

STUDENT LIFE

Rounding the Bases

By Jennifer Haight
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How far is too far on the first date? Or on a second or third date for that matter? These are questions that many teenagers and young adults have pondered for decades. Most refer to them as "getting to first, second, third or home base." But what do these "bases" really mean? What are first base, second base, third base and home plate?

I am going to try to tackle each one and explain the concepts to the best of my knowledge. First base would be considered making out, second base is fondling with clothes on, third base is clothes off and heavy petting and home plate would be intercourse and oral sex.

I think it is safe to say that you should never go all the way to home plate on the first, second or third date. The first date is considered the "getting to know you" date. It is most inappropriate to do anything more than a kiss goodnight on this date. You don't want to give the guy or girl the wrong impression and let him or her think you're easy. It's good to leave things up to the imagination and to keep him or her coming back for more.

Making out, or first base, is acceptable on the second and third dates. Doing this allows you to let him or her know that you're interested and that you want to keep him or her for at least a few more dates. It also leaves things up to the imagination and creates a desire for more things to come, unless you're a complete stink-breath and horrible kisser.

Second base is OK on the fourth and fifth dates, or perhaps even longer. You don't want to go too fast, but you want to keep a spark. Also, keep in mind that just because you made it to second base doesn't mean that you can't go back to first.

The heavy petting without clothes, third base, is something that you want to save and get to a little later. Doing this allows for both people to know that you're both interested and that you want to keep dating. Third base is the start of a sexual relationship with that person. It may start to get serious at that point, and strong feelings could very well be developing.

Home plate, homerun, score, etc...this is sex, whether anal, vaginal or oral. This is pretty much as far as you can go without leaving the realm of normalcy. Feelings are likely to get involved at this point if they haven't already. Sex is valuable, you should want to keep this in your arsenal for as long as possible. Don't give it up right away; make him or her work for it tell them to use their imaginations.

No matter how far you go on your dates, keep your head about you, and don't give anything up because you're afraid that he or she won't like you if you don't. If he or she won't date you because you don't give it up then he or she is simply not worth your time. There are six billion people in this world; I am fairly certain that at least one of them will treat you the way you should be treated.

Do you have suggestions for our columnists? Email them to us, you could see your topic in next week's paper.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Child actors Josh Hutcherson and Charlie Ray in 20th Century Fox's new movie "Little Manhattan" which hits theaters this fall.

Little Manhattan makes it onto the Big Screen

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When I was 11 years old, I was in the fifth grade. I was doing things like riding my bike, playing Nintendo 64 (GoldenEye 007 to be specific) and spending most of my time with friends - just like any kid my age. The character Gabe Burton in the upcoming film "Little Manhattan" is no exception. In the movie, basketball, best friends, and scooting occupies any and all of Gabe's spare time, leaving no time for any interest in girls. When he joins a karate class and is partnered with Rosemary Telesco, a girl he's known since nursery school, everything changes. Gabe becomes infatuated with

Rosemary, despite the fact that these new feelings are both thrilling and tormenting him.

And so begins the bumpy road to first love including Scooter rides in the park, play dates and adventures around the neighborhood. Unfortunately for this blossoming preteen couple, childhood paradise in residential New York City can't last forever, and Rosemary is soon leaving for summer camp. Even worse, she may be attending a private school the following year. With his hopes never higher, Gabe must take immediate action to keep his first love.

The movie is supposed to explore and delve into the magical beginnings of love through the eyes of an 11 year old. To be honest, I don't think that an

11 year old is capable of grasping the concept of what love really is, or anything close to it. I do not believe the maturity to understand love is present at such a young age, but it sure does make for an interesting movie. After all, it is just an innocent first kiss and a step into affection for a first crush. From the looks of the trailers, the acting performed by young Josh Hutcherson (Gabe) appears to be impressive. The movie obviously appeals to those at a fifth grade level, so I hardly believe that I would be interested in seeing this in theaters. I'm a guy though, and guys like action movies, movies with explosions and special effects. However, the movie is well written, with much thought put into the

details and elements of the film from the director and screenwriter. From a critiquing standpoint, and with the target audience being kept in mind, this appears to be a great choice for younger children. If I were around the age of 11, I would more than likely beg my parents to take me to the theaters to check it out. I'm nearly twenty years old though, and this sort of movie simply does not appeal to me. While I do appreciate skillful directors and an above-mediocre story line, I am not a fan of most movies directed towards such a young audience. The moral of the story; unless you're going to the movie with your girlfriend for bonus points, this is in no way a movie for you and "the guys" to see on a Friday night.

Proteus Ensemble soon to appear at Behrend

By Sean Mihlo
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Proteus Ensemble, a diverse five-piece chamber music group from New York City, will make their Logan Wintergarden Music at Noon Series debut this Wednesday, Oct. 19. The band, which features flutist Jennifer Grim, clarinetist Gilad Harel, cellist Alberto Parrini, violinist Yuko Naito and pianist James Johnston, first made their collective debut during the 2000-01 Carnegie Hall season, playing to a sold-out crowd in New York. Praised for "their eclectic and inspired programming" by the New York Concert Review, Proteus Ensemble shakes up the traditions of chamber music by performing standard classical pieces, new and edgy compositions and their own Western and non-Western-influenced creations. Unlike other chamber music groups, the band is known to switch its configurations, sometimes playing solo pieces and other times playing in duo, trio, quartet, or even quintet formation, pushing the boundaries of chamber music to exciting new lengths.

Each member of the group has excelled in his or her field of study, participating in programs at the most prestigious of music schools including the Julliard School, Yale and Stanford Universities and Tokyo's Toho School of Music, to name a few. In addition to their academic accomplishments, in 2001 the Proteus Ensemble was named the Aspen Music Festival's Contemporary Ensemble. After its three-year residency in Colorado, the band continued to tour across the country, landing performances in many states, from Texas to Connecticut to

Oregon. In January of 2006, the band will make its Lincoln Center debut as part of the Great Performers Series. The quintet will also play the finale of Hamilton College's Classical Connections Series and at

funding for a joint project from Chamber Music America," says Barnard, who spoke with the Beacon recently. "I sent them a CD of some of my recent compositions. They liked it and agreed to pursue the funding."

ture through music. In addition to the free daytime performances, the series will also present a set of evening concerts at 7 p.m. at McGarvey Commons, beginning on Nov. 4 with a performance by Indian vocalist Kiran



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Proteus Ensemble pose with their instruments. They will appear in the McGarvey Commons soon.

Manhattan's Austrian Cultural Institute, both in April of 2006. Besides performing live across the country, the Proteus Ensemble is currently commissioning a project with Penn State Erie's own professor, composer and Director of the Music at Noon Series, Daniel Barnard. "Proteus and I have applied for

While the results were supposed to be announced in September, Barnard and Proteus are still waiting for an answer from the commissioning program. "They are notoriously late in announcing it," Barnard says. Now in its sixteenth year, the Music at Noon Series continues to celebrate diversity and cul-

Ahluwalia. Tickets can be purchased for these evening events online via the Penn State Erie website. Until then, you can catch the Proteus Ensemble next Wednesday at McGarvey Commons in the Reed Union Building.

Bluetooth Truth

Dear ASCII,
What is a Bluetooth virus, and why do they spread like viruses in humans?
-Bluetoothless

Dear Bluetoothless,

Just like real viruses - the biological ones - only affect certain species, computer viruses only affect certain types of computers. Some viruses only attack computers running the e-mail program Outlook, like the "Love Bug" of a few years ago. Most viruses only invade one operating system, like Windows, Macintosh, or Unix. Bluetooth viruses target computers and other electronic devices with Bluetooth capabilities. So far Bluetooth viruses only infect cell phones.

Bluetooth is a protocol which allows devices to communicate with each other wirelessly, eliminating the need for a cable. You can use Bluetooth to type text-messages on your laptop keyboard that will be sent by your phone. But Bluetooth has a very limited range: about ten meters (32 feet.) Because of this limit, you would have to bring your cell phone into the same room as the laptop to get them to talk to each other through Bluetooth.

The range is also the reason why Bluetooth viruses spread like biological viruses. With both types, one needs to come close to someone (or something) infected to catch a virus. Now when you ride the subway, you have to worry about the little kid who keeps sneezing on you, and the loud guy shouting into his cell phone. The kid could give you the flu, the cell phone could erase your hard disk.

Bluetooth viruses have largely been confined to cities. Because of their limited range and the lower density of Bluetooth-enabled devices in rural areas, it's harder for them to spread there. They have jumped continents though, probably the same way the flu does: on a trans-Atlantic flight from London to New York.

Cabir, the first and most wide-spread Bluetooth virus, does nothing more than change the the screen you see when you turn on your cell phone and drain your cell phone battery by constantly trying to spread to other devices. It only affects phones running the Symbian Operating System (Nokia, Panasonic, Sony, Motorola, and others all have phones running Symbian.)

Bluetooth viruses are probably less of a threat than any other sort of virus, as most people keep far less information on their cell phone than on their computers. However, we may have a significant problem if a virus arises that can jump from cell phone to PDA to laptop. Fortunately, such sophisticated viruses are very hard to write, and are therefore quite uncommon.

Do you have a computer question? Then Ask ASCII! Send an e-mail to lws118@psu.edu with "Ask ASCII" in the subject line, and you may see your question in next week's paper.