

Flea markets offer treasures for all

*Lisa Budwig
Special to the
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Cars turn into the sacred valley between the towering drive-in screen and the speedway stadium. Hundreds, then thousands of people arrive for the Silver Spring Flea Market.

A jungle of houseplants and flowers bursts from a Chevy van.

Great-aunt Minnie's hats, coats and attic treasures magically appear, transported through time in the back of a Ford station wagon.

Boxy steel trucks unfurl their awnings and, ah, the smells! The yeasty aroma of hot soft pretzels and funnel cakes, the grilled gusto of steak subs and sausages, the rich warmth of hot chocolate and fresh coffee. The smells rise with the sun.

Flea markets. Where else can you find the light-hearted camaraderie of a neighborhood yard sale, the gastronomic delights of a county fair, the sharp-eyed, smooth-tongued hustle of a New Jersey boardwalk, and the most mind-boggling array of stuff you could ever imagine?

For college students seeking cheap entertainment, good old-fashioned, gloriously bad-for-you type food, and off-the-wall ways to transform four institutional walls into "home sweet home," flea markets score on all counts. For these cost-conscious rebels, the flea market is a kind of anti-mall.

hunters, deal-makers, and pack-rats who frequent the markets.

Kids, tugging at their distracted mothers' coats, discovering new wonders at every turn.

Studious old men, hands shoved deep in their pockets, tagging along five tables behind their nonsensical wives.

HARRISBURG AREA FLEA MARKETS

Silver Spring Antique & Flea Market, 6416 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg. Over 300 vendors, inside and outside. Hours: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday only.

Saturday's Market, 3751 E. Harrisburg Pike, Middletown. Over 250 vendors, mostly inside. Hours: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday only.

Haar's Auction & Flea Market, Route 15, Dillsburg. About 50 vendors, mostly inside. Hours: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday; 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesday and Friday.

Josh Richman, part-time PSH student, sometimes accompanies his father, Irwin Richman, professor of American studies and an avid flea marketer. But whereas the elder Richman searches for additions to his already impressive art collection, Josh says, "I like looking at the people."

People-watchers can have a field day scoping the endless parade of bargain-

Country club women, leather-clad men, giddy teenagers.

Why do so many people go to flea markets?

"I don't know why I go," says Chris Bradley, high school English teacher and PSH graduate student. "My mother loves

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Photo by Lisa Budwig

A flea market vendor awaits customers at Silver Spring flea market.

Birmingham Baseball Cards and Coins

Hours Monday and Friday 12-8 p.m.
Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m. -5 p.m.
Thursday 10 a.m. -8 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. -2 p.m.

4 North Union Street Middletown 944-6380

Nominations for the 1992 Teaching Fellow Award are being accepted by the Penn State Alumni Association.

Nominees must be full-time faculty with a minimum of three years of teaching experience.

Students, faculty, administrators, staff, parents, alumni and friends of Penn State may submit nominations.

The deadline for nomination submission is Nov. 15, 1991.

Candidates will be judged based on three criteria: general teaching; academic advising and overall career guidance; and enthusiasm and commitment.

All statements must address the three criteria.

Persons wishing to submit nominations may obtain the appropriate forms by contacting the Penn State Harrisburg community relations office in room W-106, Olmsted Building.

Nominations should be sent to:
Teaching Fellow Award
c/o Penn State Alumni Association
105 Old Main
University Park, PA 16802

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944-9971

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Marshall said he had a problem with the camera.

"I thought the camera placement was bad," he said. "You have to look at the camera above the monitor, so if you look the other person in the eye on the screen, it seems like you're looking down. I kept looking him in the eye, it was hard to remember to look into the camera."

Most of the equipment came on loan from University Park. Penn State Harrisburg paid for some cable, an amplifier, a speaker and the installation cost.

The signals are sent over telephone lines. They go on the lines to the basement into a CODEC (code/decode) machine. When the message reaches the other end, another CODEC machine decodes the signal and puts the image on the monitor.

Right now there are five available lines, four of which are being used. The four locations are University Park, Harrisburg, Behrend and the Hershey Medical Center. The location of the fifth station is undecided.

In the future, when students express more interest, Martz hopes to run

workshops to help students get the most out of their video interviewing.

"We'd like to help the students learn how to look their best, control their voice, use make-up, etc..." Martz said.

After the interview, both the student and the interviewer are asked to fill out a survey and offer suggestions for improvement. Martz said so far the system is getting favorable reviews from all people involved.

"We learn as we go," Martz said. "As more students use it, we get more suggestions."

"For apprehensive students, I will let them come in before the day of the interview and see how the system works, how they'll look on screen, whatever," Martz said. "I hope to get like Behrend, they're running out of available time slots. They call me up to see if we have any available time slots."

Penn State Harrisburg and Behrend currently share the system and split the day. Behrend uses the line from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Harrisburg uses it from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, students can contact Martz in the career services office, W-117.