

2019 State of the Union

BY TYLER DUNN

WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Just after the longest government shutdown in United States history, all of congress gathered in the House chamber for President Trump's second State of the Union address.. With this being the first time the President has had to lead with a divided legislative branch, President Trump's second State of the Union address quite fittingly placed a focus on unity . President Trump began the State of the Union with a bipartisan tone stating that, "This is a new opportunity in American politics, if we only have the courage to seize it." The President then went on to state, "Victory is not winning for our party, Victory is winning for our country".

The address lasted a total of 82 minutes, and was one of the longest addresses in history. The speech was interrupted by applause over a hundred times. This stream of of applause actually became one of the more talked about issues surrounding the speech. Many of the Democrats were criticized for sitting on their hands and not recognizing President Trump's many accomplishments in his first two years. Democrats refused to applaud the President for having achieved the lowest unemployment for African Americans and Hispanic Americans. This was somewhat shocking as the economy has been extremely strong under President Trump and unemployment across the country has continued to fall.

The president continued to discuss border security and the importance of protecting our southern border specifically. . This included the recognition of an ICE agent in the gallery of the house chamber who had caught hundreds of human traffickers at the southern border. To the surprise of many, Trump did not declare a national emergency at the southern border, but stated that he could do so.

One of the most talked about moments of the night occurred when the entire Congress rose to their feet and applauded President Trump when he gave congratulations to the most number of women elected in congress. Overall, the speech was very well received by Republicans and Independents as nearly 95 percent of Republicans saw the speech as favorable and 78 percent of independents.

Stacy Abrams gave a very well received response to Trump's speech, however, the main takeaway was Trump's attempt to extend an olive branch across the aisle. The message of unity will be put to the test right away as the temporary funding for the government is set to expire later this month. †

Valentine's Day Gift Ideas:

How to show love and save money... at the same time!

BY ALEXANDRIA ROSE GOSEN

FROM WISHES ON STARS TO PLUCKING PETALS, many of us wish for a valentine to celebrate this chocolate-filled holiday with. Getting a Valentine is only half the battle though. Once you have a valentine, then you must find... dun dun dun... The perfect gift! After asking several students here on campus, I have compiled a list of the top gifts for February 14th (or anytime, really)! Here it is:

1. Time Spent

Many people have agreed that the best gift for Valentine's Day is simply spending time together. Don't overcomplicate things! There's no need to break the bank; just spend some quality time with your valentine. Go for a walk, stay in for the night of snuggling and movies, or indulge a bit and go out for dinner. Just make sure you have some special one-on-one time.

2. Handmade Gifts

A handmade gift is always heartfelt, original, and made with love. The best part about a homemade gift is that it can be as simple or complex as you want! From a heartfelt note to a hand-painted portrait, the main goal is just to show how much you care. With handmade gifts, it really is the thought that counts. Relieve the pressure from yourself and do your best. Your lover will recognize the energy you put into it.

3. Day-After Discounts!

Because it's a holiday, Valentines day shoppers often feel the pressure to empty their wallet on a gift. Guess what? You don't have to! There are some people who are just fine with Day-After discount chocolates and other V-Day goodies. The best part? Because it's on sale, you are able to buy more! It's perfectly acceptable to exchange gifts a day late and save that extra dollar.

4. Ask Someone to be your Valentine

The lonely hearts club is quite extensive. Now is a great day to confess your feelings and give them the simple yet profound gift of being admired! You could ask out that cute guy/girl you've been crushing on for weeks, or, you could even ask your best friend, and spread that platonic love! All that matters is that you have someone to celebrate with.

5. Give a compliment

Even simpler and less intimidating than professing your love, telling a friend or crush that you like their hair, shirt, or well-attended cuticles can make their day.

There you have it folks! You don't need to break the bank on your Valentine this year. Just have a fun night, and celebrate love! †



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BUT ONLY GETS PAID
FOR ONE.**

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