

be mine

VALENTINE'S DAY 1995



Feminine Fancies also has undies for men, like these that feature a whistle.

Showing your love

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Lingerie, love potions and sexy playthings enhance the enjoyment of Valentine's Day for lovers. Throughout the year, local lingerie shops offer customers selections that match their wedding needs, special undergarment fittings and fun-loving apparel.

But Valentine's Day reigns supreme as a special time of year when couples entertain their innermost fantasies.

The gamut of local lingerie shops runs from those catering to classic elegance, playfulness and the risqué. Each shop emphasizes in its own unique manner the tastes and expectations of the customers.

After entering Kathy Bradley's Feminine Fancies in the 5th & Pearl Building, the immediate scents of roses and vanilla potpourri flood the senses. Bradley has made her shop, which carries silk gowns, teddies and even glow-in-the-dark body paints, an inviting place, where couples can come to find ways to keep the fire in their relationship burning.

"This is what really keeps couples together," Bradley said. "Honeymoon for life. Things to keep things interesting."

During the Valentine's Day season, shops see an increase in the number of men buying lingerie for women. At Feminine Fancies, Bradley said there's a 60-40 ratio of men to women. This reverses back throughout the remainder of the year.

"There are so many different personalities in lingerie. There's something to fit everybody, from the conservative to the exhibitionist," Bradley said.

Exhibitionism isn't quite what can be found at For Your Eyes Only, located at 2727 Willamette. Manager Wendi Stan will be the first to say her store sells noth-



Sherry Rainey and her sister Jenny Rainey choose gifts for their men.



Sherry Rainey gets dressed for Valentine's Day. All lingerie shown available at Feminine Fancies.

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Valentine's Day is worthless since we don't get the day off



CHRIS METZ

There aren't too many holidays out there that make as little sense as Valentine's Day.

Officially, holidays aren't cool unless you get a day off. Labor Day doesn't mean much to me other than the fact that I get to lounge around, drink Kool Aid and basically spend the day not working or going to school.

I'm not sure what benefit I receive from President's Day either, but I sure know how damn much fun it is not to work or go to school that day as well.

So every year, Valentine's Day just kind of sneaks up on us. You really don't even know it's coming until those awful, chalky heart candies flood the supermarkets.

When you were a kid, Valentine's Day was pretty cool. You got to make those jazzed up boxes, and if you were really lucky, someone

would give you the mother of all candy — the Sweettart. But even in the childhood years, Valentine's Day was still scarred by its ultimate reality — you still didn't get the day off.

I guess Valentine's Day is comparable to Mother's Day or Father's Day. It's kind of a sad commentary on our society when we have to force ourselves to show the people most important to us that we give a rip about the things that they do for us.

I am, however, a big proponent of paying the parents a tribute. I don't know about anybody else's mom, but mine rules. Thus, I have no problem buying a card, cooking a meal and showing my respect. But this whole Valentine's deal is enough to really make me mad.

First, it always seems to fall on a Tuesday or a Wednesday. Now if you had the whole day off, at least you could plan something worth-

while — going to Wonderland comes to mind.

Second, Valentine's Day inspires all the already bad sitcoms to dedicate whole shows to something cheesy. And if you're one of the poor bastards who doesn't have a sweetheart to spend the night with, you're forced to watch that kind of junk.

I've seen both sides of the whole dating thing when the dreaded day falls. Some of my best Valentine's Days have been spent as a member of the few, the lucky — the single crowd.

Actually, I take that back because I can't really remember any Valentine's Days because they weren't very exciting. On the other hand, I don't remember too many of them when I actually had someone to spend it with.

Valentine's Day represents all that's wrong

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