

Co-op charges high prices according to student survey

A price survey taken two weeks ago by two University students reveals that the University Co-op charges the highest prices for most commodities.

Among the items priced in the Eugene area were soap, shampoo and mouthwash. In addition to the Co-op, two additional stores in the immediate campus area were studied. Also surveyed were two downtown stores and two small stores between downtown and the campus.

According to students Linell Barnes and Harry Itkin, prices varied more than 20 per cent from store to store on some items, with the Co-op at the high end. Little's and the Minit Market shared high price honors on several products.

For the items and stores studied, the theory that competition keeps prices down appears shaky, the two students commented.

The first two columns of the survey chart are

allocated to the Co-op. The first is the regular price; the second is the approximate price to Co-op members who receive a rebate at the end of the year. Six per cent was deducted from the regular price to find the adjusted price. The six per cent was last year's figure; the Co-op has not yet announced the amount of the 1971 refund.

For fifty cents any University student may join the Co-op and receive a kick back at the end of the year. Only one-third of the University's 15,000 students have taken advantage of this offer, however, and the rest are subject to the consistently higher prices at the Co-op, Itkin and Barnes said.

Prices were sampled at the following stores: Co-op, Safeway, 1840 E. 13th; Tiffany's, 1950 Franklin Blvd.; Minit Market, 536 E. 11th; Woolworth's, 930 Willamette; Newberry's, 966 Willamette; Little's Market, 544 E. 13th.

Price comparison chart

Item	U of O Co-op	Co-op (less rebate)	Safeway	Tiffany's	Minit	Woolworth's	Newberry's	Little's
Butter (100 lbs)	\$1.59	\$1.49	\$1.19	\$1.27	\$0	\$1.17	\$1.59	\$1.59
Bayer Aspirin (100 5-gr. tabs)	1.07	1.01	.96	.87	1.07	.75	.97	1.07
Other	N	N	.17	.19	N	.29	N	.29
Dial Soap (3 1/2 oz. bar)	.19	.18	.19	0	0	0	N	.19
Ivory Soap (3 1/2 oz. bar)	.09	.08	.08	.11	.11	N	N	.10
White King (40 oz. Soap Flakes)	.85	.80	.79	.72	N	N	N	.79
Ivory Snow (32 oz. Soap Flakes)	N	N	.93	N	0	N	N	.98
Phisodex Skin Cleanser (16 oz.)	3.04	2.86	N	2.37	N	N	N	N
Crest Toothpaste (5 oz.)	.83	.78	.67	0	.84	0	0	.89
Listerine Mouthwash (17 oz.)	.85	.80	.67	.85	.85	0	0	.85
Jergens Hand Lotion (4 1/2 oz.)	.69	.65	.59	.69	.64	.69	.67	.69
Tame Creme Rinse (8 oz.)	1.25	1.17	.94	.93	1.09	1.09	0	0
VOS Shampoo (7 oz.)	1.15	1.08	.92	.93	1.15	.99	.99	1.15
Breck Shampoo (7 oz.)	1.15	1.08	N	.99	0	.99	.99	1.15
Kleenex (200 2-ply approx. 9x8")	.37	.35	.37	.37	0	.35	.41	.39
Other	N	N	.27	.73	N	.29	N	N
Tampax Tampons (40 regular)	1.93	1.81	1.43	1.49	1.79	1.68	1.57	1.93
Kotex Napkins (12 medium)	.50	.53	.48	.51	.59	.49	.57	.53
VOS Hair Spray (10 oz.)	1.50	1.41	1.38	1.23	N	0	N	1.50
White Rain Hair Spray (13 oz.)	1.49	1.41	1.24	1.17	1.49	0	1.49	N
Right Guard Deodorant (7 oz.)	1.59	1.49	1.28	1.27	0	1.27	1.27	1.59
Gillette Foamy Shave Cream (6 1/2 oz.)	.89	.84	.66	.89	.89	0	0	.89

N: INDICATES THAT THE PRODUCT IS NOT CARRIED.

0: INDICATES THAT THE STORE WAS OUT OF THE GIVEN PRODUCT, OR THAT THE PARTICULAR SIZE WAS NOT ON THE SHELVES.

* OFF BRANDS OF EQUAL QUALITY WERE FOR COMPARISON. NOTE STORES WHICH CARRY ONLY HIGH PRICE BRANDS.

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