcame tremendous wind resistance.

10. Never exceed legal speed limit. Primarily they are set for your traveling safety; however, better gas efficiency also occurs. Traveling at 55 mph gives you up to 21 percent better mileage when compared to speed limits of 65 mph and 70 mph.

11. Traveling at fast rates in low gears can consume up to 45 percent more fuel than is needed.

12. Manual shift-driven cars allow you to change to highest gear as soon as possible, thereby letting you save gas if you "nurse it along." However, if you cause the engine to bog down, premature wearing of engine parts occurs.

13. Keep windows closed when traveling at highway speeds. Open windows cause air drag, reducing your mileage by 10 percent.

14. Drive steadily. Slowly reducing down or speeding up wastes fuel. Also avoid tailgating — the driver in front of you is unpredictable. Not only is it unsafe, but it affects your economy if you slow down unexpectedly.

15. Think ahead when approaching hills. If you accelerate, do it before you reach the hill, not while you’re on it.

**General Advice**

16. Do not rest left foot on floor board pedals while driving. The slightest pressure puts "mechanical drag" on components, wearing them down prematurely. This "dragging" also demands additional fuel usage.

17. Avoid rough roads whenever possible. Dirt or gravel robs you of up to 30 percent of your gas mileage.

18. Use alternate roads when safer, shorter, and straightier. Compare traveling distance differences — remember that corners, curves and lane jumping require extra gas. The shortest distance between two points is always straight.

19. Stoplights are usually timed for your motoring advantage. By traveling steadily at the legal speed limit you boost your chances of having the "green light" all the way.

20. Automatic transmissions should be allowed to coast down when your car is idling at a standstill, e.g. railroad crossings, long traffic lights, etc. Place gear into neutral position. This reduces transmission strain and allows transmission to cool.

21. Park car so that you can later begin to travel in forward gear; avoid reverse gear maneuvers to save gas.

22. Regular tune-ups ensure best economy; check owner’s manual for recommended maintenance intervals. Special attention should be given to maintaining clean air filters. Diagnosing air flow increases gas waste.

23. Inspect suspension and chassis parts for occasional misalignment. Bent wheels, axles, bad shocks, broken springs create engine drag and are unsafe at high traveling speeds.

24. Remove snow tires during good weather seasons; traveling on deep tire tread really robs fuel.

25. Inflate all tires to maximum limit. Each tire should be periodically inspected. Also check for out-of-round. When shopping for new tires, get large diameter tires for rear wheels. Radial designs are the recognized fuel-savers; check manufacturer’s specifications for maximum tire pressures.


27. Air conditioners can reduce fuel economy by 10 to 20 percent. Heater fan, power windows and seats increase engine load; the more load on the engine, the less miles per gallon.

28. Remove excess weight from trunk or inside of car — extra tires, back seats, unnecessary heavy parts. Extra weight reduces mileage, especially when driving up inclines.

29. Car pools reduce travel monotony and gas expense — all riders chip in to help you buy. Conversation helps to keep the driver alert. Pooling also reduces traffic congestion, gives the driver more maneuverability and greater "steady speed" economy. For best results, distribute passenger weight evenly throughout car.

30. During cold weather watch for icicles frozen to car frame. Up to 100 pounds can be quickly accumulated. Unremoved snow and ice cause a lot of wind resistance. Warm water thrown on (or hosed on) will eliminate it fast.