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March 13-19

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The Texas A&M Dept. of Philosophy, University Art Exhibits, and the CAED Media Center present

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7:30 PM Tuesday, February 16, 1988  
Guest Artist BILL VIOLA will discuss and present I DO NOT KNOW WHAT IT IS I AM LIKE  
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Architecture Complex

Sponsored in part by the Southwest Alternate Media Project; the Texas Commission on the Arts, a state agency; and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

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## Weather Watch

**Key:**

- ☁ - Lightning
- ☂ - Rain
- ⚡ - Thunderstorms
- ☁ - Fog
- ❄ - Snow
- ☂ - Rain Shower
- ☂ - Drizzle
- ⚡ - Ice Pellets
- - Freezing Rain

Sunset Today: 6:10 p.m.      Sunrise Saturday: 7:07 a.m.

**Map Discussion:** The intense low-pressure pattern over the Northeastern United States will produce a significant snow event for that part of the country although the coastal cities will be spared. Most of the precipitation along the coastal areas will be in the form of rain. The frontal system over the Northwestern United States will produce light snows with some moderate amounts in the mountains. Locally we will enjoy a warming trend through the weekend with no rain, but Monday we will see increased cloudiness and cooler temperatures again.

**Forecast:**

**Today:** Fair to partly cloudy and mild with the high in the low 50s and winds easterly at 5 to 10 mph.

**Tonight:** Fair and cool with a low of 33 degrees and southeast winds of 3 to 5 mph.

**Saturday:** Fair and warmer with a high of 57 degrees and southerly winds at 10 mph.

**Weather Fact:** Sublimation — the transition of a substance from the solid phase directly to the vapor phase, or vice versa, without passing through an intermediate liquid phase. In physical and chemical literature, it is customary to regard as sublimation only the transition from solid to vapor, but meteorologists do not make this distinction.

Prepared by: Charlie Brenton  
Staff Meteorologist  
A&M Department of Meteorology

# Valentine's Day provides chance to celebrate love

By Jill Raupe  
Reporter

Around Feb. 14 minds turn to thoughts of love, thoughts of delicious chocolates packaged in beautiful, red, heart-shaped containers or thoughts of a dozen, fragrant, long-stemmed roses accompanied with an ornate card and a romantic verse.

The holiday of romance that leads to such thoughts — Valentine's Day — has been celebrated for centuries. Romans living before the Christian era celebrated Lupercalia, which was a lover's festival held on Feb. 15. Luperus was the god who protected the Romans from wolves that ravaged Europe by killing cattle and sheep. During the celebration, a goat and a dog were sacrificed to Luperus. Young men would hit people with animal hides, and the women enjoyed watching the whippings because they thought it made them more fertile.

Another custom involved writing a woman's name down and placing the name in a box. The men would draw a name and the paired couple would remain together until the next year's Lupercalia.

When the Romans conquered England in A.D. 43, the English inherited many Roman holidays. Romans believed birds started mating on Feb. 14, and this belief has continued through modern times.

The Catholic Church gave a Christian meaning to the pagan celebration. In A.D. 496, Pope Gelasius changed Lupercalia on Feb. 15 to St. Valentine's Day on Feb. 14.

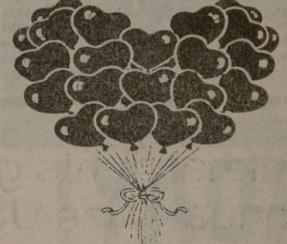
St. Valentine, a Roman priest, was beaten and beheaded by Emperor Claudius II on Feb. 14, A.D. 269, for refusing to give up his Christianity. One legend says Valentine was friends with many children. When the Romans imprisoned him for refusing to worship their gods, the children tossed loving messages into his cell window.

St. Valentine is now the patron saint of engaged couples and has been endowed with the power to patch up lovers' quarrels.

Another legend states that Valentine fell in love with his jailer's blind daughter. After restoring her sight and before his death, he left her a farewell note that he signed "from your Valentine."

The custom of sending verses can be traced to a Frenchman named Charles, Duke of Orleans. He was captured by the English during the Battle of Agincourt in 1415. On Valentine's Day, he sent a rhymed love letter to his wife from his cell in the Tower of London.

Many Valentine's Day customs involved ways in which single women could learn the identity of their future husbands.



English women of the 1700s wrote men's names on scraps of paper, rolled each in a little piece of clay and dropped them into water. The first paper that rose to the surface was believed to be the paper that contained the name of the woman's true love.

Another custom women practiced was to pin bay leaves to their pillows on Valentine's eve. If luck was on the woman's side, the bay leaves would act as a charm that would lead to the revelation of her future husband in her dreams.

Today in Great Britain and Italy, unmarried women get up before sunrise on Valentine's Day and stand by their windows waiting for a man to pass. According to the custom, the first man a woman sees will marry her within a year.

Men practiced customs similar to those followed by women on Valentine's Day. A man would write women's names on paper, place the papers in a jar and choose one. The chosen female became his valentine and he paid special attention to her. For several days, each man wore his valentine's name on his sleeve or over his heart.

Gloves were a popular gift to give valentines during the 1500s, but they were replaced later by messages and gifts. In the 1700s and 1800s, stores sold 'valentine writers,' which were handbooks with poetry to copy and suggestions about writing valentines.

Early valentines were hand-decorated with paper, fabric and lace.

Mass production of valentines began in the 1840s. People stopped writing messages and began sending ready-made cards of verse. More valentines were mailed to sweethearts as the postage became cheaper.

Cupid and the heart became common symbols for Valentine's Day long after the original celebrations began. According to mythology, if Cupid, the god of love, shoots a heart with a bronze arrow, the romance will be painful. If he shoots a heart with a golden arrow, the romance will be blissful.

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