

Features

A dating pep talk for the coming spring season



Laura Truman
columnist

Have you ever noticed the dating extravaganza? It occurs every single spring like clockwork. Thus, coincidentally, while the flowers are being pollinated, so are the people (so to speak). The weather gets warmer, and the people do too, and everybody makes nice with everybody else.

What I want to know is why some of us are left holding the bag, while the rest of you are out there trying people on for size (or for personality, if that's your thing). Don't get me wrong, I know that everybody needs their share of attention, and everyone's hormones are in full swing, and trust me, I'm proud of each and every one of you for it. My real problem is this: Why do the girls who already have boyfriends get all of the attention?

Look at it this way. All of you guys out there chasing a girl who's

already taken? Wasting your time. If you've been stalking a couple instead of a single girl, this should be your first clue to turning your attention towards a new and improved object of affection, not to mention getting a new hobby, period.

Here's another hint: She's not with you, is she? If the answer to this question is no, get yourself another dream girl. There's plenty of us out there willing to totally reject you for reasons other than having a boyfriend. And who knows? We may even like you. But how will you know unless you take that chance?

Come on fellas, look around. There are smart, funny, beautiful women all over this campus just waiting for you to giggle like a schoolgirl when they pass by. Don't disappoint them.

And ladies, I didn't mean to

leave you out, but I have to tell you, you're guilty of the same thing. I myself have even been known to chase after a man who was already claimed. But it is pointless, and, frankly, embarrassing to pursue something that you just can't have. Why not smile at that single guy next to you in class? If you're not sure whether he is or isn't, give it a shot anyway. Take a chance.

Look, I know you're scared, but nobody out there is going to bite you (unless you're into that). I'm scared, too. Just the other day, I was at Blockbuster Music, and I saw this really choice guy working there. I asked him if he had the CD I wanted, where the international music was. I even asked him if I could use the bathroom, anything to get his attention. I walked around that damn store for an hour deciding how I was going to ask him out, and then I choked and pulled out at the

last second (figuratively speaking). This was a mistake. I could have just missed out on the opportunity of a lifetime, and why? Exactly. You can't answer that question any better than I can.

What I'm trying to say is, what's the worst that could happen? Nothing that leaves permanent facial scars.

So forge ahead to your potential nearest and dearest. Don't let

yourself be intimidated by the beautiful and talented.

And don't restrict yourself to safety procedures either, i.e., going to coffee "just as friends." Go on real dates with real people you are really attracted to. Get to know them. Ask them about their past, their future, their day, whatever. Tell them how much you like their eyebrows, or their creative use of profanity in everyday

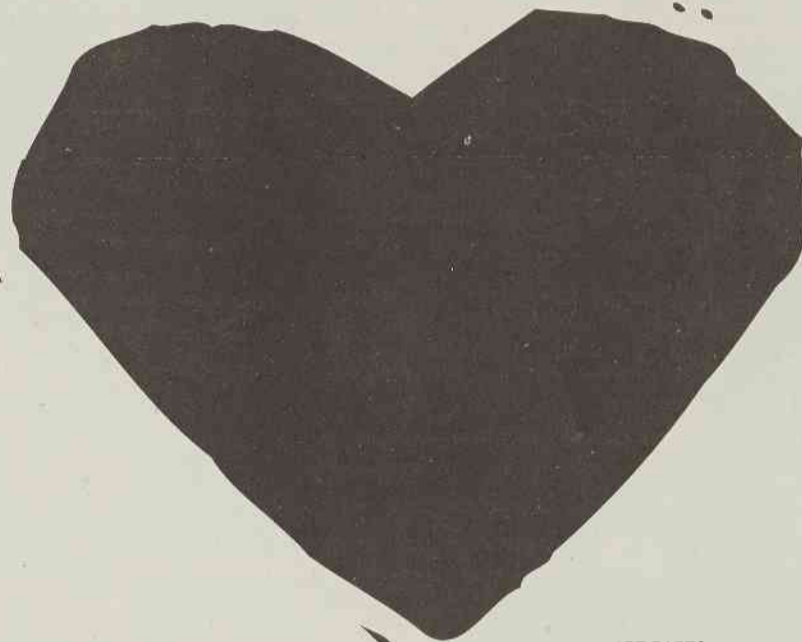
language.

Watch for the Natalie Merchant look-alikes and the Vince Vaughn wannabes of the world. Talk to them, and see what happens. Maybe they'll smack you, maybe they'll give you a Pepsi. Maybe they'll just stand there and pick their nose, maybe they don't even know English. But do it anyway, if only just to tell your friends you did.

By the way, here is a special interjection pertinent to all of you matchmakers, especially ex's who want to set up their ex's. Don't-with a capital D. Wasn't there a reason that you broke up with them in the first place? Aren't they still the psychos you once thought they were? Don't think that just because they're not dating you anymore they've suddenly become date worthy for your friends. Playing matchmaker is like building a volcano for the seventh grade science fair. You put too much into it, and it blows up and makes a big slimy mess all over the floor.

The important thing to remember is to look at everyone you meet in a whole new light. We're all prospects, we're all potential, and even if we're not, we have potential to be prospects.

So boys, pull on your best khakis and tousle your hair. Girls, strap on your sandals and your cargo skirts. And in the immortal words of Julie Brown, "Get out there and have fun!"



ART PARTS

FYI

For Your Information

april 1
thru
april 8

UNCA

FYI is a service of the Student Activities and Student Affairs offices.

FYI is published each Thursday. Deadline to submit information is Friday at noon, for the following week's publication. Next deadline is 4/2. Send basic information to The Banner, c/o Ad Manager, CH 208A or S. McDonald, HC 27. See FYI on Banner Online at www.unca.edu/banner/fyi.

academic notices

- Undergraduate Research - Final Deadline for Journal papers, KH 126 • 4/2
- Academic Advising begins for Fall 1999 Semester • 4/5-4/16
- NCUR '99, Univ. of Rochester, NY • 4/7-4/10
- Study Abroad Information, HC 31 (x5037)
- Interlibrary Loan Requests for books or photocopies on the Web - RL homepage <http://bullpup.lib.unca.edu/library/forms/ill.html>
- Peer Tutors Needed - All majors, (x6417)

athletics

- Baseball vs. Coastal Carolina (DH), GF • Noon, 4/3: 1pm, 4/4
- Baseball vs. NC A&T, 3pm, GF • 4/6

career opportunities/jobs

- Resume Reviews - call to schedule appt. (x6515) • Mondays, 10am-12; Wednesdays, 2-3pm; Thursdays, 10am-12pm

concerts/live entertainment

- Strut '99 - Fashion Show & Live Music (by ISA & AASA), 7pm, LH • 4/7
- Life In General (Rock), 9pm, HC Lounge, Free • 4/9

etc.

- Graduate Salute, 10am-7pm, HC Lounge • 4/1
- Chancellor Candidates - Dr. Harris, 3:30pm, OCC • 4/1
- Funds available for special programs 99-2000 school year - proposals to Cultural & Special Events Committee, HC 27 • 4/16
- Study Break, (karaoke), 9pm, HC • 4/6
- Daylight Savings Time begins • 4/4
- Student AA Group, 6:30-8pm, KH 006 (x6868) • Every Sunday
- Escorts to or from any area on campus by Dept. of Public Safety, call x6710 or use Yellow Call Box at Vance Hall
- Mediation Center Retreat (4/24), 12-6:30pm, HotSprings, Free (x5120, HFC 210) • sign up by email: mediate@unca.edu by 4/22
- Walk America - March of Dimes, 9am, City-County Plaza, join the UNCA contingent of walkers, pick up sponsor card in WHC Helath & Fitness Dept. (x6513) • 4/24
- Faculty Senate Meeting, 3:15pm, RL Red Oak Room • 4/8
- 8-ball Tournament (sign up at HC Info Desk 3/29-4/7) prizes • play begins 4/12

exhibits

- Ali Lingerfelt Tait Exhibition, "Liminal Series I: The Threshold of the House", Univ. Gallery, 1st floor • thru 4/13
- Melissa Schuler, Photo Exhibit, "Fluid", 2nd floor Gallery • thru 4/13
- "Women In Their Nests", photos by Mary Jo Brezny and Margaret Ann Hogue, RL • thru 4/3
- Vessels of the Spirit (handmade books & sculptural structures) by Susan Lightcap, RL • thru 4/2
- Ashley Goins Photo Exhibit, 2nd floor Gallery, OH (opening reception 6:30pm) • 4/2-4/15

film

- "The Truman Show", 8pm, HC Lounge, free • 4/2

leadership opportunities

- "Personality Type and Leadership with Kerri Day Keller, 4:45-6pm, PDR (Dinner provided free) (x6588) • 4/7
- Resource Library - outside HC 37
- Student Activities Intern positions available for 99-2000, applications outside HC 27 (x6669) • due 4/23

lectures/workshops/seminars

- "Why I Became an Activist" by Wilma Dykeman, author, historian, 2pm, Laurel Forum (x6808) • 4/6
- Economic Crystal Ball Seminar "The Business and Financial Outlook thru 2000: State, Nat'l and Internat'l Implications", 7pm, OCC (x6550) • 4/8

organizations/special programs

- People & Animals video: "Where the Red Fern Grows", 2pm, RL 09 (spon. by Psi Chi) • 4/3
- Social Life Task Force Funds for events, applications in HC 27 (x6674) • 4/7
- "Strut '99 - Fashion Show, 7pm, LH Aud. (spon. by AASA & ISA) • 4/7
- Student Organization Committee Mtg. 6pm, HC Lounge • 4/7

outdoor activities (sign up in HC)

- Plant & Tree ID Trip - hiking with botanist in Madison Cty (includes edible plants) \$10, limited space • 4/3
- Rental equipment - mountain bikes, backpacks, tents, sleeping bags, maps
- Day Hike, Shining Rock Wilderness area, \$2 (includes transportation) • 4/11
- Low Impact Camping Trip, \$15 (includes transportation, food, guide) • 4/16-4/17
- Roll Sessions, 7pm, JC Pool • every Wednesday
- Interested in working outdoors? - check Bulletin Board in HC

tickets-discounts-hc27-10am to 4pm

- Kirk Franklin - The Nu Nation Tour (\$20) Ashe. Civic Ctr. • 4/9
- Charlotte Hornets - 4/2 - \$13
- Movie tickets to local United Artists theatres - \$4
- Carowinds - \$22
- Asheville Art Museum - \$1
- Biltmore House - \$22
- Asheville Tourists (4/26) - \$1.00

volunteer opportunities - HC office - 251-6588

- Fresh Air Fund (free summer vacation to youngsters from New York City) counselors & ropes course staff needed - small stipends available
- Asheville Art Museum - tour volunteers
- Health Adventure - help with "The World of Peter Rabbit: The Art & Science of Beatrix Potter"