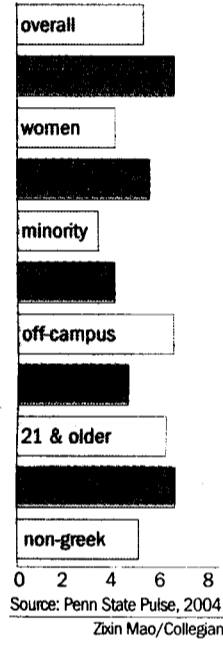


the LINE

A weekly look at love, dating and everything in between

Average numbers of drinks consumed when 'partying'



Write In
Send your responses, letters or questions for advice to the Collegian at thefineline@psu.edu. Any submissions should be less than 200 words and include your phone number for verification.

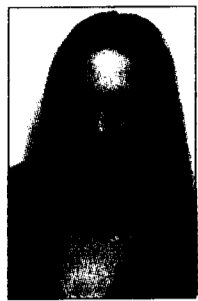
SHE SAID

For love and beer

Sometimes she's just in it for the drink, not the man

I THINK WE ALL KNOW that girls have the upper hand when it comes to partying.

I'm not saying it's right, but every girl can recall a time when she went out on a limb to secure a brew. By pairing our uncanny talent for flirtation with the art of persuasion, we girls are left with the ability to get anything that we want.

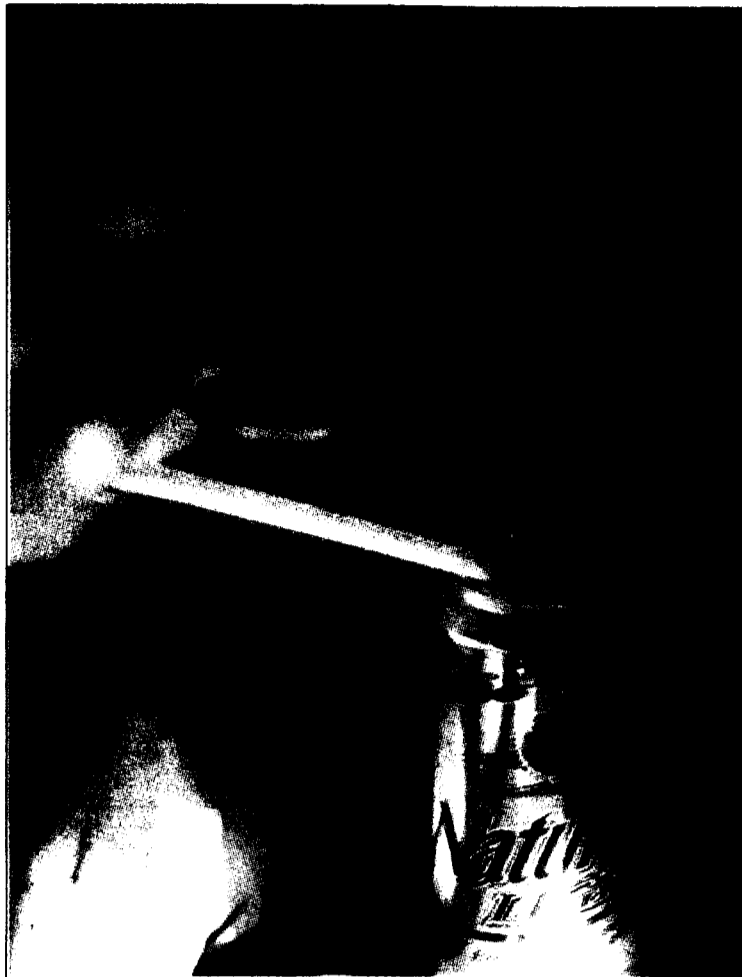


Brady Dollard

Just this weekend I found myself in a situation which called for my expertise in this area. A few of my friends and I rolled up to a party where the line for the keg stretched on forever.

I didn't even want to think about waiting that long for beer, let alone actually do it. So, I scoped out the scene and spotted a perfect candidate for operation Get Brady Beer. I struck up a conversation, making a point to comment on his Yankees hat, letting him know that I, too, am a fan of the best baseball team ever.

I explained to him that I was simply too parched to wait in line, and within minutes, I had this boy filling my cup and bringing it to me on the couch where I was waiting with my girls. All it took was a few friendly words and an effortless wink to solve



Kristen Perkins/Collegian Photo Illustration

When the world seems to shine like you've had too much wine...that's amore.

my problem of the moment. At a bar, frat, or house party, the same rules apply.

At a frat, boys spend crazy money on beer and parties which will only be successful if

there are enough girls in attendance. So we go to these parties, obligation free, and by using our keen ways, we get can beer all night, enjoy ourselves and let the boys take care of everything.

The same standard applies to the way in which girls acquire drinks when they are out on the town. At a bar, a little eye contact can go a long way in the intoxication department. Once a girl is looking good, and her charm switch is turned on, she has nothing to worry about.

I know that guys don't want to hear this, and that most girls don't want to admit it, but plainly put, girls use random guys for drinks and make them think that it will pay off at the end of the night.

These random guys know that they are being used to a certain extent but sometimes are not aware that these girls have ruled them out before the first wink is exchanged. They think that the girl's flirtatious acts combined with the alcohol they supply will ultimately lead to a late night escapade.

Sorry to break it to you guys, but most of the time, we are not interested in any such thing. Usually we are just guilty of leading guys on in order to access their resources. By the end of the night, the guy is sure he has secured a little lovin', but we are sure that we've secured a good drunk and are ready to go home...alone.

So, fellas, the next time you spot a hot girl at the bar and decide to buy her a drink, remember that you are paying for some liquor and not a ticket to go downtown.

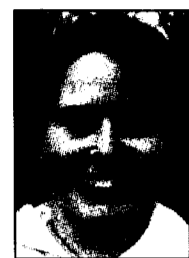
Brady Dollard is a sophomore majoring in marketing and a Collegian columnist. Her e-mail is bzd109@psu.edu.

VOICES

How do you think alcohol affects relationships, dating or meeting people in college?

"Sometimes you meet people you wouldn't consider good people. You can't really make informed decisions when you're drunk"

Tia Gamble
senior- industrial engineering



"I have a lot of friends who have been cheated on when their boyfriends

were drunk, because they didn't know what they were doing. When you drink, you really aren't yourself."

Jenny Storch
sophomore- human development and family studies



"[Alcohol] screws things up because it makes you stupid. Things come

out that you'd normally keep quiet, and you say them outloud."

Ben Burgoyne
junior- architectural engineering



"You usually meet people at parties and it's easier to talk to people, but alcohol

facilitates relationship violence."

Laura Chessio
sophomore- psychology

"People act differently when alcohol is involved. Some people may be more loud and outgoing and can meet people easier. People are less shy."

Stephanie Zendlock
sophomore- nutrition

— Compiled by Rachel Loeb
— Photos by Daniel Freeli

HE SAID

Ladies prove teamwork gets job done

LIKE A RAVENOUS HYENA, she watches her prey.

She watches as he walks to the bar. She watches as he gets a drink. She watches as he spills the drink all over himself.

She's hooked. So she gets on her cell phone and calls the brigade over: "Girls, I need back-up. I've got a live one."



Chris Muller

The unsuspecting male does not realize he is now the target of the pack. The ladies put on their game faces and spring into action.

"Like, oh my god, do you see my friend over there? She thinks you're so hot — you should go talk to her!"

I think the ladies are really onto something with this concept. Girls use the more cunning, and frankly, the more effective strategy.

When girls get a hold of alcohol — usually in the form of extra-sweet berry yummy-gummy schnapps — they always employ the same snare tactics. The "A" team assembles, much to the surprise of the unsuspecting male, and slowly closes in on him.

When guys drink, however, they turn into lone wolves. They go for the gold with their chosen female target of the evening, or more accurately, the girl they have been eyeing up for the last 10 minutes.

And so begins the courting process — the "wanna-be-my-pong-partner-even-though-I-won't-remember-your-name-10-minutes-from-now?" process. Alcohol flips the script of the classic idea of the tried-and-true dating game.

I think the ladies are really onto

something with this concept. Girls use the more cunning, and frankly, the more effective strategy. The pack mentality prevents people from choosing a mate that may result in taking the walk of shame the next morning, rather than the stride of pride.

They attack their mark with military precision that cannot be matched by mere lazy-ass guys. We're only using slingshots, while the girls fire the heavy artillery. I guess we really just don't care enough to try that hard.

Plus, we want to have ammo to make fun of our compadres. We'll make sure to give our grinning seal of approval if one of our buddies asks for an opinion on a not-so-flattering girl. Trust me, I've been there giving words of fake encouragement and a hearty thumbs-up to one of my unfortu-

nate pals who's hitting on Chewbacca. This is why we try to pursue a lady by ourselves — we can't trust our friends to have our backs.

As the fairer sex, it's in ladies' nature to help their friends. Us? We'd rather have a hilarious story for the next morning.

Another bonus to the pack mentality is the lessening of the effects of beer goggles. Normally, if a girl is making a play for a guy that isn't up to par, the rest of her team will remove her from harm's way. Girls are good wingladies like that.

So here's the bottom line guys: It's time for us to stop looking for a good laugh and start looking out for each other. The girls here do it, and so should we. Yeah, it's great when your buddy makes an ill-advised hookup, but as I always say, it's all fun and games until you wake up next to a Wookiee.

Chris Muller is a sophomore majoring in Journalism and is a Collegian columnist. His e-mail is cmm457@psu.edu.

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