

# CAMPUS

# COUPLES

Text by KAREN WORLEY Photos by LARRY BOEHM

## AH, LOVE, CAMPUS-STYLE.

With so many men and women in one place, falling in love should be easy. But not so for the first woman graduate, Mary Louise "Lulie" Gillett, in 1870. Women in those days were marched to class with a teacher in front and back. Give a girl a break!

And remember the butterflies in the stomach on a first date? Anticipat-

ing the school dance in 1914, Homer Croy writes, "I was always so excited that I would miss my breakfast, and I would have to take the afternoon off so that I could go on a long walk by myself and think things over . . . I couldn't get a full night's rest for thinking and planning what I would say . . . to a girl in an evening gown." If only first-date butterflies would fly in formation!

Coming decades would find Mizzou couples loafing and picnicking along Hinkson Creek, "jellying" at Gaebler's or carving their initials behind the green door of The Shack.

By the 1950s, the boy-meets-girl scene included a feminine flimsy fad known as panty raids. "Panties, panties, we want panties," shouted a throng of men while women hung out of dorm



## MAKING IT LEGAL

**HELEN OGAR, AB '82**, was a lowly first-year law student, sitting in the library with a stack of 15 books in front of her when Tom Stein walked into her life. She wondered if he wanted to use the books or if she was intruding on his study space. Neither. He wanted to go out for a Coke.

When Ogar, 6 feet tall, stood up, Stein met a former All America in track who holds the Mizzou women's outdoor high-jump record of 5'11 3/4".

Working on the same degree has its advantages. In addition to comparing notes about classes and teachers, Stein, 25, of Kansas City and Ogar, 24, of Mexico, Mo., realize the time commitment law school requires. Not all dating partners or spouses of law students are so fortunate, Ogar says. Being note-and-comment editor of the *Law Review* consumes hours of Stein's time. "We can't see as much of each other as we'd like but the other person knows what you're going through," he says. "There's no problem with my having time on my hands, sitting around waiting for him to call," Ogar says.

Windows waving their unmentionables. When hilarity shifted to hostility, one housemother yelled, "I hope they ship you all to Korea."

No cheering or yelling was allowed following romantic serenades of yesteryear. The women of men's dreams could applaud and say, "Good night," according to University rules published in 1951. Also, while using the serenade balcony, women had to wear street clothes—no racy nighties sanctioned.

In the 1960s, the Campus attitude was "let it all hang out," clearing the way to the 1974 streaking fad, a sure-fire method of attracting the attention of the opposite sex.

Fad after fad, the dating game, as much a part of college life as studying (and definitely more fun!), is on a roll. Whether taking a nature walk, cooking dinner at the apartment or making out in Peace Park, couples find their niche on Campus and into each other's heart.

*Missouri Alumnus* interviewed a handful of Campus couples to check out

dating, 1984 style.

When it comes to picking up the tab, men usually do. But one couple has a slightly different plan: Says he, "I pay if I have money; if not, she pays." An enjoyment of the niceties of chivalry is apparent. Says a woman, "Romance doesn't diminish with equality."

Most support premarital sex. "There is such a thing as sexual incompatibility," notes one male. All profess plans to marry after graduating and finding a job. "If it's right, it'll happen," says another. But the country's 50 percent divorce rate is cause for cold feet. "It's scary. Getting married is something you've got to be careful and think about. There's no rushing into it," says a male student. And all want to start a family; some want as many as five children. Says one woman, "I'll have the first two, and he can have the rest."

Qualities of trust, fidelity, patience, respect and a sense of humor shape students' philosophy about a solid relationship. Sound familiar? Yet,

today's couples think dating, in some ways, has changed from yesteryear.

"People are more open now," one says. "It was a lot more traditional. How often did the woman take the man out for dinner and a movie? I think women do it more now, but not frequently," adds another. "On our first real date, I asked him out," verifies a coed.

Notes a male, "Young people are more promiscuous now—at least that's what's been drummed into our heads." Adds his partner, "Then, it was dating with the idea of finding the right person to marry. Now you don't have to get married. You can be single."

"And people are marrying later, being more analytical about relationships. I don't think our parents sat down and figured out whether they had good vibes."

Here are some of the good vibes of five relationships. They weren't fine-tuned in heaven, but rather right in the heart of the Mizzou Campus, the next best place. □

With busy schedules, the couple combines together time with relaxation on weekends. They like to pick up some good steaks, then head for one or the other's apartment for a nice meal and a movie on cable television. Since Stein is learning to cook, "It's kinda entertaining to cook at home," Ogar says.

They've talked about marriage in general terms. "She's going to have a career of her own," Stein says. "It'll be great having two incomes." And they definitely want to have a family, four or five children. Who's going to care for the children is an unresolved matter. Stein comes from a traditional father breadwinner/mother homemaker family. Ogar has strong role models with five sisters, all of whom work and earn more than their husbands.

Establishing a career and starting a family isn't impossible, she says. "My mother did both, although it is hard to try to balance."

Professionally, the couple recognize some potential pitfalls. Stein's future employer, Morris and Foust in Kansas City, is a plaintiffs' firm; Ogar's former employer is a defendants' firm. They may have to apply discretion to pillow talk, and if troubles arise, hope to settle out of court. □



## HOMETOWN HONEYS

**HIS BETA THETA PI** pledge brothers razz freshman Jerry Harman, 19, about his 2½-year relationship with sophomore Lynne Vaughn, 19, both of St. Joseph, Mo. Vaughn's girlfriends are eager to fix her up with other guys.

"They can't understand why we wouldn't want to date a whole bunch of people," she says. Her partner adds, "I haven't met any girls that have really impressed me" the way Vaughn does.

Maybe others are just jealous of the couple who find pleasure to simple things, like taking a walk at Rock Bridge State Park or watching television together on a Friday night.

All's not perfect for the hometown honeys, though. School and extracurricular activities limit the time they can spend together and jealousy rears its head. "She flirts too much," says Harman, a prejournalism major.

Overall, the couple's tastes have merged, down to condiments on sandwiches. "I've started eating hamburgers at Wendy's with ketchup and pickle

'cause that's what he likes," she says. Adds Harman, "We don't put up fronts or keep score."

They've talked about marriage after graduation. "I want a good job and know I could support my family" before having children, he says. Whether Vaughn works outside the home "is up to her."

Placing her priorities with husband and family, Vaughn has chosen education as her field. Being a teacher, with summers off for the children, yet earnings to buy some of life's extras and send the kids to college, "seems to be the perfect thing for me."

To avoid getting into a rut, assumptions—like a Saturday evening date—aren't built into this relationship. They work at keeping their relationship fresh and bright, a precedent set on their first date.

She relates, "On the way home, I felt this need to kiss him while we were driving. When I opened my eyes, we were in the median of the highway, dodging culverts and pillars. He handled it so well." Adds he, "I'm glad she didn't notice my heart was pounding so hard." Now they kiss at more appropriate times. □

## HOOKED ON PUNK

**PRESTON FAIRLEY** and Seery Saurage complement each other. He turned her on to music; she turned him on to fashion.

Fairley likes reggae, ska (a speed-up ragga), English and American punk. "English punk is more politically motivated and more social-class oriented," explains Fairley, a 23-year-old senior who considers Columbia his home. "American punk is more violent."

Both he and Saurage enjoy slam dancing—to an extent. "We aren't angels, but don't go out to beat each other up." Describing her fashion sense as "punk but tasteful," Saurage says, "Dress separates me from everybody else. I like to look nice. It makes me feel good."

Conformist preppies have persecuted the pair with leers and comments. "They dress like everybody else," notes Saurage, 25, a former theater student at



Missoua who now works as an activities director at Southgate Nursing Center in Jefferson City. What bothers Fairley, who admits he dresses to look a little bit different, is that "people judge other people by how they look. Just because you wear weird clothes and like weird music doesn't mean you're stupid."

Although the couple doesn't fit the mold in some ways, they do in others. He opens car doors and pays for dates. "It's my southern upbringing," says the Mississippi native. About the time his courtesy produced a scoff from another woman, he says, "I was not trying to prove I'm a macho man."

Also, he figures his degree in electrical and computer engineering will

mean he'll be the major breadwinner of the family. Since Saurage's past money management has been a contentious bone in their four-year relationship, Fairley says, "I want her to work. Since she has extravagant fashion taste, she can spend her entire salary on herself."

He likes to exercise, whether it's running or lifting weights. Saurage, a petite size 4, is not so inclined. "When I tell her to exercise because it's good for her, she thinks I'm telling her she's fat."

After marriage, they both want children, but not too soon. "There are things I want to do and have. I'm not ready to sacrifice for them," Fairley says. Adds Saurage, "You can't be throwing kids off on somebody else." □



**KURT HANSEN**, and Jill Schneider, both 21 are tuned into one another.

They met through mutual friends 2½ years ago. "I saw this tall blond walk in and thought, 'I've got to get to know him,'" Schneider says. So she asked him out.

The couple lives in Hatch Hall, just a floor apart. They eat together and study together, both serve on Bingham Group Student Council together and are section leaders in Marching Mizzou. Being spirit chairman of Marching Mizzou is Hansen's "excuse to act immature."

They also enjoy unstructured activities, including eating yogurt and window-shopping downtown, going to the movies and out to eat, and taking pictures at local parks. One of their assets, he says, is "an ability to laugh at ourselves."

At times, Schneider, the romantic, an interdisciplinary major from St. Louis, would rather get serious. She'd

consider getting married while still in school. Hansen, the practical one, is holding out. "I'd like to have a job, make some money. I like to eat."

They've discussed marriage at length, partially because of course requirements for a child and family development class called Interpersonal Relationships. When writing a marriage contract, they talked about dividing household chores and whose career would take precedence when children were born. Hansen wasn't crazy about the contract. "Marriage is marriage. It's not like you're signing a lease."

Although the marriage timetable is up in the air, their relationship is solid. "We're friends. We respect each other. We enjoy each other's company. We know each other very well," Schneider says.

They give credit to their families. "We both have good, stable families," Hansen says. "It provides for a good upbringing." □

## HAPPY TOGETHER



## BOOKWORMS IN THE STACKS

**BOOKS DRAW SENIORS** Kevin Grandison and Marsha Hobley together.

On the second day of their freshman year, Grandison, 21, noticed Hobley in a calculus class in 126 Physics Building. It was a closed book for him. She was The One.

The calculating Grandison asked to borrow her book because it wasn't in stock in the book store. "He just wasn't smooth," says Hobley, 21, a Kansas Citian, who remembers describing him to her roommate as "this short, cocky, little guy."

But, "it worked," winks Grandison, of Jefferson City. "He grew on me," she admits. They've been together ever since.

Weeknights from 7 to 11 and some weekends find these two squirreled away in Ellis Library, science section, first floor. He takes schoolwork quite seriously, as witnessed by the chemical engineering major's almost 3.0 GPA. Come September, he'll join Procter and Gamble's product development department in Cincinnati and also wants to begin MBA coursework. He had an internship with the company last summer.

Hobley, an industrial engineering major who'd like to work in productivity

or quality control, confesses she's the first to get distracted. "When she doesn't feel like studying, she'll start talking," Grandison says.

She doesn't want an all-study attitude to dull their "first promised" relationship. Other couple activities include sports on television and joint dances of Phi Beta Sigma (of which he's past president) and Zeta Phi Beta (she's current treasurer).

While he'd like to see the shy Hobley become more outgoing, she'd like him to spend more of his time concentrating on her instead of school or fraternity.

"I'd like him to take me out more often," she says. Another source of misunderstanding is communication. Says he: "She thinks I don't open up enough to her."

Despite their differences, the couple shares a quiet, but intense affection for each other. Those deep, moony looks of love might stack up to an enduring relationship. □