

Students share Valentine's wishes

By: Jessica Martineau
Staff Writer



Remember when you were just a little kid at school, passing out your Hot Wheels and Barbie Valentine's cards, hoping to get one from that sweet boy or girl?

Well, we have come a long way since then, upgrading to flowers and romantic dates. Valentine's Day is when you try your best to make your girlfriend, boyfriend, or spouse feel special. I asked around to find out what kind of plans students were making for the holiday, and discovered some had wonderful ideas.

Katie Collins, a freshman, shared her wish for this particular day.

"I want my guy to take me for

a walk in the park," she said. "I want to play on the swing-set. As we are still sitting on the swings, I want him to take my hand, under the stars, and tell me he loves me for the first time."

One student turned out to be quite the surprising romantic.

"I definitely want white roses, red is so cliché," said Laken Lee, a high school senior dual-enrolled at JCJC. "I picture a white sheet tent on the beach with pink rose petals and candles everywhere. We would take pictures, and draw hearts in the sand by a small fire."

Like many of the people I spoke with, Jessica Dewitt just wants to be with her significant other on Valentine's Day.

"Well I have a new boyfriend

now so I guess my dream would be to spend the whole day with him without a bunch of friends around," she explained. "Maybe go see a good movie. I don't really have big dreams for Valentine's, but as long as I am with Tim I'll be happy."

One student, who wished to remain anonymous, had her ideal night planned from start to finish.

"He shows up at my door with yellow roses and chocolates in hand, then greets me with a kiss," she explained. "We would have a nice dinner at the house together. The rest of the night consists of snuggling up together on the couch and watching movies like 'Sleepless in Seattle' and 'You've Got Mail,' and snacking on the goodies he brought..."

This is probably one of the more simple and laid back nights planned for Valentine's, but meaningful nonetheless.

Even the guys know how to step up and think of something extra special for the 14th. Koby Easterling, a freshman, had a perfect day in mind.

"I would bring my lady donuts for breakfast and do the traditional chocolates and a picnic by the lake," he explained. "Then play her a song on my guitar and end it with a kiss."

Does that not sound like a wonderful time?

Not that I am taking a poll or judging anyone's style, but it seems as though the extravagant

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2009 offers huge cinema line-up

By: Lindsey Johnson
Entertainment Editor

Well the New Year is here and everyone is dying to know the scoop on the movies scheduled for release this year. Well, I have great news! Your own Jones County Junior College Radionian has the low down on the coolest movies of 2009! Are you ready?

There is a huge line-up for January and February in box offices all over the country! Box offices are booming with new movies that are sure to be a hit on everyone's list. Some movies that are scheduled for release in early 2009 include: "The Bride Wars" (rated PG),

"Hotel for Dogs" (PG), "My Bloody Valentine" (rated R), "He's Just Not That Into You" (PG-13), "Pink Panther 2" (PG), "Confessions of a Shopaholic" (PG), and "Friday the 13th" (Not yet rated).

This is only a preview of some of the major movies coming out, but this does not even begin to cover the number of movies lined up for early in the year. Later on, there are also tons of movies that do not yet have release dates. Some of these include: "The Brazilian Job" (aka "The Italian Job II"), "Dallas," "Master of Time and Space," "Tekken," "Ninja Assassin," "Eden Log," and "Clive Barker Presents: Hellraiser."

This summer is packed with movies that are sure to keep you busy on your vacation. When the sun gets too hot, roll down your windows in the car and ride on over to your nearest movie theater and check out these soon to be box office hits: "Star Trek," "Night at the Museum II: Escape from Smithsonian," "Hangover," "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen," and for all you Harry Potter Fans, the new movie's release date is July 17!

Later, toward the end of 2009, when the winter cold weather sets in, go check out these hot movies that will surely keep you warm: "Taking Woodstock," "Final Destination 4," "Daybreakers," "Fame," "Toy Story (3D)," "A

Christmas Carol," "Alvin and the Chipmunks: A Squeakuel," and speaking of sequels, two very large and exciting sequels are coming out at the end of the year. In October, just in time for Halloween, "Saw VI" debuts and a month later, "New Moon," the "Twilight" sequel opens on November 20!

Well, there you have it! As I said before, this is only a run-down of a few movies set to come out this year. All dates are subject to change, and if you want to check out any more movies or keep posted on release dates, check out boxoffice Mojo.com for all the information you may need for your movie-going enjoyment!

Inspiring greatness question of the month

By: Caleb Thompson, Staff Writer

What made you choose JCJC?

Name: Jessica Chapman
Age: 21
Hometown: Stonewall
Major: Music

"I wanted to get a quality education at an affordable price."



Name: Alyce Willoughby
Age: 19
Hometown: Moselle
Major: Liberal Arts

"I wanted to come to Jones not only because it was close to home, but also because of the close-knit community that surrounds every student."



Name: Eric Johnson
Age: 23
Hometown: Laurel
Major: Music

"JCJC has an outstanding music program. Jones is also close to home and just a fun school to attend."



Blackwell serves up mushy celeb love stories

By: Skylar Blackwell
Staff Writer

Hollywood is full of famous couples. Some of those couples are going strong and some are, of course on the verge of rocky breakups. So who exactly is getting hitched, divorced, or breaking up? Let's find out!

As many of you may know, Reese Witherspoon and heartthrob Jake Gyllenhaal have been dating for quite some time now. According to "E News," the couple could not be doing better. They were recently seen over the holidays at a Lakers game snuggling and smooching. They have also been

seen shopping and exercising together. Sounds like they have nothing to worry about. Another hot but somewhat odd couple that seems to be doing really well is Jenny McCarthy and Jim Carrey. According to "People" the two were seen vacationing in the great state of Hawaii on January 5. They were enjoying the sun and each other and seemed to be very happy. Jay-Z and Beyonce are, of course, doing fantastic. They are the power couple of our time, in my opinion.

So moving on to the odd couples of the moment. What is up with Miley Cyrus and her super cute model boyfriend, Justin Gatson? According to

"US Weekly" the two have been having outings and dates with Miley's parents. Wow, sounds fun! Yeah, right! An extremely odd couple that is somewhat new is Nicollette Sheridan and David Spade. The two seemed happy and together over the holidays in Las Vegas according to "People." Good luck to them!

In the past few months there have definitely been some relationship changes. Some of those changes were good and some maybe not so great. In the January 19 issue of "People" it was announced that "Dancing with the Stars" dancers Karina Smirnoff and Maksim Chmerkovskiy got engaged on New Year's Eve!

The talented couple is quoted as saying "everything is beautiful." Congrats to them! On the other end of the spectrum are Lindsey Lohan and Samantha Ronson. In the same issue of "People" it was reported that the couple who have been together for a year now, are struggling to keep their relationship together. They were said to have broken up and got back together. Guess we will see how that works out.

Well folks there is your latest news on the juicy relationships of all the hottest celebs. Some got together, some broke up, and some are getting married. One thing is for sure, they sure know how to make the headlines with their personal lives!

'Twilight' movie...bust or blockbuster?

By: Terrisha Buckley
Features Editor

Stephanie Meyer is now one of the most popular authors in the world. Her "Twilight" series has captured the minds and hearts of people young and old all over the world. Recently, with the release of the movie "Twilight," there has been a dramatic increase in the number of fans.

Before the movie, this series of books had an interesting twist. Most vampire/werewolf novels of today have the tendency to talk mainly about sex and blood. Most of the time, the humanity of the characters is often replaced with a fantasy world where cares and real issues are not known.

However, in "Twilight" the story actually has more to it. It tells the story using real-life situations and does not make light of certain issues. Although sex may be mentioned, it is not as outlandish as other novels present it.

Many of the new fans did not start reading the books until they knew what the characters would look like. As soon as Robert Pattinson hit the screens as Edward Cullen, fans went nuts. They were excited to see the movie, and most read the book just to be able to know what to look for in the movie.

However, there were several different reactions to the movie. For some of the fans, the movie

was a flop. It was not anywhere close to the book. Some of the dialogue was correct and the descriptions of the people matched. For me, the movie was a letdown.

For others it was a great movie. However, I think that most of these people were just star-struck by the British heartthrob. There is no denying his appeal; however, that does not make a good movie.

I do concede that as a movie on its own, it was great. If I had walked into the theater and never read the book, I would have fallen in love with it. Maybe those who didn't like the movie compared to the book are a little biased in their judgments. Honestly, when I

watched it there were some mixed emotions. Some of the things I noticed in the movie that were different from the book actually were parts that were good.

I think that we as fans sometimes become obsessed with one side of the equation. If we liked the book, we didn't like the movie. If we fell in love with the movie, we only read the book to see what would be in the movies.

Personally, I read the book because I thought it would be entertaining, and I watched the movie to compare it to the book. Lately, I have come to realize that it is not always that simple. Each one has something that I liked about them. I give both four platinum stars.

'My Bloody Valentine' terrorizes Pine Belt

By: Leanna Scott
Staff Writer

"My Bloody Valentine" hit local movie theaters in mid-January. Many theaters are showing this gruesome flick in 3D.

The movie, which was a remake of its original 1981 version, was slam packed with gory and jaw-dropping scenes.

The movie started out giving a history about the deranged and crazy serial killer who worked in the mining fields.

He killed his victims with a pick ax, while wearing his full mining mask and jump suit.

Flash-forward ten years later where the movie then picks up with the miner's "ghost" back on a killing rampage.

The twist to movie is that the so called "heart massacre"

happened on Valentine's Day.

All of victims and the killer were somehow connected, but I do not want to ruin the whole plot for eager people wanting to be terrorized.

I would compare this gruesome movie to "Saw" or "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre."

The suspense in the movie nearly drove me insane. Half of the time, I did not want to look at the big screen, but the loud suspenseful music and the gasps of people in the audience around me made me open my eyes to watch.

I am sure I startled many people around me by screaming and jumping around in my seat.

If you enjoy being on the edge of seat and screaming every once in a while, this nerve racking movie is just for YOU.

Valentine math: love + kisses + adoration = cards + flowers + candy

By: Leanna Scott
Staff Writer

Chocolate, flowers, cupid, "love-y-dovey" cards, and hearts are all associated with February 14, also known as Valentine's Day. Every February, across the country, gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine.

Some have mentioned that Valentine's Day is a holiday created by florists and card companies to boost their productivity and sales. Others believe in its history, Cupid, and love stories of the gods. However, many couples, old and young, will show their affection for one

another with elaborate gifts that usually cost a pretty penny. This so-called holiday seems a little too over-rated and superficial for people in their right minds to celebrate.

Some people seem to dread Valentine's Day because they often do not know what to buy for their special someone that says, "I love you" and is better than the previous year's gift. Why do we participate in such a superficial and symbolic holiday? Our loved ones already know we love them, why do they need a symbol of our affection?

"We participate in Valentine's Day because everyone else is making arrangements to do something that day," said Meagan

Smith freshmen at JCJC. "We do not want to feel left out and if our friend gets a bouquet of flowers, we want flowers to feel 'special' too."

"We participate in Valentine's Day because everyone else is making arrangements to do something that day."
Meagan Smith

However, we should not need a "special" day to show our significant other that we love them. I do not believe lots of chocolates and elaborate flower arrangements make me feel loved. These only seem to make

the holiday more outrageous and over the top. Love is something that should be shown everyday, not through gifts.

Another reason not to

Psychiatry Association, "Single people are usually lonelier than couples on holidays and suicide rates for single people are also higher. As social pressure on Valentine's Day increases, it can cause stress levels to rise."

Valentines Day merchandise can be very expensive and in today's society, our extra spending money can be very limited.

"Our economy is not doing so well, so why waste our money on foolish gifts that do not 'prove' our love," said Reagan Herring a sophomore at JCJC.

I agree. Another reason not to participate in the extravagant holiday is for our economy. We are in a "money crunch" and spending a large amount of

money on useless presents is wasteful and unethical.

Am I saying Valentine's Day is pointless? No! Celebrate the holiday, but do not make it so superficial and elaborate.

What's the point? If spending hundreds of dollars on someone is the same as being in love and spending an evening just being with one another, then the meaning of love has really been twisted. Teddy bears, cards, boxes of chocolates, and roses do not say, "I love you." You do!

So enjoy your Valentine's Day, but take the superficial and symbolic meaning away, and make it day for you and your special someone to just be together.