

Local matchmaker aiding Cupid

By REBECCA DIMEO
Reporter

For almost two months Jan Oorbals has been in the business of making dreams come true.

She helps people find the perfect mate through her matchmaking service called — appropriately enough — Dreams Come True.

The first question she asks those who call is if they know the difference between a dating service and matchmaking.

"A dating service is where you just provide a telephone number," she says.

Oorbals, a Texas A&M graduate, started Dreams Come True in early January. She says she is pleased with the response so far and has processed about 60 questionnaires. She conducts all her matchmaking business from her home using the mail and telephone.

If someone is interested in her service, she gives him a code number and sends him a questionnaire and a letter of explanation.

All fees for her service are non-refundable and must be paid in advance.

After Oorbals finds potential matches, she calls person A and gives him the opportunity to review the questionnaires of the possible matches, say B, C, and D. If A and B agree to meet she arranges a meeting in a public place, usually a restaurant.

"I want them to be able to run off if the other person lied on his questionnaire," she says in jest.

Oorbals uses only the code

numbers to identify her clients. She stresses that it is up to the individuals to share names and telephone numbers if they choose. All of her information is confidential.

Ninety-seven percent of her clients live in Bryan-College Station. The other 3 percent come from Franklin, Centerville, Caldwell and Brenham — all towns covered by The Eagle — since she does most of her advertising in the personal column of that newspaper.

Most of the clients for

Dreams Come True are 35-55 years old. She attributes the higher ages to the pressures older adults face in dating.

"When you get older your time becomes very precious," she says. "You've gone through your disappointments. You know what you want."

Oorbals says that more people going to college are delaying marriage, adding to the number of career people in the 35-55 age group who have never married. She finds that the more educated ones set higher

standards of what they want in a mate.

As for the widowed or divorced, Oorbals says they also are more cautious about dating. She knows, because she has been a widow for 12 years.

"They come with preconditions," she says. "Most are parents, career oriented. They don't have time to waste when looking for a mate."

Although she has no age requirement for Dreams Come True, Oorbals discourages col-

lege students from using service.

"The younger persons interested in preselection says, 'They want fun.'"

One client who asked to be identified is please Oorbals' idea for Dreams True. He completed his education three weeks ago and been given two other offers.

He says Oorbals is the definite need in the area at a reasonable price.

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Iran forces kill almost 7,000 Iraqis in attempt to win war

United Press International

TEHRAN —Iran officials said Sunday its forces pounded Iraqi strongholds 15 miles inside Iraq, inflicting at least 500 casualties, and accused the United States and the Soviet Union of helping Baghdad in the 42-month-old Persian Gulf war.

Western sources in London warned that as many 300,000 Iraqis may be massing on the border for a major new offensive against Iraq in what may be an all-out attempt by Iran to win the war.

Iran said that, in a thrust in the Hur Al-Hoveizeh area, its forces seized four miles of the east bank of the Tigris River near the key Iraqi highway connecting the capital of Baghdad

to the southern Iraqi port town of Basra.

Iraq said it destroyed an Iranian offensive but did not specify where the fighting took place.

"Iraqi units confronted the attacking force, engaging it in a quick and decisive battle and forcing it to retreat after inflicting heavy casualties in men and equipment," said the Iraqi news agency INA, monitored in Abu Dhabi.

But the reports from Tehran said Iranian forces "pounded all Iraqi strongholds and purged the area of the enemies of Islam" in fighting 15 miles inside Iraq for control of marshlands north of Basra.

Iranian forces captured "a

number of villages near the Tigris River," shot down six Iraqi helicopters and killed or wounded at least 500 Iraqis in fighting since Saturday, the Iranian report said.

Iran claims to have killed or wounded as many as 7,000 Iraqis since it launched its "Kheibar," or "Defeat the Infidel" offensive Wednesday. "Kheibar" was aimed at cutting the vital Baghdad-to-Basra road to sever the capital's supply lines from the Gulf.

In Tehran's Majlis, the Iranian parliament, Speaker Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani accused the United States of supplying intelligence from spy satellites and aircraft to Iraq.

"Even the unholy eyes of U.S.

satellites and AWACS (Airborne Warning and Control System planes) failed to provide effective information to Baghdad regime," he quoted as saying by the news agency IRNA, based in London.

Rafsanjani also accused Soviets of supplying Iraq after Iranian reports of Iraqi rocket attack on the eastern town of Hoveizeh, 20 miles inside the border, that killed 24 people.

Rafsanjani said "committed through Soviet missiles" could "further aggravate the mischief in the Persian Gulf region," the Iranian agency reported.

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Heavier cops get tougher scooters

United Press International

WASHINGTON —The police department plans to buy new, tougher motor scooters because about half its officers are too heavy to ride the ones they have, a spokesman said Friday.

Chief Maurice Turner has declared a 195-pound limit for scooter-riding officers, a safety precaution that has grounded about half those police trained to ride them, said Lt. Hiram Brewton.

Turner's order

prompted by a complaint from the Fraternal Order of Police that the department was forcing the maximum weight limit recommended for a light-weight Honda scooter.

The FOP, which represents most of the 3,000 officers in the force, said the weight limit and sub-standard helmets contributed to injuries by officers on scooters.

The helmets, purchased about 10 years ago, do not meet federal safety guidelines, Brewton said.

"The chief said he wants to get new, bigger helmets," Brewton said. "We are in the process of getting new helmets also."

He said he didn't know many new cycles and helmets would be purchased.

The department closed its mandatory weight program seven years ago, but could be part of the program again.

"That's probably a reasonable. That's part of it. But the entire problem," he said.

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