



Pulse is brought to you by:



[WCFCourier.com](#) | [NEWS](#) | [SPORTS](#) | [BUSINESS](#) | [ENTERTAINMENT](#) | [FEATURES](#) | [CLASSIFIEDS](#) | [ONLINE TOOLS](#)

[PULSE Home](#) | [MUSIC NEWS](#) | [TV NEWS](#) | [NATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT NEWS](#) | [VIDEO GAME NEWS](#) | [MOVIE NEWS](#)

come alive

## coverstory

Thursday, June 8, 2006 12:21 PM CDT

[Comments \(0\)](#) [Email this story](#) [Print this story](#)

### High-speed connection

By **LINDSEY ORY**, *Courier Staff Writer*

WATERLOO --- Smiles, laughter and conversation flowed as easily as the drinks Monday night during the Cedar Valley's first Cupid.com-sponsored speed dating event.

"If you need a can of courage at any time, Lindsay is our bartender this evening and will take care of our beverage needs," Laura Paige, event coordinator, told the first-time participants.



Speed dating originated in the '90s within the Jewish community, according to cyberparent.com. The popular dating service has since left its religious roots and morphed into a mainstream phenomenon.

While not all of the eight men and five women chose to imbibe to relieve nerves, all enjoyed the opportunity to meet new and interesting individuals.

"This has truly been a lot of fun," said Aaron Card of the night's activities. "It's just a great way to meet new people and everything is very laid back, no pressure."

The tranquility could be attributed to the shortness of the dates and the confidential match sheets.

Each date was allotted 6 minutes, giving the two participants three minutes each to learn about each other. A bell rang when time was up, and the participants marked their interest in each brief date on a form.

The women stayed seated while the men moved from table to table to complete the dates. The process continued until all participants had met each other.

At the end of the session, the men and women took their match sheets home and entered their dates' scores on-line. In 24 hours the match-results were e-mailed to each individual.

Along with virtually no possibility of rejection, low-lighting and votives at each table created a warm atmosphere to ease nerves.

"I brought a notecard along with some questions, just in case," said Brett Weichers. "I enjoy traveling so that's one thing I want to ask the dates about."

Deal-breaker questions, such as personal interests, are the way to go, said Paige.

"We encourage people to ask more interesting questions than 'Where do you live?', 'What do you do?', explained Paige. "It would be disappointing to find a connection with someone and then find out they're a smoker if you aren't."

However, questions about one's sex life, personal information --- like last names ---

#### pulse calendar

June 2006						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

#### Events Calendar

Do you have and event you want the world to know about? Click [HERE](#) to submit it online **FREE!**

Brought to you by:

#### advertising

or asking for a date must be avoided while speed dating.

"Talking about sex would take much longer than 6 minutes, so that's why it should be left alone for now," said Paige, to the amusement of the participants.

While the event was not the first of its kind in the Cedar Valley, it brought out a lot of first-timers.

"I have always wanted to attend one of these events, but the scheduled times for them always conflicted with my work schedule," said Eric Van Sickle, 33. "After attending, I will be going to the next session I qualify for."

Events are often scheduled with age groups in mind. The next event is set for 7 p.m. July 19th at Beck's for ages 39-49. In August, Coconut's will host a speed dating event for 24- to 34-year-olds. Online registration is required.

For more information or to register, check out [cupid.com/predating](http://cupid.com/predating) or call local event coordinator Laura Paige at 493-0484.

Contact Lindsey Ory at (319) 291-1482 or [lindsey.ory@wfc Courier.com](mailto:lindsey.ory@wfc Courier.com).

## morecoverstory

- [High-speed connection](#)

## WFCCourier.comments

**DISCLAIMER:** All comments will be approved by an editor. Your comment should be up shortly. Please keep all comments clear of any profanity. We have the right to delete and/or edit any and all comments.

Total comments 0

Name:

Comments:

Get the whole story every day!

- [To find a single copy location nearest you - Click Here](#)
- [Home Delivery - Click Here to Subscribe](#)

[BACK TO TOP](#)

[BACK TO HOMEPAGE](#)