

Events offer fun for singles, too

Whether it's romance you seek or just plain fun, local activities offer something for everyone

By Helen Schumacher
for the Emerald

This year, Valentine's Day isn't necessarily for the romantic. Many of Eugene's Feb. 14 events have nothing to do with chocolates or flowers — instead they're focused on heavy metal and being single.

The Downtown Lounge is presenting "One-Night Stand." Described as "the Valentine's Day alternative" by club promoter Rocco, there will be a fashion show by Delphina's and Exclusively Adult. There will also be a performance by the Deadlines and prizes, including a vacation. Events

begin at 10 p.m. Women get in free, and men pay \$5.

Other anti-Valentine's Day events include a concert by heavy-metal rock band Slayer, playing at McDonald Theatre with a 7 p.m. door time for \$23. Elsewhere on the music scene, the WOW Hall will be hosting a punk rock concert. According to WOW Hall publicist Bob Fennessy, T.S.O.L., Agnostic Front, The Casualties and Blasphemous Abnormality will be playing. Doors open at 8 p.m. and the cover is \$12.

For people who are seeking something romantic, more traditional Valentine's Day activities are occurring around town as well. The Eugene Symphony will be playing a special "Valentine's Day Pops" show

at the Hult Center's Silva Hall at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$24 to \$30.

For those couples who already have plans and just need to buy a gift for that special someone, Saturday Market will be offering a Sweetheart Market this weekend. The artisans event runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

"It's our midwinter chance to buy a gift for a valentine," Saturday Market general manager Beth Little said. "There will be jewelry, chocolates, clothing, candles and stained glass."

The Sweetheart Market will take place in the auditorium building at the Lane County Fairgrounds. Admission and parking are free.

Helen Schumacher is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

Adult shops can jump start racy nights

Videos, lingerie and sensual paraphernalia — along with information and advice — can be found at intimate boutiques

By Emily Scriven
Oregon Daily Emerald

As Valentine's Day draws closer, florists and candy stores aren't the only ones seeing more business.

Employees at two local adult shops say they're experiencing more activity as well.

"We definitely see an increase in couples entering the store the night before and morning of Valentine's Day," said Chris Dodds of Exclusively Adult in Springfield.

Heather McWaid, assistant manager of Castle Super Store near Gateway Mall, agreed.

"The day before Valentine's

Day," she said, "is crazy with men who've forgotten."

Exclusively Adult carries a wide selection of lingerie in pink, white and red for the big day, Dodds said.

Castle Super Store also sees good business for undergarments.

"Lingerie is a big seller," McWaid said.

For couples, soft-core pornography and instructional videos tend to be extremely popular for Valentine's Day, both Dodds and McWaid said. McWaid suggested "Andrew Blake's Night Trips," or another all-time favorite, "Candida Royale's Sensual Escape."

McWaid and Dodds also recommended massage oils for a romantic night. The Kama Sutra line and the Tantric line are the two most popular choices, with a

minimal risk of allergic reactions, McWaid said. Dodds said Kama Sutra's "Raspberry Kiss" warming oil is one of Exclusively Adult's biggest sellers.

Another option is intimate board games. Exclusively Adult has a wide selection of games, such as "Bumps and Grinds" and "Wild and Sexy Dares."

Also popular are creams that claim to produce pleasure.

"Via" cream, guaranteed, arouses women's sexual response," McWaid said. "That's our most popular item right now. 'Oprah' and '20/20' both featured stories" on the doctor who invented the cream.

Both Dodds and McWaid said they rarely see students, however. Occasionally, they see groups of

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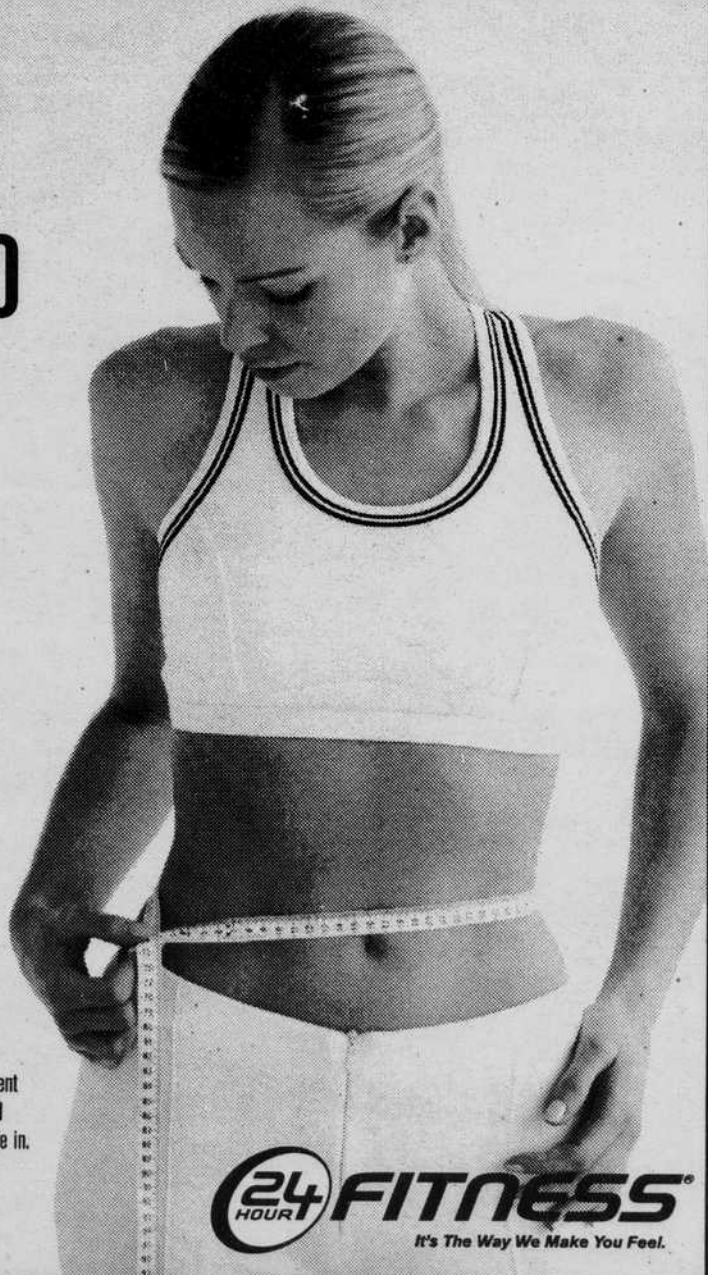
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