

Dear Nittany: Advice for the Forlorn and Irritated

A New Regular Column for *The Capital Times*

Dear Nittany,

I'm a senior and I'm facing a dilemma. I've been so busy lately that I haven't had time for a relationship. Last week, I met a guy at a party and was very interested. I found out later, though, that he's significantly younger than me (I'm 24, he's 20). Although my friends tell me he's interested, I'm having trouble getting over this age gap. Everyone tells me I'm being foolish because I'm passing up this great guy. Help!

-Cradle Robber

Dear Cradle Robber,

Go for it! Age is just simply overrated in relationships. A person's traits and qualities cannot be dictated by age. There should not be a problem unless it is a problem for you. If you expect him to accompany you to the bars, then that may be a dilemma. But if you are content with hanging out and spending time together, then there is no age limit on how much fun you can have!

Dear Nittany,

I have been going out with my boyfriend for six months, I know he's the one. The problem is he lives an hour away from school and 1 1/2 hours away from my hometown. Over the summer I know we will not see each other, he says things will be okay. How can I make him understand it's not that simple?

-AT&T Stockholder

Dear AT&T,

Speaking from my own experience, I know that love can conquer all. Distance is only physical space. Your love goes beyond all physical boundaries and space. You will still be able to visit on weekends and talk occasionally on the phone. This new shift of your relationship will test the strength of it and will be able to let you know for sure if he's the one. Each of you will put your confidence in trust - which is virtually the backbone of stable relationships.

Dear Nittany,

There is a very annoying person in one of my classes. To make things worse, he is in three of my classes. He talks non-stop and is totally obnoxious. I actually feel bad for him because I believe he has no friends. How can I dodge him without being mean?

-Not a Mean Bone In My Body

Dear Not a Mean Bone,

I don't know how to say it any simpler - JUST IGNORE HIM. If you cannot be nice to him, then do not sit near him during your class. If he talks to you, try and limit the conversation. It's a touchy situation, one that cannot be mistaken for sympathy.

Dear Nittany,

My boyfriend's ex-wife is causing him problems. I think I should stay out of their problems but he seems to want me involved. I don't want to get between them (she's not exactly a friend of mine, but she is an acquaintance). What should I do?

-Stuck In The Middle

Dear Stuck In The Middle,

In the long run, I believe you should stay out their problems. You should be supportive of your boyfriend and listen to his problems, but do not become a go-between, or a messenger. If you try to communicate with his ex-wife, you are placing yourself in unwanted territory. Acknowledge his problems and be there as a supportive ear.

"Dear Nittany" is a new addition to the paper. You can drop a letter to our advice columnist several ways: We have a mailbox in the Student Activities Office, as well as on our door, at W-341. Letters can also be sent for the column via e-mail at captimes@psu.edu.

How Did Ali Do? A brief overview

Overall, Ali did pretty well in picking the winners of this year's Oscars. He was not, however, foolproof.

Ali picked the best actress (Jessica Lange), Supporting Actor (Martin Landau), Supporting Actress (Dianne Wiest), Makeup (*Frankenstein*), and Sound Effects Editing (*Speed*) correctly.

He lost his shirt, however, on the Best Actor (picking John Travolta over Tom Hanks), Director (Tarantino, instead of Robert Zemeckis), Visual Effects (Ali, *The Mask?*), and Foreign Film (going with *Eat Drink Man Woman* over *Burnt By The Sun*).

We'll give him a "C" for accuracy, but an "A" for research and effort. And don't worry, you'll get a chance to redeem yourself next year. If only you hadn't loved *Pulp Fiction* so much.

Watch out, it'll be here soon...

The next issue of the *Capital Times*, that is. And here are just a few of the stories you'll have to look forward to gracing the pages:

- Record reviews by Joe Cawley and Ali Pirinccioglu
- A look into food services, and the meal choices on campus for Fall '95
- Where your Vehicle Registration money goes
- SGA Updates: What they're doing, and why
- More Dear Nittany
- Sexuality class on campus
- Graffiti in men's bathrooms; an update
- The new provost

And remember, it's the NEW *Cap Times*: Tastes great, less filling, with no sacred cows. The controversy continues.

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