

Eye on Campus

Shopping online is quick and easy

This issue, I thought of an interesting topic to write about: purchasing items online. After all, I do most of my purchasing online and it saves me money. College students seem to want to save money also, so it's a match made in heaven. In this article, I'll briefly go over the why, where and how of online purchasing.

Why? Why would someone want to buy online instead of the traditional

'brick and mortar' store? There are many reasons, but the biggest is price. Since the companies with stores have to pay rent, employees, and keep stock at the store, it costs more to sell you the product since they must pass the costs on to the consumer.

With an online store, the company pays for a website (VERY cheap) and a warehouse to hold the product. That's it! So it costs less to do business with you. Plus, as an added benefit, you get to keep the savings as reward for shopping at their online store instead of their 'brick 'n mortar'. So, shopping online can save you money.

Where? Where do I go to buy things online? Most anywhere, and you can start at www.google.com to search for your product.

If you like Express clothing, just Google "Express Clothing". If you're looking for an MP3 player, just type in "buy mp3 player" and many links will come up for you to click on. Make sure you shop around though, the first link isn't always the cheapest.



If you're looking into used or refurbished products, check out www.ubid.com or www.ebay.com for deals. Ebay tends to have *everything*. If you want that matching earring that you lost 10 years ago, and you happen to know then name, then chances are Ebay has it.

Finally, if you know the manufacturer, 9 times out of 10 you can just type their name followed by a ".com" in the web address and a web page will come up with a link to shopping. Check out www.llbean.com for an example.

How? How do I buy online? With a credit card. Many people are afraid of using their credit card online. They are afraid someone is watching, or

someone will hack into the company's database and steal their credit card number.

The chances that this will occur is about the same as the chance that you'll lose your credit card and someone will use it illegally.

So how can you protect yourself from CC thieves? First, make sure there is a lock icon in the bottom of your browser when you give out any sensitive information online. That lock tells you that the encryption is activated and that even if someone was looking, it would take more than 100 years to crack the code.

Even now, some credit cards have an extra 3 digits on the back where you sign your name. Some online stores ask for this as an extra precaution. Also, stay with reputable names like www.walmart.com, or www.bestbuy.com.

You don't want to buy something at www.lee-bobs-market.com and have it turn out to be a fraudulent online store, so use some judgment when on-line.

So, as you can see, shopping online has many positive aspects including lower price, more selection, and saving time.

It's safe and secure. And let's not forget the best part: shopping in your slippers!

AROUND CAMPUS BRIEFLY

Career Services sets schedule

THON is continuing to raise money for kids with cancer. Representatives from THON are around campus selling THON bracelets for two dollars. They are colored blue for Penn State's school color and are in the image of the popular Lance Armstrong bracelets.

For more information on how to purchase a bracelet or become a member of the THON organization, contact Darlene Campoli at dxc312@psu.edu

— JENNIFER RUFO

The FAST/SAST program is here

The programs Faculty and Students eating Together and Staff and Students eating Together are designed to help students, faculty and staff to get to know each other in a relaxed, informal environment.

Groups consisting of at least one student and one faculty or staff member (up to six people) are encouraged to go to the Lion's Pit for lunch or for coffee and snacks.

A spending limit is set at \$6.50 a person and participants can use the program up to three times a semester.

Anyone can initiate the invitation. Forms can be signed out in Student Life in the Commons building on the second floor the day the participants plan to use the program.

Outdoor club to hold first meeting

The newly established Outdoor Club will hold its first meeting on Dec. 1 in Rm. 203 of the Classroom building at common hour.

Feel free to bring friends, ideas and thoughts to the meeting. The Outdoor club plans to make their schedule for Spring 2005.

Contact Frank Vaccaro at frv10@psu.edu.

— JENNIFER RUFO

From the Bookstore...

Dear Campus Community,
During the coming holiday season, the

Bookstore and the Nittany Christian Fellowship want to partner with the entire campus community to make the holidays better for some deserving people.

A tree is set up in the Bookstore with the names of families that we have adopted for the holidays. These are families of Marines serving with Jake Bevan and Jason Raab.

The "giving tree" also lists items that are needed by the soldiers in Iraq.

Come in to the Bookstore Nov. 22-24 or Nov. 29-Dec. 3 to get a name or needed item off the tree and while you are there enjoy cookies and cocoa, provided by the Nittany Christian Fellowship. Items should be returned to the Bookstore by Dec. 10.

We don't want to forget these Marines or their families this holiday season.

Anything you can do to help will be greatly appreciated.

Renee Lutz
Bookstore Manager

Madden Bowl tournament

All students, faculty and staff are invited to a Madden Bowl Playstation tournament, sponsored by the Student Business Association.

The tournament will take place everyday at common hour Monday Nov. 29 through Friday Dec. 3 in Rm. 203 in the Classroom building.

Contestants can win Philadelphia Soul football tickets, Madden Bowl 2005 and gift certificates.

Tickets are \$10.00 per person and refreshments will be served. All proceeds will benefit the Bob Stout Memorial Fund.

To sign up or learn more about this event, contact Vinney Handley at VAH120@psu.edu.

— JENNIFER RUFO

Toys for Tots coming to Delco

We Are Penn State MADE is bringing Toys For Tots to campus this holiday season.

Toys For Tots is a holiday toy drive to benefit children living in Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey.

Drop-off bins will be located in each academic

building. Additionally, toys may dropped off in the Office of Student Life.

Please donate your new and unwrapped toys by December 17th.

— ANYA TAKOS

The Lion's Eye accepting donations for troops

The *Lion's Eye* is looking for donations for the troops in Iraq. We're putting together care packages that include magazines, toothpaste, toothbrushes, cards and any other non-perishable items.

Bins and flyers will be placed throughout campus after the Thanksgiving break. Or, drop items off at the Clubroom in the Commons building on the second floor next to Student Life.

Donations will be accepted at any time until Dec. 17.

— SARAH GALLATIG

EDiscover workshop with Career Services

Career Services is holding an eDiscover workshop today for students at 11:30 a.m. in the Classroom building Room 105 in the computer lab.

— SARAH GALLATIG

Penn State Creamery Cheese Sale

There will be a Penn State Creamery Cheese sale sponsored by the Penn State Club of Delaware County.

Each gift box contains one pound of cheddar cheese, one pound of Meunster cheese and two eight-ounce cheese spreads.

Boxes are only \$25.00 plus a \$10.00 transportation fee per order. Proceeds benefit Penn State student scholarships.

Checks can be made payable to the "Penn State Club of Delaware County" and sent to Kathy Cooke, Penn State Delaware County 25 Yearsley Mill Rd., Media, PA 19063.

Further questions can be directed to Wes after five p.m. at 610-363-0765.

— JENNIFER RUFO