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HALL CHANGES

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Via the Department of Residence Life website

At:

<http://reslife.tamu.edu/>

December 1st and 2nd

From 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

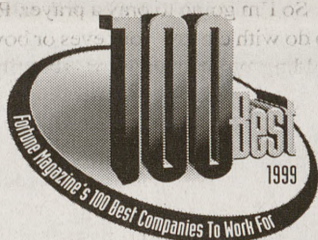
Or

Come by the Housing Assignments Office
101 YMCA Bldg.
From 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

ALL APPROVED HALL CHANGES WILL BE
INFORMED BY THEIR HALL STAFF ON

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH AFTER 5:00 PM

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Why? Because we're a company that knows what it takes for our people and our business to succeed. Like a work environment in which decisions are shared, not handed down; where people enjoy real responsibility from the start and look forward to promotion based on performance, not seniority.

In Enterprise Rent-A-Car's Management Training Program, you'll have every opportunity to be your best. And there are 35,000 people and one magazine who can attest to that. This growth opportunity offers a competitive salary and benefits package. A college degree is preferred.

Use Your Head. Join Enterprise.

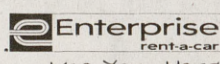
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For consideration, apply on-line at: www.erac.com

Or forward resume to:
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Phone: (512) 912-0332
jshannon@erac.com

Or call: 1-888-WWW-ERAC

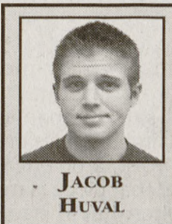
We are an equal
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Electro-shopping

Internet provides alternate to large holiday-mall crowd

Now is the time for the holiday hiatus, the period sandwiched between working off Thanksgiving's generous portions and preparing for Christmas's whirlwind of activity. Many smart individuals start their holiday shopping early with hopes of evading the tumultuous, rabid masses of bargain-hungry aisle-dwellers.



JACOB HUVAL

But not everyone has the luxury of time to do holiday shopping early; many people have no choice but to brave the churning sea of competitive shopping. Individuals who have never witnessed the astonishing atmosphere of competition have difficulty grasping exactly what it is like to be at ground zero, when the trumpets sound and the registers chirp, when cordiality to friends and associates is dwarfed by finding the best bargain before anyone else — it is literally violent.

One can hardly even walk into and out of a supermarket during the holidays without being hassled by store employees shouting, "Hey, stop! You have to pay for that!" Even supermarket workers are not exempt from the impending spirit of competitiveness, completely unable to believe one's claim to have walked in with items previously purchased.

"I walked in with that."
"You walked in with a bottle of baby oil and a Denise Richards workout video?"

"Uh, yeah! The orphanage I work at wanted more baby oil and Denise Richards workout videos. And before you search me anymore, you should know that the orphans also wanted a pint of rum, a box of cigars and some frilly undergarments."

By now, readers appalled by the presence of inconvenience in this advanced age of vending machines, phony decorative flowers and talking Chihuahuas should be asking their friends and neighbors a pressing question: "Does this shirt make me look fat?" But a more appropriate question being asked is "In these times of space-age technology and resealable carrot bags, shouldn't there be some convenient alternative to the rigors of holiday shopping?" The answer is a definite "Yes...you look very fat." But at least there is, indeed, a more convenient alternative to competitive shopping — the Internet. Shopping on the Internet is the convenient answer to holiday shopping many have longed for. However, some individuals are doubtful of the Internet's reliability or trustworthiness when compared to good old-fashioned American rugby matches in supermarkets.

The fact of the matter is, regardless of skepticism, putting trust in new technology for the sake of convenience and efficiency, is and has always been, the crunchy vegetable section on America's buffet line of commerce. The country as a whole has always relied on newly-developed technology to find a better way to get things done. The computer is utilized rather than having to painstakingly correct the typewriter's errors. The microwave is trusted to do the work rather than having to



ROBERT HYNCEK/TAMU

labor over a hot stove. Nuclear warheads are recognized as much more convenient than diplomacy. Even the friendly, mundane blender is used rather than having to chew up Grandpa's food for him.

The Internet's very nature is to be convenient, whether looking for research material on waffles or livestock suppositories. Email has eliminated the stress of communication. E-stock trading has revealed a world of investing opportunity to computer users; E-banking allows one to conduct banking business with unprecedented ease.

It appears that anything garnished with the blessed prefix "E-" is a much more convenient and efficient way to conduct business or communication. I guess one could say the Internet makes life E-asy for individuals with an E-normous E-go because it E-laborates the E-vasion of annoying shopping. I guess one could say the Internet E-victs, E-jects and E-rases holiday stress. I guess one could say this makes everybody E-lated and E-nables them to E-lope their worr-Es to battle E-vil instead. E-nough? E-xactly!

Yet despite E-xtenuating E-vidence which proves the Internet's usefulness, many are wary of transmitting their credit card information across phone lines. Not to worry. Security measures have been established for years through encrypted forms on which one dis-

closes one's credit card information. The technical term "encrypted" means that one's card information will be highly protected by sophisticated computer code. The code is known only by its programmer and is so complex that it would take the common thief to decipher it. The only individuals who can effectively decode and read one's credit card information are the code programmer and the three quarters of the world's teen-agers.

One can actively protect their credit card information by scrutinizing the sites from which they choose to order products.

A suspicious site could amount to a suspicious business and therefore unsavory partners, like a Denny's waitstaff. If, for instance the ordering of a dolly for a child results in a screen stating that delivery times vary by cartel to cartel and that the retail price of a doll is two kilos, the site may be somewhat suspicious...but great at parties!

It is understandable that despite the assurances of the Internet's trustworthiness and good intentions some individuals will entertain their doubts.

Jacob Huval is a sophomore English major.

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Dec. 2nd & 3rd

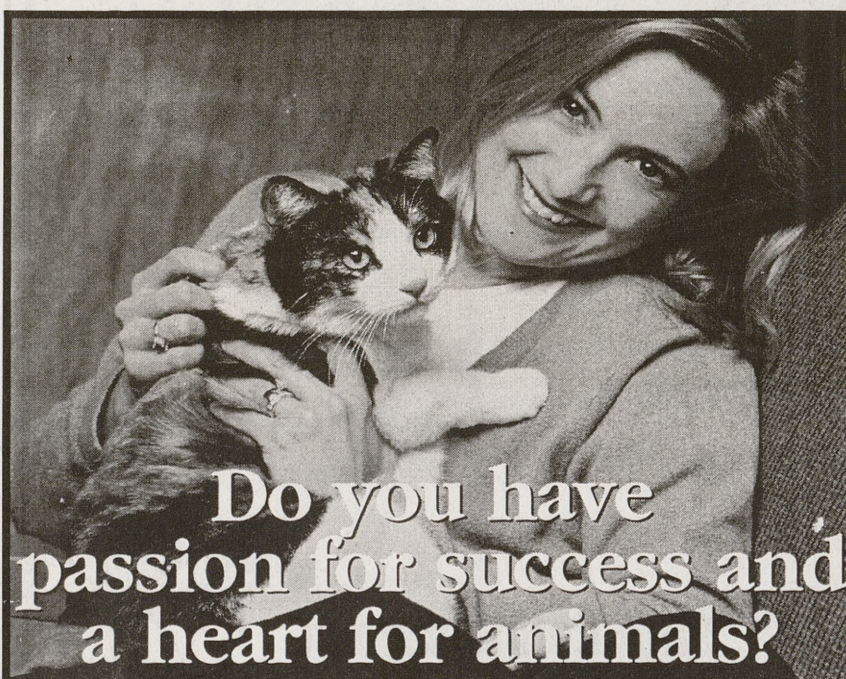
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Managing cashiers and promoting great customer service
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