

FEATURES

Gay romances aren't so odd after all GLBT relationships aren't much different than heterosexual ones

By Vikaas Shanker
Correspondent

Riveting romance novels have been published and comical movies have been made to document the celebration and turmoil of a heterosexual relationship. Stories of sex-driven men and power-hungry women falling for their opposites have been previewed to no end, but what about men dating men and women dating women?

Recent events such as October GLBT History Month and "National Coming Out Day" this Saturday as well as registered hate group, H.O.M.E., taking a stand on campus has led to much discussion on the GLBT community. Contrary to what many people think, the dating scene for this community is very similar to heterosexual dating. From how they find each other amidst pressures they face, to what they do while going out with their partner, there are many commonalities.

The perception of GLBT relationships as being mysterious and enigmatic is challenged by the openness and simplicity of William Kendrick's and Shante Holloman's relationships. "It's like [heterosexual] couples," said Kendrick. As per the experiences of these two COD students, the makings of a relationship has very little to do with sexual preference.

According to Kendrick, a gay freshman majoring in criminal justice, finding a partner isn't that hard. "I've met many gay guys on campus so no it isn't hard," he said, "I met my partner, Cedrick, in high school. He was staring me down so I could just tell [that he was into me]." William and Cedrick have been together since high school.

"But it depends on the situation," said Holloman, a lesbian freshman in general education and a leading member of Pride Alliance, the



Photo by Amanda Kellermann

Leaders of Pride Alliance listen to suggestions from lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender members.

GLBT group on campus, "If you're gay and you go to some place with lots of heterosexuals, it's hard to identify people. It's hard for people to come out of the closet."

This was the case with Pride Alliance President, Phillip Hammons. "I used to play football and was surrounded by women all the time," he said. "I didn't want to tell anybody [that I was gay] and it went to the point that I started being anti-gay...but when I came out, it was great."

The campus has a very open atmosphere for sexual identity. "Over here, there are groups like Pride Alliance where we can talk," said Holloman. "There are gay sites [like downelink.com]" that help gays find partners much as sites like "match.com". However, Holloman met her partner, Nica, through a breakup with another friend. "I'd call it a friend circle," she said. Kendrick and Holloman met their partners through friends and school, very simi-

lar to how many heterosexual couples meet.

Many gay and lesbian couples go to the local hotspots just like the average heterosexual couple. One place that Kendrick and his boyfriend like to go out is Zero Gravity in Naperville. "I love that place, but mostly we stay home and I cook for him," said Kendrick. Holloman said, "We go wherever you go! It's not any different."

Kendrick has a good relationship with his parents despite him having a boyfriend. "Everyone knows me so they're fine," he said.

For Shante, it was different. Her family had to adjust more because it was an interracial relationship rather than it

being a lesbian relationship. "It was a change because [Nica] is white. They were fine with it, but they just had to get used to it," she said. "It's a different culture than our's. It wasn't difficult, just a change."

In addition to this, both Kendrick and Holloman look for trustworthiness in a relationship. Holloman wants her partner to "just be straightforward." Both are expecting long-term relationships with their partners.

Pride Alliance provides a forum through which GLBT students can express their sexual orientation with like-minded and open people. It also welcomes heterosexuals to become "straight brothers"

and "straight sisters" to help support GLBT's.

A Pride Alliance meeting was held this Tuesday to discuss future events such as the coat drive, attire for "National Coming Out Day", and trips to a haunted house in Indiana and to "Boystown" in Chicago.

With 15 people at the meeting, President Phillip Hammons and Pride Alliance started the meeting with an icebreaker question, "Would you rather be a drooler or a bed-wetter?" The question and ensuing answers created a lively, open feel that lasted the entire hour.

Pride Alliance meets every Tuesday from 3 to 4 p.m. in BIC 2021.

Values for auction: Students link values and careers

By Vikaas Shanker
Correspondent

COD Counseling Services hosted their event "Listen to your Heart to find your Direction," on Tuesday to show how personal values can help find a good career path.

Counselors Sandy Werner and Dana Thompson kicked off the event with a survey of work values for each participant. These included concrete values such as achievement, socioeconomic, and security, as well as intrinsic values like artistic, creative, life style, and social service.

Next, students were asked to bid for these values with a cap of \$1,000 in a mock auction. Students were involved and enthusiastic while bidding against each other. Among the highest values

were social service, moral fulfillment, and security.

After the auction, students were asked if they noticed any trends in people bidding. "Usually students hold back for attractive values like socioeconomic (high income and status) and security," said Sandy. "Those aren't the only important things." Dana Thompson also added, "It's not just the money or the security even, but other values that turn a job into a career."

Values students possess such as artistic, life style, and social service get overlooked because of the tangible benefits of having money and a stable job.

Students were then asked to play "The Island Game" where they chose to be stranded on an island with a

"doer", "thinker", "creator", "helper", "persuader", or "organizer".

This activity gave them an idea on what abilities and interests they might possess. Thompson said, "People have a tendency to move toward picking occupations congruent with their personality and values."

A freshman at the event said, "It taught me that I should look outside of the dollar signs. I should find what makes me happy with my other values as well." Students can utilize events like this to help figure out what career is for them.

Student Counseling Services hosts similar events throughout the school year. For more information, contact the counseling office at (630) 942-2259.



Photo by Amanda Kellermann

Pride Alliance members talk about "National Coming Out Day."

Horticulture is more than just gardening

By Vikaas Shanker
Correspondent

Horticulture provides the world with beauty and comfort according to Professor Elizabeth Britt. It's a form of therapy by relieving stress and can give a solid career.

"It offers beauty and relaxation," Britt, who runs the Plants Plus shop in TEC 0024 as well as the Horticulture Department at COD, said, "There is calming, physical exercise." She also added that it can provide "physical and emotional help" to students who are bogged down with studying and other stressful activities.

Horticulture is a career path that is often overlooked. It is relatively stable through bad economic times. Professor Britt says, "Some students graduating from it go out to form their own companies and are entrepreneurs." Horticulture can also intertwine with other fields of study. "A student who took horticulture was able to use computer skills with floral design," she added, "People in horticulture generally have a creative bent." They want to "be their own boss" and are individualistic.

When times are rough, people want to spend their money on their homes. They work on the house and landscaping. People these days are cutting back on landscaping services such as mowing lawns, but are adding to the property value of their home with gar-



Plants Plus not only offers plants, it has a variety of nature oriented gadgets and jewelry.



Plants Plus also sells vegetables and flower arrangements made by students.

Photos by Amanda Kellermann

dening flowering plants and desirable trees. "This increases demand of plants," Britt said.

Caring for plants is not like taking care of pets. With plants, "You can create something of your own. It doesn't need to be looked after all day. You can go on vacation and come back and the plant will be there," Britt said.

The death of a pet is often devastating to an owner, whereas the death of a plant has less of an impact. "Death of plants is natural," said Britt. Plants propagate very easily as most have both male and female sex organs. Propagation can also be accomplished by encouraging a severed branch or leaf to root in desirable conditions. "Our students love propagation. It brings a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment."

Horticulture Therapy is a new,

groundbreaking area in mental and psychological treatment. "People that have problems come in and work on anything in the greenhouse," Britt said, "It teaches work skills like patience and can be very relaxing." It "is a purposeful activity," and that "patients feel accomplished when they see the result of their hard work (in the plants). It's a stress reliever," said Britt.

"The most rewarding thing about horticulture, I would say is that it's always different," said Britt, "plants have different schedules and differ from seasons and climates." But along with this variety comes much work. Spring is when many desirable annuals and perennials start to grow in Glen Ellyn.

A student can start his or her garden by purchasing seasonal plants at



Mums are hardy plants that are on discount at Plants Plus.

COD's Plants Plus shop in TEC 0024 next to the greenhouse. Mums and bulbs are being sold at low prices, as are spider plants and snake plants.

TRANSFER PROGRAMS

Information Technology and Management

- Systems Security
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- Networking and Communications

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- Logistics and Supply Chain
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For Your Information

Student Success Workshops
Student Success Workshops are sponsored by student services and cover a variety of subjects to assist students. All workshops are held in SRC 1450A unless otherwise noted. Advisors are available for questions. Interested individuals can contact (630) 942-2141 for more information. Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2 to 3 p.m. "Time is on Your Side - Yes It Is" will be presented by Dr. Edison Wells, counselor.

Adult Learner FYI Sessions
FYI Sessions are geared toward adult learners 24 years and older who would like to change or enhance their careers by earning advanced certificates or additional degrees. Each session is created for specific programs of interest and covers the value and admission process for select programs. Space is limited and seats need to be reserved in advance by calling Angel Nackovic at (630) 942-2398. FYI sessions are from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in SRC 2052. Nov. 4: Computer Information Systems
Nov. 10: Health Sciences
Nov. 18: Computer and Networking Technologies

Explore Engineering Night
Tuesday, Oct. 20, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Student Resource Center, Room 1544
This is a free event geared to give a taste of many engineering fields. Organized by the COD Engineering Club, guest speakers from various universities and companies as well as university representatives will answer questions about the engineering profession.

Borrowing Money for School
Thursday Oct. 22, 6 to 7 p.m. in Student Resource Center, Room 2052
Hosted by COD Student Financial Aid Office, this program is free and provides students and parents information on the federal aid and how to borrow money wisely.

COD's Joel Quam reads his mystery novel.
Wednesday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m. in Student Resource Center, Room 2800. Quam, a geography professor, has published his first mystery novel, "...Or Perish" from the North Star Press. He will read from his novel and answer questions about the process and his inclusion of a geography teacher as the main character.

Smart Online Searcher Workshops
The Library is offering free Smart Online Searcher Workshops this fall for students, staff and community members. The workshops are designed to give participants an overview of topics to help with research, social network tools and library resources. Registration is required sessions and workshops meet in the Library, located on the second floor of the SRC. For more information, call the Library at (630) 942-3364.

Research Basics for Students:
Tuesday, Oct. 13, 7 to 8:30 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 22, 7 to 8:30 p.m.; and Monday, Nov. 2, 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Internet I: Finding & Evaluating Information: Wednesday, Oct. 21, 7 to 9 p.m. Participants with basic Web search experience will learn to improve online search skills and techniques to help them determine the best Web site for research projects.
Internet II: Advanced Searching: Thursday, Nov. 12, 3 to 5 p.m. This workshop highlights effective and time-saving strategies for finding the best information on the Inter-

net, including Boolean logic, nesting, truncation and field searching.

Citing Sources with NoodleBib Software
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Participants will learn how to use NoodleBib Software to manage and create reference lists in MLA and APA format, and how to create a NoodleBib account.

The Lovely Bones Book Discussion
Wednesday Oct. 28, 3:30 p.m. at Follett's Bookstore. The Page Turners is holding a discussion for The Lovely Bones. Contact Professor Higgins:higgins@cod.edu with any questions.

Hypnotist Frederick Winters
Wednesday, Nov. 4, noon to 1 p.m. in the Turner Conference Center (SRC 2800)
Be there to watch, participate, but most of all laugh at Winter's comedy based hypnotist show! Get there early as seats fill up fast!

"German Romantics" COD Chamber Orchestra Concert:
Monday, Oct. 26, 5 p.m. in the McAninch Arts Center lobby.

Guest soloist Mark Lekas performs with the Orchestra and conductor Dan Pasquale D'Andrea to play Weidig's "Romance for Violincello, Op. 14" and Mendelssohn's "Symphony No. 3 in A, 'Scottish,' Op. 56." A preview of this concert will be held on Thursday, Oct. 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the MAC Mainstage

Donate Life Illinois' 2009 Campus Challenge
Oct. 5 through Nov. 13. You can save up to 25 lives as a registered organ donor. Join the Facebook group and register at <https://www.donatelifeillinois.org/donatelife/registration.aspx>. Type in school code "C.O.D." to help COD win this donations challenge. A \$75 i-Tunes gift card will be given to a random registrant.

Jobs, Trends, and the Economy: Workshop for Undeclared Majors
Wednesday, Oct. 28, noon to 1 p.m. in Student Resource Center, Room 1450A. This Student Success Workshop presents career options that are in global demand. This event is free and students learn what major is right for them.

STUDENT ACTIVITY LISTING

CLUB	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT	CLUB	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
Accounting Club	The club will provide relevant career information and insight into the field of accounting, an excellent opportunity for members to network.	Kathy Horton Ext. 2176	International Students Organization	Provides international and American students with opportunities to socialize and experience cross-culture ties.	Anthony Maravillas
Alpha Mu Gamma	Honor society for students with outstanding record in foreign language studies.	Shingo Satsutani Ext. 2019	Japanese Culture Club	Examines Japanese popular culture through books, movies and other media.	Shingo Satsutani Ext. 2019
Architectural Region of Chicago	Committed to providing its members with opportunities offered here in Chicago to broaden their architectural knowledge.	Jane Ostergaard Ext. 2331	Latino Ethnic Awareness Association	Encourages awareness of Hispanic culture and offers speakers, field trips and other programs.	Colleen Morgan Ext. 2822
Black Student Union	Promotes ethnic unity and pride by joining and collaborating the thoughts of COD students.	Kristina Henderson Ext. 2510	LTA Student Club	Networks together LTA students and professionals and encourages library advocacy.	Call Ext. 2243
Campus Crusade for Christ	Provides an outlet for students of Christian fellowship and service.	Erich Hauenstein Ext. 2494	Linux Users Group	Provides information for installing and using the Linux operating system, as well as a forum for ideas and experience sharing.	Mohammad Morovati Ext. 2478
Campus Greens	Promotes awareness of grassroots, democracy and environmental issues. Promotes student activism to affect positive change.	Keith Yearman Ext. 2765	Magic the Gathering Club	Seeks to provide a comfortable, recreational environment for players as well as provide members with good deals at local shops.	James Allen Ext. 3421
Casa de Amigos	The Spanish club, devoted to developing leisure activities and conversation activities for both ESL and club members	Elizabeth Mares Ext. 3927	Model United Nations	Promotes knowledge about the United Nations and international diplomacy.	Chris Goergen Ext. 2012
Chaparral Magazine	A themed student magazine, published at the beginning of the spring and summer semesters.	Cathy Stablein Ext. 2650	Muslim Student Association	Encourages Muslim fellowship, scholarly discussions of Islam and outreach to the college community	Shaheen Chowdhury Ext. 2438
Chaparral Cricket Club	Purpose is to promote cricket throughout the community. Also, but not necessary, is to play cricket at a competitive level.	Rich Eliman Ext. 3447	Newman Association	Provides fun social activities, spirituality and faith programs, peace and justice awareness, and outreach service opportunities.	Helen Zaleski Ext. 2171
Christian Intellectual Association	Purpose is to practice and become stronger in the art of Apologetics by learning about different world views.	Kent Richter Ext. 3404	The Page Turners	Organizes community-building and cultural events that revolve around themes of writing and literature.	Lisa Higgins Ext. 3385
Circolo Culturale Italiano	Dedicated to keep alive among the students of the college the cultural tradition and the language of Italy.	Sandra Anderson Ext. 2174	Phi Theta Kappa	Strives for excellence through scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship.	Shannon Hernandez Ext. 3054
College of DuPage Veterans Association	Club dedicated to fostering a community for veterans at the college, advocacy pertaining to veteran's issues and service to community.	Robert Hazard Ext. 2402	Philosophy Club	A fellowship of students seeking to provide an open forum for philosophical interpretation through discussion.	Keith Krasemann Ext. 3407
College Republicans	This club is welcome to all students who identify themselves as Republican. The club organizes events for speakers to come to campus.	David Goldberg Ext. 3722	Prairie Light Review	A humanities magazine published twice yearly; accepts submissions from students, faculty and community members.	Jackie McGrath Ext. 2311
Common Ground	A place where all students are welcome to come and relax, meet new people and have a good time. This club is designed for you.	Elizabeth Kiedaisch Ext. 3912	Pride Alliance	Support, promote awareness and educate ourselves and others on specific issues with regard to diversity.	Dana Thompson Ext. 2528
Courier Student Newspaper	The weekly student newspaper, offering paid staff positions in a wide variety of journalistic fields.	Cathy Stablein Ext. 2650	Printmakers, Ink.	Provides a forum for exhibition and exploration of printmaking.	Chuck Boone Ext. 2477
Hygienists Club SADHA Chapter	Seeks to cultivate, promote and sustain the art and science of dental hygiene.	Lori Drummer Ext. 2430	Psi Beta	National honor society that encourages students to strive for excellence and acquire a sense of advancing scholarship and psychology.	Ada Wainwright Ext. 2509
DuPage Dance Team	The club allows members to express themselves through dance. We practice each week on our dance skills and perform at events.	Katherine Skleba 2800	Sci-Fi / Fantasy Club	Provides a forum for activities including books, movies, television, comics and role-playing games related to sci-fi and fantasy.	James Allen Ext. 3421
Endowment for Future Generations	Helps all generations develop and maintain sound mental and physical health, protect the environment, and promote peace.	Naheed Hasan, Ext. 2028	Student Activities Program Board	Through selecting and coordinating events for the college, students learn valuable business, organizational and leadership skills.	Chuck Steele Ext. 2642
Engineering Club	A resource for pre-professional engineering students to provide guidance about engineering careers and transfer schools.	Call Ext. 2243	Student American Meteorological Society	Provides programs for experiences in and out of class, and serving others by promoting severe weather training and preparedness.	Paul Sirvatka Ext. 2118
Forensics (Speech) Team	Improves public speaking performance skills through state and national competition.	Lauren Morgan Ext. 2007	Student Professional Convention Association	Purpose is to familiarize the members with the basic aspects of the meeting industry through educational opportunities.	Marianne McNulty Ext. 2573
Game Development Club	Students work as teams to create games. Also provides experience for work in the interactive software industry.	Sally Field Mullan Ext. 2941	Student Education Association	Open to students interested in pursuing a career in education.	Lois Stanciak Ext. 2974
Hapkido Club	Provides students with further learning outside of the classroom and a social opportunity with other martial artists.	Sherrie Henry Ext. 51232	Student Leadership Council	Preserves and protects student rights, interests and opinions; represents the student view to the administration.	Andie Wirgau Ext. 2644
Hospitality Club	Further educate hospitality students through seminars, college tours and lectures from hotel and food service professionals	Marybeth Leone Ext. 2059	Students for Animal Defense	Students working to protect the rights of all animals.	Mary Jean Cravens, Ext. 2333
Indie Film Group	Dedicated to gaining knowledge of filmmaking by producing and workshopping films and attending cinematic events.	Tony Venezia Ext. 2020	Students for Organ Donation Club	Enhance communication among nursing students; sponsors fund raisers for Recognition and Pinning Ceremonies.	Rita Bobrowski Ext. 2024