

Campus Voice

Question

How would you most like to spend your Valentine's Day?

by Vail Weller and Nanette Quatchak
Entertainment Editors

photos by Sandi Inman



Dave Kravetz
5th semester
English

"Indulging in nothingness with another ethereal body; intertwining indefinitely."



Doug Zimmerman
6 years
Basketball Coach

"I'd like to spend it with my family. I'll probably be out recruiting or some crazy thing."



Jen Blakeslee
4th semester
English

"I'd like to spend it hanging out with my friends or going out for a nice dinner."



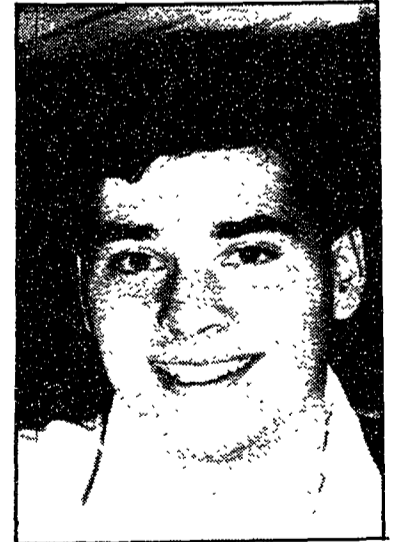
Amy Drake
2nd semester
Management

"With a boyfriend, I guess."



Ed Deguzman
4th semester
Management

"I'd like to spend it with my ex-girlfriend back home. I'd take her out anyplace she'd want, have a dozen roses sent to her, and have a good time with her."



David Gurska
6th semester
Management

"I'd spend it on the couch watching basketball games on ESPN with my girlfriend, or if Randy Baughman and Chris Viscuso asked me to go over to the coach's house with them for dinner, I'd go."

Greed: Valentine's Day Exposed

by Mark Owens
Collegian Staff Writer

Note: This column is written in the spirit of fun and should *not* be taken as a serious look at the sad state of affairs in male/female relationships (which have been commercialized and mutated to the point that they are used to market toothpaste) and cause hoards of Harlequin romance book readers to have me beaten, given 1,000,000 papercuts and dunked in lemon juice, tarred and feathered and married to Geraldo Rivera. Thank you.

Valentine's Day is a holiday that brings out the best in mankind: greed, sloth, selfishness and many other fine attributes, as exemplified in *The Exorcist*.

I know this comes as a shock to most of you, as you grew up thinking of Valentine's Day as a celebration of love, friendship and candy. I'm sorry, but it is my civic duty to expose Valentine's Day for what it is.

First of all, look at the symbol. It's a heart with an arrow thrust through it. Real romantic, huh?

Then there's the gift giving (as if Christmas wasn't bad enough). Gifts aren't given, they are extorted.

Depicted here is a typical conversation between you and your Significant Other (S.O.):

S.O.: You know, valentine's Day is coming up soon.

You: (totally engrossed in that Highly Educational television show "Masters of Bass Fishing") Mmm.

S.O.: (in a slightly irritated tone) It's only a couple of weeks away!

You: Mmm.
S.O.: (Really upset) Mary was telling me what she thinks Joe is going to get her and it sounds really wonderful!!

You: Mmm.

S.O.: (shoving your TV and deep-sea fishing pole up your left nostril) I'M REALLY CURIOUS AS TO WHAT I MIGHT GET FOR VALENTINE'S DAY AND I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT GIVE ME A, YOU KNOW, HINT!!

Men are made to feel guilty if they don't get their mate a gift.

Actually, guilty is a small understatement. "Dregs Of Low-Life Humanity With The Intelligence Of An Ox And The Odor To Match" is more accurate.

If you think I'm kidding, look in Roget's Thesaurus under "greed." One of the synonyms is "cupidity." Where do you think

we get "cupid" from, huh?

To drive this point home, here is an incident that happened to me:

While in high school I was dating a girl and forgot to buy her a carnation. You remember those - the maroon-colored flowers that looked like cauliflower from outer space and died 3.7 seconds after the recipient got them.

Anyway, by lunchtime she realized that I had forgotten. So in the cafeteria, occupied by approximately the entire population of New Orleans during Mardi Gras, she stood up on a chair, striking a pose similar to Moses with the 10 Commandments (feet apart, eyes blazing, lightning crackling across the sky), and called me, in a really loud voice, "a waste of red blood cells." I think I'd rather have been quietly shot.

I don't mean to be sexist, but I think men have a different attitude towards Valentine's Day than women. I'm pretty sure that most guys would rather be

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sleeping, watching TV or shooting harmless woodland creatures than shopping for gifts.

I say that because guys do not possess the Shopping Gene. We have no idea what to get girls for Valentine's Day. Are candy and flowers too stale? Is jewelry appropriate? Can I get that moose head stuffed in time?

To avoid the common occurrence of men running up to store clerks screaming "AAAAAAHHHHHHHHH!! HELP ME!! IT'S VALENTINES DAY AND I DON'T HAVE A GIFT FOR...HER!! (breaks down into gut wrenching sobs).

I have answered several common questions below:

Q- My girl has hay fever. Should I get her flowers?
A- Ronco makes a wonderful bunch of wax & polyurethane flowers \$19.95. The bunch comes in three colors: Red, White and Industrial Grey.

Q- Who is that silhouette couple on every other #™£-§-@!! card in the store? It's not me and what's-her-face!
A- Madonna and an unidentified wino.

Q- I saw this really nifty ring advertised during "The Bruce Lee & Great Grand Nephew of Godzilla Hour." Should I buy it for my sweetie?
A- No.

Q- But it's a really nifty ring! It's got a huge 9.7 metric

ton Cubic Zirconium gem surrounded by 12 multi-colored Dimonelles!

A-No.

Q- It's also layered in 14 carat gold!

A- Alright buy it! But if she turns green, develops scales and attacks you with a cheese grater, don't say I didn't warn you.

Q- Should I get my wife the camouflage mosquito net teddy that I saw in Field & Stream?

A- Only if it comes with lures and insect repellent.

One more thing guys. Make sure whatever you buy is the biggest and best you can find (notice I didn't say afford, as you are expected to take out a loan), because if her best friend gets something better, you are a dead man!

Of course, times are changing and men are starting to receive gifts. Here are a couple hints on buying gifts for men:

Flowers - Unless your significant other is Merrill Olson, this is a little tricky. Most guys don't know what to do with flowers, unless they're giving them to women. In that case, they somehow manage to drop them in something sticky before they hand them to you.

Candy - This will be given to their little brother.

Jewelry - Ask first if he's not Mr. T.

Cologne - No! They'll get enough of that and ugly ties when they're fathers.

Sports Illustrated - If it's the swimsuit issue, go ahead. If not, save it for Christmas.

In fact, most guys don't need gifts. Just being with someone that they really care about is enough for them. But, if you really want to trip their trigger get them a new car. I know I could use one.

One last thing - Respect singles. They are that way by choice or the fact that someone else had better stuff (car, clothed, house, body, ect.) and don't need the aggravation.

The movie *Some Kind Of Wonderful* reminded me of this fact. I heard more "Oh Martha!" and "Oh Exavier!"'s in two hours than I have in the last three years. It even had the Standard Romance Movie Plot:

Boy meets Girl, Girl thinks he's the Dweeb from Hell, Boy convinces Girl to go out with him, Boy meets another Girl & fools around, Girl (it doesn't matter which one, does it?) dumps Boy, Whatever is left over walks of with the Boy into the sunset (and hopefully are hit by an ENORMOUS Waste Management truck).

It's braced me for V-Day. It's only 24 hours and maybe I'll even get some cauliflower.