



Andy Manhart/Daily Nebraskan

# Cruises most popular for honeymooners

**By Kari Mott**  
Staff Reporter

Caribbean cruises are sailing up the charts as popular vacations for honeymooners.

"Cruises to the Caribbean islands or Mexico are the most popular trips," said Pam Ellis, travel consultant at Contact Travel.

The popularity in cruises is that they offer a deluxe type of vacation where everything is included with the one-time payment, she said.

A four-day Carnival cruise costing \$825 per person includes

airfare, entertainment, meals, room and travel means, said Mike Macek, travel consultant for Premier Travel Agency Inc.

Ellis said a week-long cruise can start at \$1,000 per person.

Many more cruises now apply to all money levels, said Susan Buskohl, manager at Allied Tour and Travel.

Macek said the Carnival Cruise is the most popular cruise for 20 to 40-year-olds because it offers a fun atmosphere.

These cruises have casinos, dancing, sports activities, stops at

islands and basically something to do at every minute of the day, Macek said.

**'Cruises to the Caribbean of Mexico are the most popular.'**

-- Ellis

Macek said he doesn't push

cruises for honeymooners because it is a special time for couples to be by themselves, whereas cruises have people around all the time.

He said he has seen an increase of honeymoon couples going to Ixtapa/Zihuatanejo in southern Mexico. It is a sleepy place that doesn't have as many crowds and is not commercialized, making it a good place for couples to be together, he said.

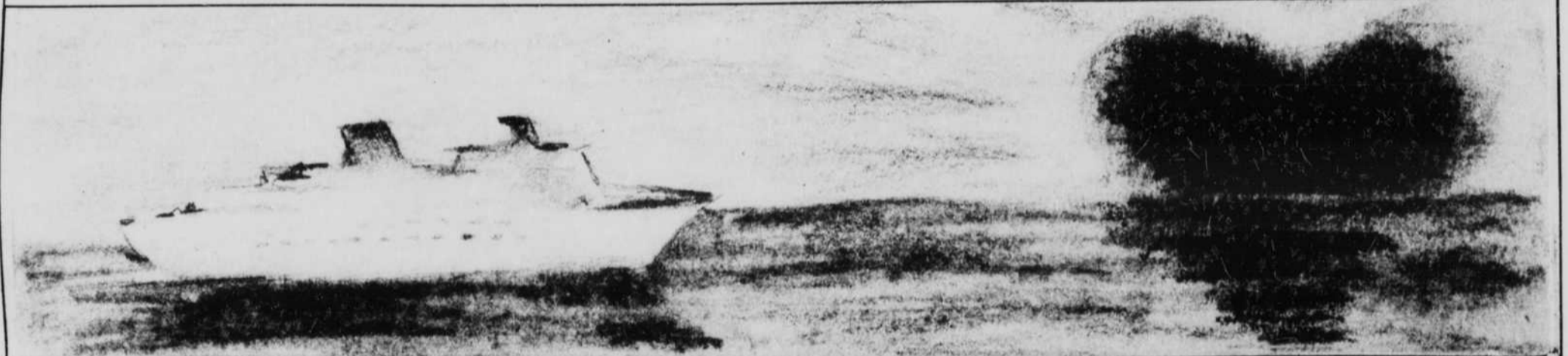
Ellis said Nebraskans tend to want to go to tropical places for their vacations. They want a cul-

ture and an environment that are different from Nebraska's, she said.

Other places Ellis said she has noticed that are popular vacation spots are Hawaii and Disney World.

Disney World is a fantasyland that is all planned out, where people don't have to worry about what they're going to do, she said.

Kansas City, Denver or a weekend in Omaha are places couples can honeymoon at if they have a lower budget, Ellis said.



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## Imagination helps revive relationships

**By Theresa Sindelar**  
Staff Reporter

"All married couples experience a general decline in mental happiness following the wedding, but there is always a chance for recovery," said Alan Booth, professor of sociology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The following is a list of suggestions compiled from several women's magazines to help revive a relationship from a plateau, decline or just plain slump.

• Enjoy an activity together, whether it be jogging, Scrabble or bird-watching.

• Take turns planning a Saturday night "date" in which arrangements are kept concealed until that evening.

• Serve breakfast in bed or prepare a special dinner.

• Try a new experience -- skinny dipping or attending a rock concert.

• Arrange a rendezvous for two at a hotel for the weekend.

Four recognized individuals, all marriage veterans, shared their secrets for keeping their relationships fresh.

Nancy Osborne, wife of Husker football coach Tom Osborne, said, "My husband and I set one evening aside a week to spend together."

Ruth Massengale, wife of UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale, said she and her husband have dinner together on Sundays and take walks whenever the weather is nice.

Bob Bruce, university information director, said, "Occasionally my wife and I sneak away for lunch or dinner."

Mary Sue Harris, wife of Mayor Bill Harris, said, "I believe in letting my husband know he's special by telling him and not always taking things too seriously."

The most important element of any relationship is communication and it must be worked at every day, Booth said.

The next list, also compiled from women's magazines, is composed of hints for successful communication.

• Set aside time to talk when there are no distractions. Talk about the future, not only about jobs and finances.

• In times of frustration, write down what attracted you to your mate in the first place to help you realize how fortunate you are to have each other.

• Remember small gestures like leaving a love note in your mate's pocket or taking time to say, "I'm proud of you..." or "I'm glad we're together..."

These suggestions can be used all year, through the years, and not only on Valentine's Day.

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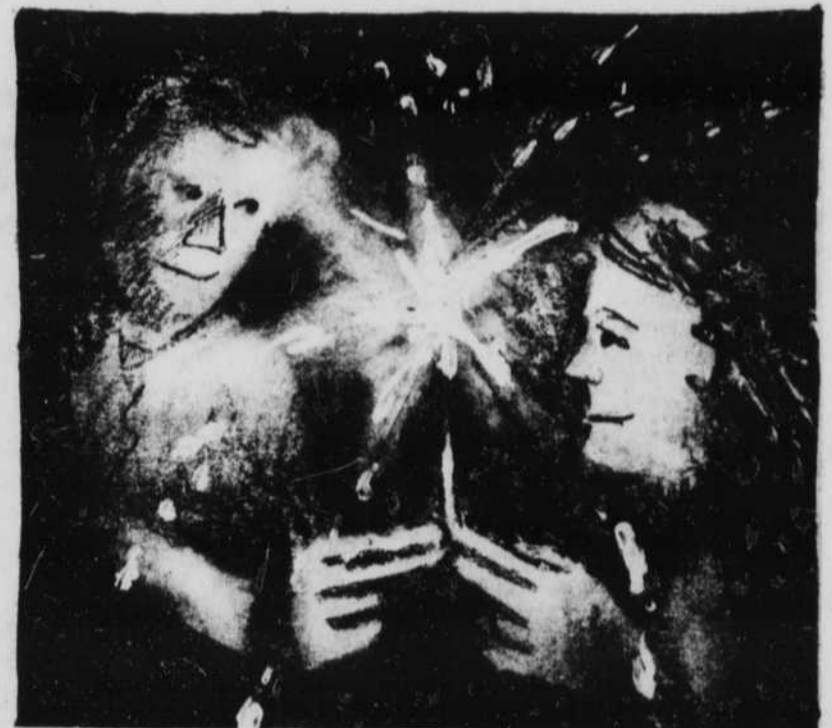
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