

# Students learn from Valentine's Day mistakes

Valentine's Day disasters taught several University students what not to do

By Aron Glatzer  
Freelance Reporter

Many memorable events will unfold Feb. 14, and at the University those events are shaped by many different types of personalities.

Sophomore Kit Seely said a key to the holiday is learning which ideas to implement in the future and which to never do again.

Spending money can be a major part of Valentine's Day.

"Get ready to grab the checkbook," junior Mike Walker said. "It's time to pull out all the stops."

A romantic meal is a good expenditure that sets the mood for an evening, senior Shane Morrison said.

"A Valentine's Day dinner does not consist of a Big Mac and fries; it consists of a Big Mac and super-sized fries," he said.

Often it is the bad experiences that teach the most memorable lessons about love. Breaking up with a boyfriend or girlfriend on Valentine's

Day doesn't bode well for friendship in the future, senior Amy Samuel said.

"I dumped my sixth-grade boyfriend, and he still won't talk to me to this very day," Samuel said.

Junior Jason Kranz has a different view of Valentine's Day relationships.

"Dumping a girl the day before Valentine's Day has saved me some serious guilt and cash," he said.

Gift mistakes can also ruin the day. University alumna Jen Knoop said buying a teddy bear for a girl may have worked in fourth grade but is considered tacky now.

"No teddy bears, I have six," Knoop

said. "Every guy thinks it's all about the bears; it's not."

Junior Laurie Craft said certain gifts should be tailored.

"Buying your significant other an engraved flask can be fun, just not a fifth of rum to go with it," Craft said. "I did both, and it didn't work out as well as planned."

Mistakes can occur in the gift-giving process as well, University alumna Gretchen Keebler said.

"One guy sent me flowers and a letter that reached Chi Omega instead of Alpha Chi Omega," Keebler said. "To

make matters worse, another Gretchen lived in Chi Omega at the time and received my gift before I did."

Seely said couples should not expect the holiday itself to make relationship problems disappear.

"My ex-boyfriend decorated my entire desk with flowers, candy and a card inside," she said. "However, flowers can't cover a card stating that it took kissing two girls I didn't know about for him to realize how much he cares for me."

Aron Glatzer is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

# Day serves as reminder to build relationships all year

Valentine's Day cues people to appreciate those closest

By Evan Cael  
Freelance Reporter

Feb. 14 is not only a day for romantic crooners and committed couples to prove their love. It can also

serve as a reminder to everyone of the importance of all relationships.

And if cupid has neglected his duties recently, worry not. Simply look around at fulfilling relationships of all kinds.

"They provide stability, emotional support, meaning, richness and vitality to my life," senior Misha Popenuk

said. "In the grand scheme, everything is meaningless except for friendship."

Popenuk added that interpersonal relationships enable a person to transcend the physical world and tap directly into the constant current that is flowing deep within all people.

Sophomore Jamie Yarbrough holds her relationships in the highest

esteem and understands the impact they all have on her.

"Every person you meet has an influence on your life, and the relationships you develop help mold you into the person that you become," she said.

Senior Maureen Sander acknowledges the importance of showing

appreciation to her friends in small ways she said matter most.

"Giving someone a big old hug is something fun to do," Sander said.

Carli Morgenstein, a journalism major, said she loves doing spontaneous acts to let her friends know how important they are to her.

"Some days I will buy a bunch of sunflowers and pass them out throughout the day to all my friends," she said. "Or once my friend was sad so I got him a little teddy bear to make him smile."

Evan Cael is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

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