Ruby master - Feature #6270
add "??a" support for "not defined?(a) or a.nil?"

04/08/2012 12:49 PM - jacksonwillis (Jackson Willis)

<table>
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<td>Priority</td>
<td>Normal</td>
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**Description**

It would work like this:

```ruby
??foo #=> nil
foo = nil
??foo #=> nil
foo = 3
??foo #=> true
```

Not sure if this would be useful, just a suggestion.

**History**

#1 - 04/08/2012 06:45 PM - jacksonwillis (Jackson Willis)

So `??foo` is basically a macro for `not defined?(foo) or foo.nil?`.

#2 - 04/09/2012 01:33 AM - drbrain (Eric Hodel)

```ruby
=begin
This syntax seems too similar to the ?a character string syntax
Currently ?a returns "a", so how would the parsing of this expression change:

true ??a:?b
Which currently returns "a", or:

question_method??a
Which currently parses the same as:

question_method? "a"
=end
```

#3 - 04/09/2012 08:23 AM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

- Status changed from Open to Rejected

As Eric pointed out, it's conflicting existing syntax. I don't reject the basic idea (though I am excited), so try again with new syntax if you really want this.

Matz.