High fives not always best way to convince a shy lover

The Explicit Edition

Jill Connell

I've been going out with a fantastic man for a few weeks and while I adore him he's very, well... meek when it comes to sex. He's about eight years older than me, and I believe he feels he's going to make me uncomfortable if we approach sex. At 23 I'm really not getting forced into anything, and in fact I really want to move past the point where we are currently stuck. That being the couch in my apartment... While I appreciate the fact he wants to make sure I'm ok with things, I'm finding it difficult to convince him that not only am I ready and willing, but I'd love for him to loosen up a bit. I like a man who's a bit more aggressive, less terrified that I will break. Without coming out with "Hey! Let's have sex right now!" and high fiving him, what are some other ways to convince him that it is time we get past my couch and into my large empty bed. A girl can only take so much!

Frustrated

At first glance here we seem to have a reversal of conventional gender roles: a passive male who is resistant to sex, and a horny female who is frustrated her partner won't put out. But wait, we also have a return to convention with a female who wants her male to be dominant and initiate sex. Perhaps we also have a case of sensitive-modern-man confusion: the dilemma of finding a balance between thoughtful-emotional guy and confident-domineering guy, particularly when it comes to bedroom activities (or couch activities, as the case may be).

Whatever the sitch, when it comes to the rules of sexual engagement, in this day and age it's wise to check gender stereotypes at the door. Having a vagina doesn't equal a desire to constantly discuss your relationship and cuddle to Sandra Bullock movies, while having a penis doesn't mean you like hockey brawls and thrice-a-day doggie-style sex.

Although you may find such male and female incarnations trotting around Fredericton, making assumptions based on these stereotypes would be entirely uncouth. Girls are allowed to be horny and guys are allowed to be sensitive (and vice versa). End of story.

With the help of *Nerve's Guide to Sex Etiquette*, I have come up with some basic rules for both ladies and gentlemen, which may help shed some light on this situation. Most obvious on the list: communication. Please do away with notions of "I believe he feels" – being in a relationship does not mean you are gifted with ESP. If you are uncertain as to how your partner is feeling, you must open your mouth and ask him. If you would like your partner to know how you are feeling, you must open your mouth and tell him.

Obviously, such candid communication is far easier said than done, but let's assume the resulting clarity (and potential roll in the hay) will be worth it. Both of you seem to be erring on the side of caution in order to be polite, however there's a fine line between politeness and spinelessness. It's time to spit it out – the sexist tradition of relying on the male to make the first move or close the deal should be discarded. That said, it is never acceptable to bully someone into bed or to assume a partner wants sex. Guy or girl, it's of the utmost importance to ask and get consent before knocking boots.

Remember to utilize large amounts of sensitivity and understanding. This means avoiding any quotable Stifler lines from American Pie such as: "I'll see you tonight, in the 'No Fucking Section', right?" or "I say, why don't you locate your dick, remove the shrink wrap, and fucking use it!"

Be honest and sincere (without sounding desperate, if possible). Corny as it sounds, do use "I" language, such as "I would like X" or "I was hoping you could stick your Y in my O". "I love it when you do Z" is also recommended – positive reinforcement should play a large role in any sexual discussion.

As for your partner's meekness, this too will require communication. As much as we all desire to be treated with respect, there is something to be said for vulgar, uncivilized, Neanderthal sex. Luckily being nice and polite does not mean 24/7 teary-eyed, face-holding romance, or as Nerve puts it: "good manners is not the end of dirty, throw-me-against-the-wall, taboo-busting sex."

Your man's thoughtful consideration seems to be coming across as indecisive shyness – a quality that is rarely hot between the sheets. Try leading by example by upping the boldness in your bedroom behaviour. Let him know what you want, keeping in mind that you can't expect to reprogram your partner overnight. Good luck with your seduction!

The Explicit Edition will return next September – send questions and/or comments to j.connell@unb.ca.

CD Review



Various Artists

(506)

(Chicken Face Records)

(506) is a compilation of New Brunswick-based indie acts assembled by Chicken Face Records, a small startup project based out of Sussex Corner.

Like most compilations out there, *(506)* is generally a hit-and-miss affair since it attempts to cater to a number of styles. The compilation's producers chose to leave the doors open to virtually every genre out there, resulting in an eclectic mix of punk, metal, rap, synthpop, and everything in between.

In some ways this diversity benefits the compilation since there is something for everyone, but at the same time it means that there are bound to be a number of tracks that listeners won't be as keen on.

Production on the tracks likewise varies from impressively clean to impressively lo-fi, with one or two sounding like somebody put a boombox in the room and hit record. Although the comp's visual presentation suggests a relatively professional package, a small handful of tracks will make you wish quality control had been a little tighter.

Nevertheless, there are certainly some worthwhile tracks here, especially for punk and metal fans, who will probably find the comp most appealing. The Ditchpigs' 'The Disease That You Are' and Jar's 'Freedom of Denial,' for example stand up as particularly strong tunes. Songs by Gary Flanagan of Quispamsis and Fredericton's Pimp Tea stand out as the most unusual contributions, breaking away from the rest of the comp's guitar-based rock formula.

Altogether, *(506)* can be recommended as a unique snapshot of the New Brunswick indie scene, even if it may not necessarily be the most remarkable compilation in recent memory.

*** • Patrick Reinartz

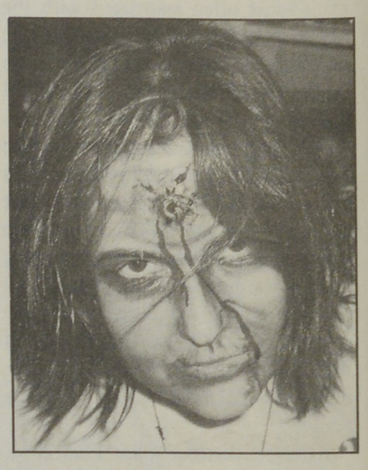
by Zombie Stradiotto

Viewpoint

What do you think about eating delicious brains?



"I agree with it."
- Zombie Joe



"I need brains like I need a hole in my head."
- Zombie Emily



"I'd rather eat chess pieces. Mmm bishop-y."
- Zombie Carl



"I'm more into kidneys, myself, but I guess brains are alright."
- Zombie Mick



"Tell ya what... You loosen these chains and I'll tell you aaaaaall about my thoughts on eating brains."
- Zombie Steve

MC?'s Ultra Accurate Horoscopes

Aries 3/21 - 4/19
You will be stuck in a never-ending loop of making and eating pancakes, with no butter or syrup for flavour.

Taurus 4/20 - 5/20
Singing and dancing will solve all your problems. If you can work a healthy boot-stomping into it, the world will be saved.

Gemini 5/21 - 6/21
The next person you see wearing a smiley face will be secretly unhappy, but you can help them by giving them a wet willy.

Cancer 6/22 - 7/22
An ancient magician has cast a regeneration spell on the pain medication in your medicine cabinet, so you can grow back that lost appendage.

Leo 7/23 - 8/22
You will find meaning in the small print on a bottle of shampoo, resulting in tremendous positive change in your life.

Virgo 8/23 - 9/22
A highly-trained ninja monkey has been sent to protect you from *those* people. You have nothing to worry about now.

Libra 9/23 - 10/23
You will wake up tomorrow weighing twice what you do now. It will be confusing until you remember it is double-gravity day.

Scorpio 10/24 - 11/21
You will be staring at the back of your hand and suddenly realize the patterns in your skin exactly match the map of Tunisia.

Sagittarius 11/22 - 12/21
On a dare you will see how long you can hold your breath. You will discover you actually don't need to breathe at all.

Capricorn 12/22 - 1/19
You will find some old writing you did and realize that it has all come true, even though you can't remember writing it.

Aquarius 1/20 - 2/18
You will go on an adventure to an unknown realm of consciousness after a deep meditation and some magic beans.

Pisces 2/19 - 3/20
Someone will steal your wallet or purse, only to realize you have replaced all your money with a series of electrified mousetraps.

Mark Cameron

This marks the final spring issue of

The Brunswickan.

The paper will return in the fall with summer coverage continuing on-line. The editorial staff would like to thank both our readers and contributors for making 2003-2004 a great year.

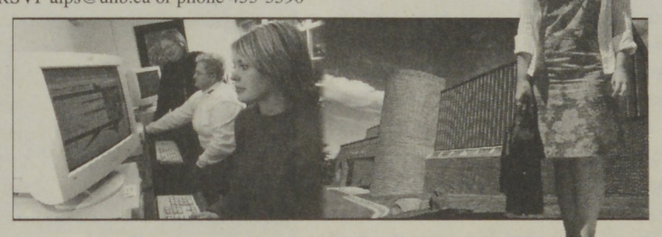
ALPS
"Cracking the nut scholastic"
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A Resource for Adult Learners, Part-Time Students

Graduating May 2004?

If you are a part-time, or full-time mature, undergraduate degree student, a diploma or certificate recipient, or a part-time student award recipient - ALPS is hosting its annual

Graduation Reception - Tuesday, May 18
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Wu Centre

Everyone is welcome
Family, friends, faculty and staff
are invited to join in the celebration.
RSVP alps@unb.ca or phone 453-3596



For more information
Call: 453-3596 or e-mail: alps@unb.ca

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$2.75 Alpine Bottles
$2.50 Gunshots (rum, rye, vodka, gin)
$2.50 Domestic Draft (16 oz)
No Cover
4-10pm $2 Rum, Rye, Vodka, Gin
$2 Draft (16ox), $2.75 Bottled Beer

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Freddys Rock Pile II
Three Great Fton ROCK Bands
This Week: Chillin' Room
On Vinyl & Hopeful Melancholy

Thank you to all the students at UNB & STU who supported us in our first year of business. See you next year, or in the summer. Good Luck on Exams.