

# FEATURES

## Photopoll

Would you use an online dating service?

**Amine Rachid, 23**  
Glen Ellyn  
Chemical Eng.



**"No! I don't have time for it and I like meeting girls in person."**

**Jim Nuckles, 28**  
Chicago  
HUAC



**"Yes and no. I'd register for one just to chat. I like to talk to women, but actually date one? NO!"**

**Peg Reece, 30**  
Lombard  
Social Worker



**"No! I don't care for the technology of it. It's too impersonal and dangerous."**

**Anthony Woods, 19**  
North Chicago  
Gen. Ed.



**"No! They could be lying about how they look. One on one is much better chemistry."**

**Nikki Rehayem, 18**  
Wheaton  
Liberal Arts



**"Probably not, I would much rather naturally meet someone."**

**Sharon Bubak, 31**  
Lombard  
Accounting



**"No, because I don't trust chat rooms. Meeting people in person is much more fun. What you see is what you get."**

# Finding that special someone

By Kristi Hays  
Features Editor

Last Tuesday, a "Food For Thought" seminar about dating was given by Colleen Morgan, the new student orientation coordinator.

A small but participatory group attended for an hour filled with tips and advice.

Dating "friends of friends" was the first topic that was discussed.

The group decided that a plus is that your friends will know who you are compatible with.

However, if it does not work out one of you may become outcast from your group.

Newspaper personals are a possible way to meet other singles.

There are many glitches to go with them though such as dishonesty.

One could also assume that people placing ads in newspapers must not be technologically inclined or they would be placing ads on the Internet.

Singles services and dining clubs can be successful at matching singles up, but one thing you might worry about is being misrepresented.

If you think "clubbing" is the way to go, think about this.

"Most people in clubs have a only for one night mentality.

Go out to have fun with your friends and to maybe meet new people, but you are probably not going to find that special someone in a club," Morgansaid.

Some students commented that you would be better off attending a poetry slam, where lots of singles come to mingle in a more intimate environment than a club.

The Internet is probably not the best way to date people, but for meeting people it has become one of the most popular ways.

In the last three or four years "cyberdating" has become extremely popular.

On average, online dating services cost only \$25 a month, according to Morgan.

When you register on a dating website you will need to create a personal profile.

It will only consist of a few paragraphs so be truthful and modest.

Remember that first impressions are the most important.

The best way to go about starting a relationship with someone you find over the Internet is to talk online a few times before you decide to meet.

When you do meet in person, do not consider it a date.

It is best to just have a casual lunch or go out for coffee. Remember to have fun and be safe.



Photo by Kristi Hays

New Student Orientation Coordinator, Colleen Morgan gives students safety tips about online dating.

### Online Dating Tips

- Watch out for anyone who seems "too good to be true" ...they probably are.
- Be honest and modest
- Ask questions to find out as much information as you can.
- Don't rush into anything.
- Do not use your real name, address, or phone number until you know who you are dealing with.
- Do not ask for the real name, address, or phone number from anyone else until you have established a solid relationship.
- Do not harass or stalk contacts if they lose interest.
- Do not overly misrepresent yourself.
- Be yourself
- Don't rush into anything, go slowly.
- Protect your own privacy and that of your friends.
- Have fun and be polite.
- Do not expect immediate success.
- Talk on the phone to continue to learn more about the person.
- Proceed with caution before going out on a date.
- Never go out with someone who will not give you their home phone number.
- Always tell someone where you are going with your date and when you will return.
- Meet in a public place that you are familiar with on your first date.
- Do not allow your date to pick you up at your house on the first date.
- Do not bring your date back to your house the first time.
- Never give out personal financial information.

### Popular Websites

According to Online-Dating-Singles.com these are the best websites for matching singles up for fun dates and lasting relationships:

- Yahoo Personals - Second largest and one of the most popular online dating services. It is safe, simple and inexpensive and attracts close to 4 million visitors a month
- eHarmony.com - Matches you up with people who you are compatible with both on the surface and in deeper ways based on a questionnaire you fill out.
- Match.com - Created in 1995 and includes an instant messaging feature with other members. The site is well-designed and they are Yahoo Personal's biggest competitor.
- Udate.com - Membership is estimated at 13 million with thousands more joining each day. Register and create a profile for free. A sophisticated system searches for other members in your area. You can also see which members have browsed your profile page.
- DreamMates - Organized into three communities, dating, romantic and intimate. Most features are free, except for instant message and mail privileges.
- Lavalife - In business for 14 years, you can find out your horoscope, participate in weekly polls, read advice columns, and view member's picture slideshows. Most features are free.
- AmericanSingles.com - Free to create a profile, post pictures and search for members. Secure online server makes dating anonymous and safe. Real-time chat is open 24/7.
- MetroDate - A profile can contain five pictures, video profiles and voice messages are options. A chat room with private chat options is provided.