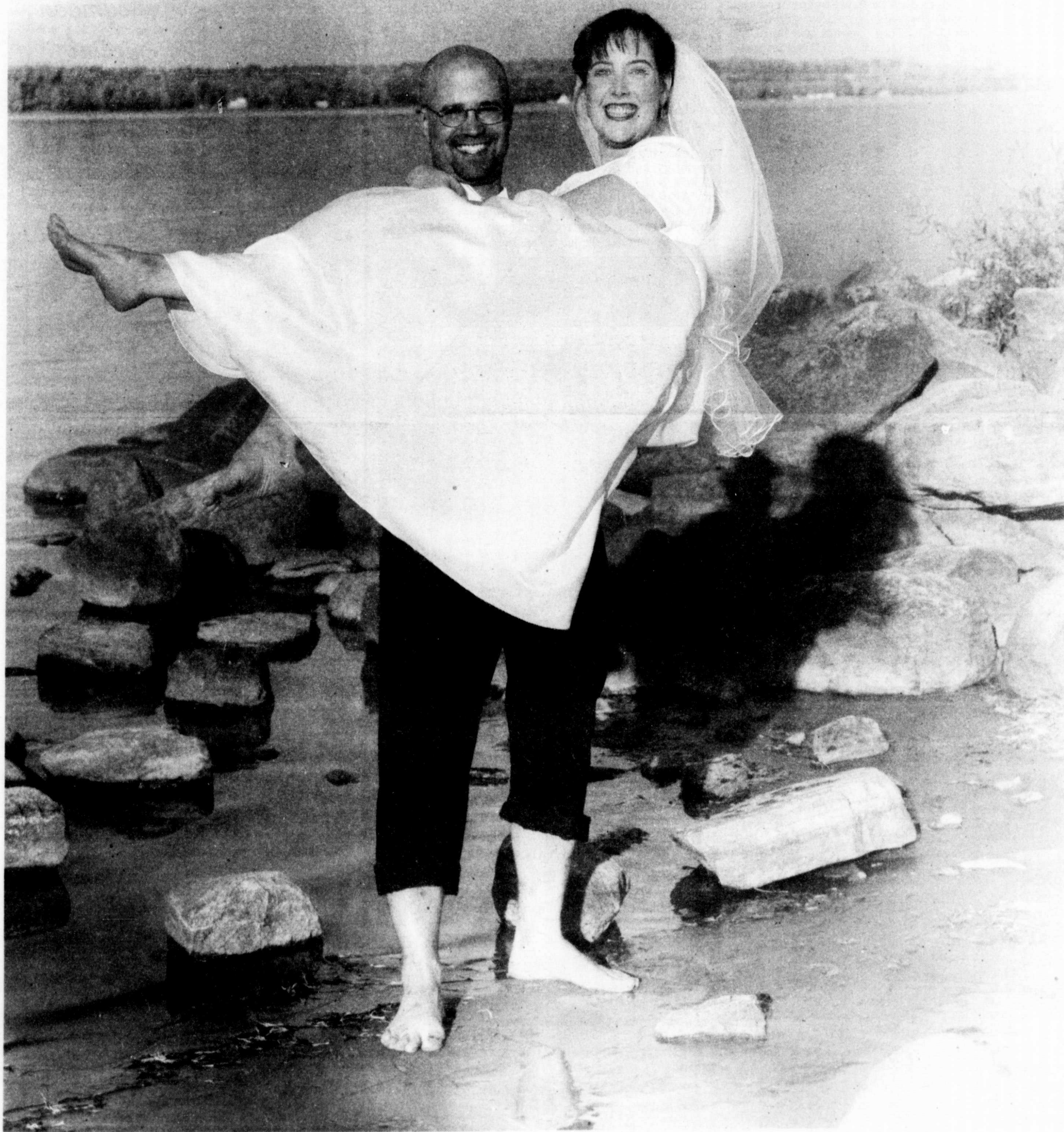


THE EQUITY'S
BRIDES



'Inviting' Tips on How to Send the Right Message

It is said that any wedding invitation will get your message across. However, depending on the style of the invitation you select, you can end up making a completely different statement than the one you had intended to make.

When it comes to planning a wedding, selecting an invitation can be the single most complex and confusing aspect of the entire process. Invitations are your guests' first impression of the party, and the style selected often affects their expectations of the reception and choice of

attire. Gift-giving also is subject to influence by the invitation received.

Selecting an invitation is like creating your own unique recipe. You choose the ingredients and want it to be tasteful. The main ingredients you have at your disposal are the texture, color and shape of the paper, along with style of font and ink color. These can be combined with additional layers of paper, envelope-lining options and calligraphy styles. The finishing touches are wording selection, supplied artwork, a monogram or appliques.

There is infinite opportunity for uniqueness.

As you consider these options, be sure that you select the style of the invitation well before the affair. You can base your initial decision on quantity. To do this, take the forecasted number of guests, divide it in half and add an additional 25. This number will factor in the cross section of single guests, families and couples.

It is extremely important to order the correct quantity. A big part of the initial cost of printing is to typeset and prepare the press for printing. Reordering invitations creates a large expense, no matter the quantity.

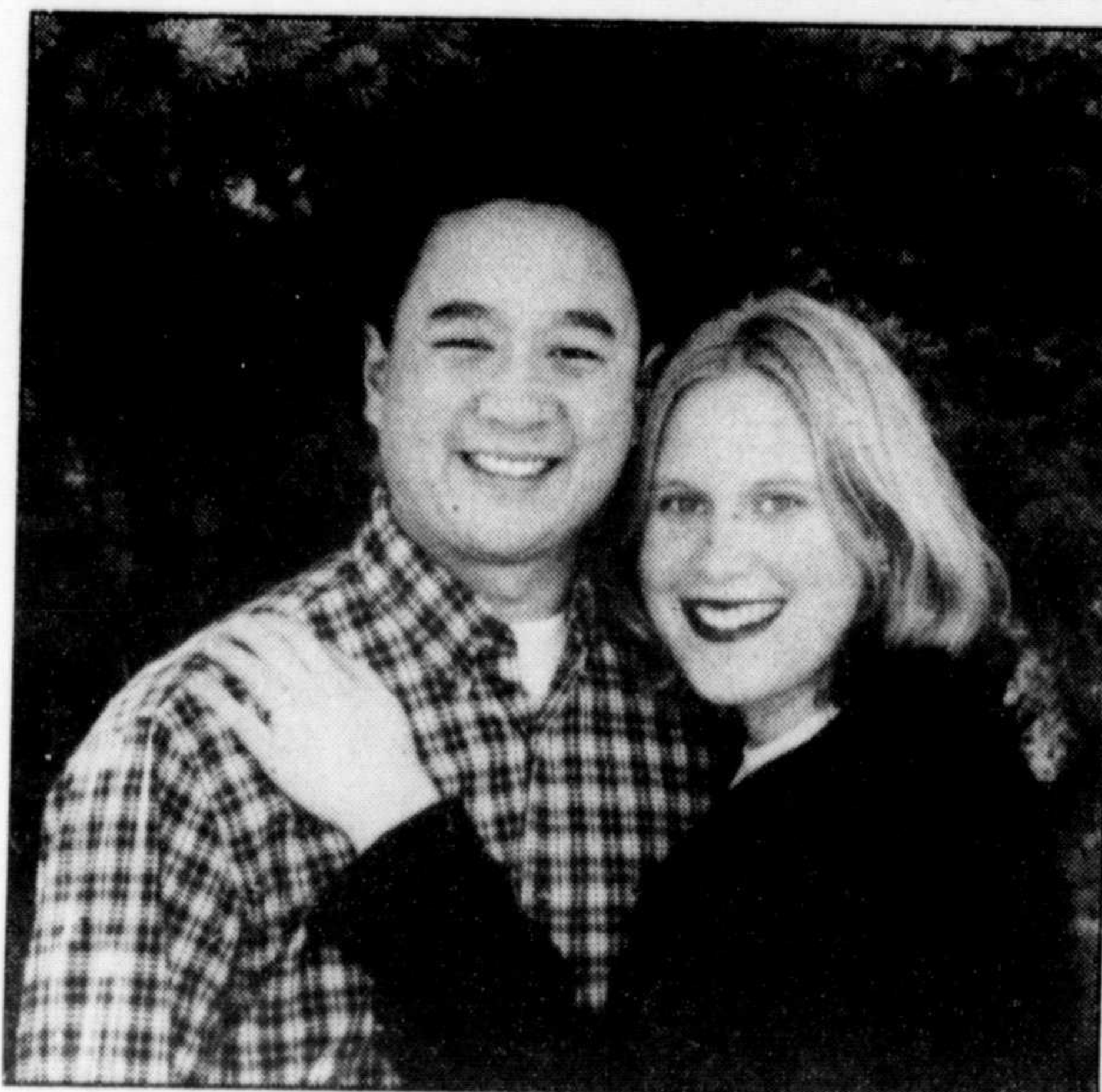
Wait until you have definite times and sites for your ceremony and reception before submitting the wording. Also, reevaluate your guest list while you still have the opportunity to increase or decrease the ini-

tial quantity.

Enter your wording on a word processor or computer that has a spell-checker, then print it out. If you do it this way instead of writing your wording by hand, you will decrease the incidence of error significantly.

Frequently, people attempt to print the addresses themselves on their personal computers instead of writing them or hiring a calligrapher. Unfortunately, matching the font and the color lettering used on the invitation is not always possible. Furthermore, the printing is not raised. An envelope addressed with a matching font and ink can enhance that first impression.

Now that you successfully have selected the invitations you want, there is one final step. Be sure to mail them in time — at least four to six weeks before the ceremony.



Hodgins - Chan

Royce and Helen Hodgins of Shawville, Quebec, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Heather, to Kevin, son of Kai and the late Mei Chan of Amherst, Nova Scotia. Kevin and Heather will pledge their love for one another on September 30, 2000.



Corriveau - Herault

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Corriveau are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Lynn to Roy Jr. Herault, son of Roy Herault and Vona Boisvert. The wedding will take place on August 12, 2000, at Ste. Anne's Church on Calumet Island.

Cover photo by Studio Andrée
Kathleen Grace and Chris Russell



Holbrook - Marks

Harry and Marguerite Holbrook are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Mary Jean to Sean, son of Jimmy and Shirley Marks. The wedding is to take place on Saturday, May 13, 2000, at St. Andrew's Knox United Church in Bristol, Quebec.

X Groomsmen gifts

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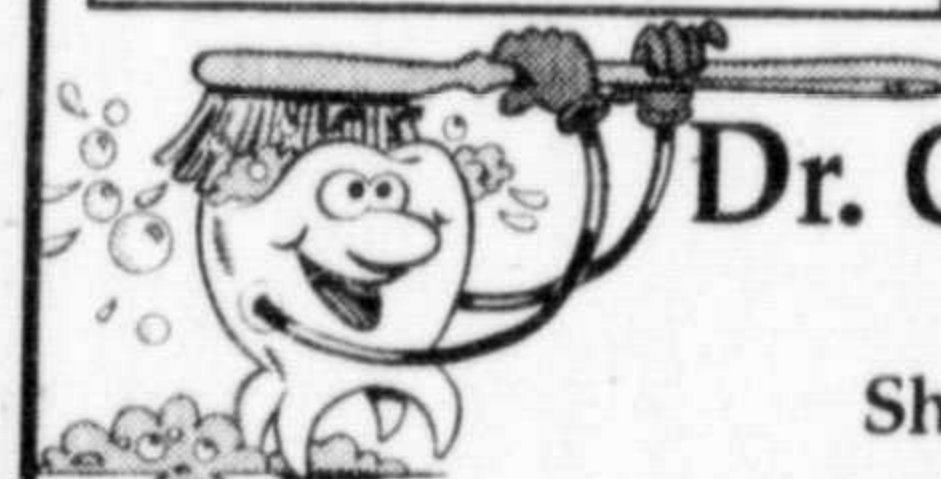
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Paul - Graham

Garry and Norma Graham are pleased to announce the engagement of their son Greg to Ronda Paul, daughter of Ron and Ruth Ann Paul. Their wedding is planned for August 26, 2000, in Verona, Ontario.



Bean - McNulty

Doug and Karen Bean are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter Shari-Lynn to Dwayne, son of Daniel and Catherine McNulty of Springtown, Ontario. Wedding to take place on September 16, 2000.



White - Stanton

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Stanton and Mrs. Diane White are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Mark Stanton and Tracy White. The wedding will take place on June 3, 2000.

Engagements 'Groom'ing Tips To Ensure a Perfect Wedding

A picture-perfect wedding requires a team effort from all of the players involved. While much of the planning traditionally is handled by the bride and her family, the groom also plays an integral part in deciding on the many wedding arrangements.

To help ensure a beautiful wedding for the happy couple, following are some basic task lists for the groom and his team, to make the big day a success.

Groom

- Buy an engagement ring.
- Prepare a guest list and indicate who should be seated in reserved pews.
- Invite friends to be the best man and ushers in the wedding.
- Visit the formalwear specialist to select the wedding attire.
- Choose gifts for the bride, the best man and the ushers.
- Select the wedding ring (this should be done with the bride).
- Plan the honeymoon (this should be done with the bride) in time to assure getting reservations.
- Apply for the marriage license. Check the state and local rules about the time required. This should be obtained several weeks before the wedding and

given to the best man the day of the wedding, along with the clergyman's fee.

• Check to be sure that all of the necessary papers — blood tests, birth certificates, etc. — are complete and available upon request.

Best Man

• Take charge of the ushers; brief them on special seating arrangements during the rehearsal.

• Keep the wedding ring and have it the day of the ceremony, or be sure the ring bearer carries out instructions properly.

• Have the marriage license and clergyman's fee on hand.

• Help the groom get ready for the wedding.

• Call for and escort the groom to the wedding. Be there at least 15 to 30 minutes before the ceremony begins.

Ushers

• Be at the wedding site at least one hour before the ceremony.

• Have a typed list of guests occupying reserved pews. As the guests arrive, ask whether they are friends of the bride or groom and seat them accordingly.

• An usher should escort the bride's mother to the front pew just before the procession.

✓ Music at the ceremony

Churches or synagogues may have certain rules and regulations about what kind of music is acceptable. Be sure to ask first, in order to avoid any costly alternatives.

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Enjoy a Dream Wedding With Proper Planning

Every bride and groom wants their wedding to be perfect. From the ceremony to the reception, they consider all the details, and while this makes for a beautiful wedding day, it also causes months, even years, of stress.

The best way for a couple to remain calm while planning the big day is to get organized. By making a list of things they need to do, they can allot time in their schedules for each task — and they can feel a sense of accomplishment and relief each time they cross something off the list.

This basic checklist can get them started on their way to a beautiful wedding day.

• **Set the date** — As soon as possible after getting engaged, the couple should select a wedding date and decide on the type of wedding they would like to have. From a traditional ceremony in a church to a surprise wedding, where guests are invited to a "party" that turns out to be a wedding, couples are personalizing the event and planning weddings that reflect their lifestyles and interests.

• **Reserve a location** — The couple should reserve the church or location of the ceremony soon after setting the date to ensure they can get married on the day they want. Then, they need to reserve a reception location. Party houses and halls specialize in party

business and feature catering directors who will assist a couple in planning their dream wedding.

• **Select a photographer** — Every photographer has a different style. The couple should choose one who will accommodate their wishes, like taking the types and number of shots they want, attending both the ceremony and reception, and offering the album design they would like. The photographer's personality is very important — the couple will be spending an entire day with this person, so they should choose someone who will make them feel comfortable.

• **Book reception entertainment** — The couple should select a band or disc jockey who will cater to everyone at the reception — both the younger and older generations. The musical selections should be diverse, and requests from the guests should be taken.

• **Arrange wedding transportation** — Whether it's a Rolls-Royce, stretch limo, horse and buggy, or double-decker bus, the couple should plan for transportation to and from the ceremony and to the reception for themselves and their attendants. They should make reservations early, especially if they want a white car.

• **Order dresses** — Shopping for a wedding dress, headpiece and bridesmaid dresses is one

of the most fun parts of the planning for the future bride. She should choose a wedding dress that reflects her style and personality — and makes her look beautiful. When considering dresses for her attendants, the bride-to-be should opt for a style that complements her dress, as well as the women in her party.

• **Choose a florist** — Flowers can add an elegant touch to the wedding day, and every florist has a unique style. The couple should select one whose arrangements they like and who offers them helpful, creative ideas about bouquets, corsages and centerpieces.

• **Decide on a bakery** — The couple should select a bakery based on the flavor of the cakes baked there and the look of previous work. They should ask for a taste of the different types of cake offered, and check if the bakery will be able to create the design that they want.

• **Select formalwear** — Whether it's a basic tuxedo or a top hat and tail coat, formalwear completes the look of the wedding party. The couple should select a formalwear provider who offers the style they want, has a variety of sizes available to fit all of the men standing up, and offers a large selection of bow ties and cummerbunds or vests.

• **Order invitations** — Invitations come in many different styles, so the bride and groom will have a number of books to look through. They should decide on a style that best suits their wedding, based on its formality, the time of day and the wedding colors. The stationery professional can help them with this decision.

With these important decisions made, the future bride and groom only have a few things left to do, like selecting favors, writing a wedding bulletin and buying thank-you gifts for their attendants. They are well on their way to the wedding of their dreams.



Studio André

Amyotte - Beck

Ken and Marilyn Amyotte are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Kristine to Robbie, son of Cyrus and Doris Beck. Wedding to take place at St. Charles Borromeo Church, Otter Lake on August 12, 2000.

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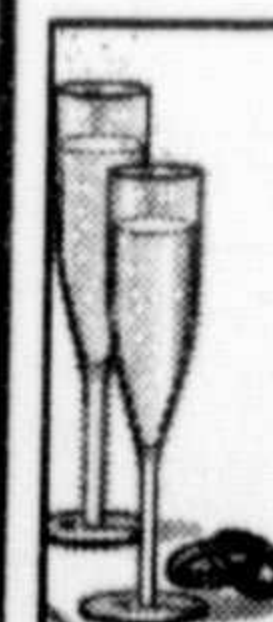
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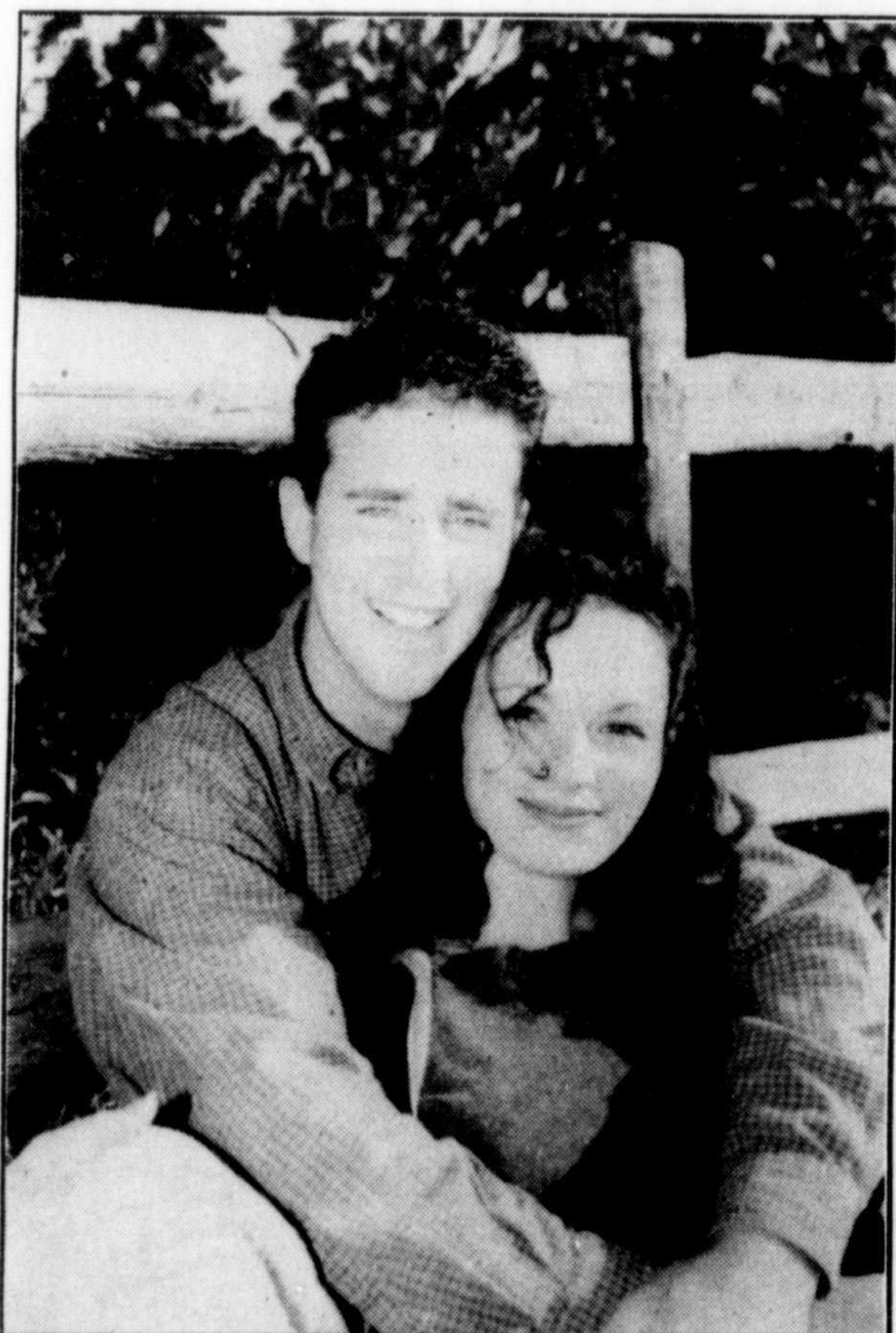
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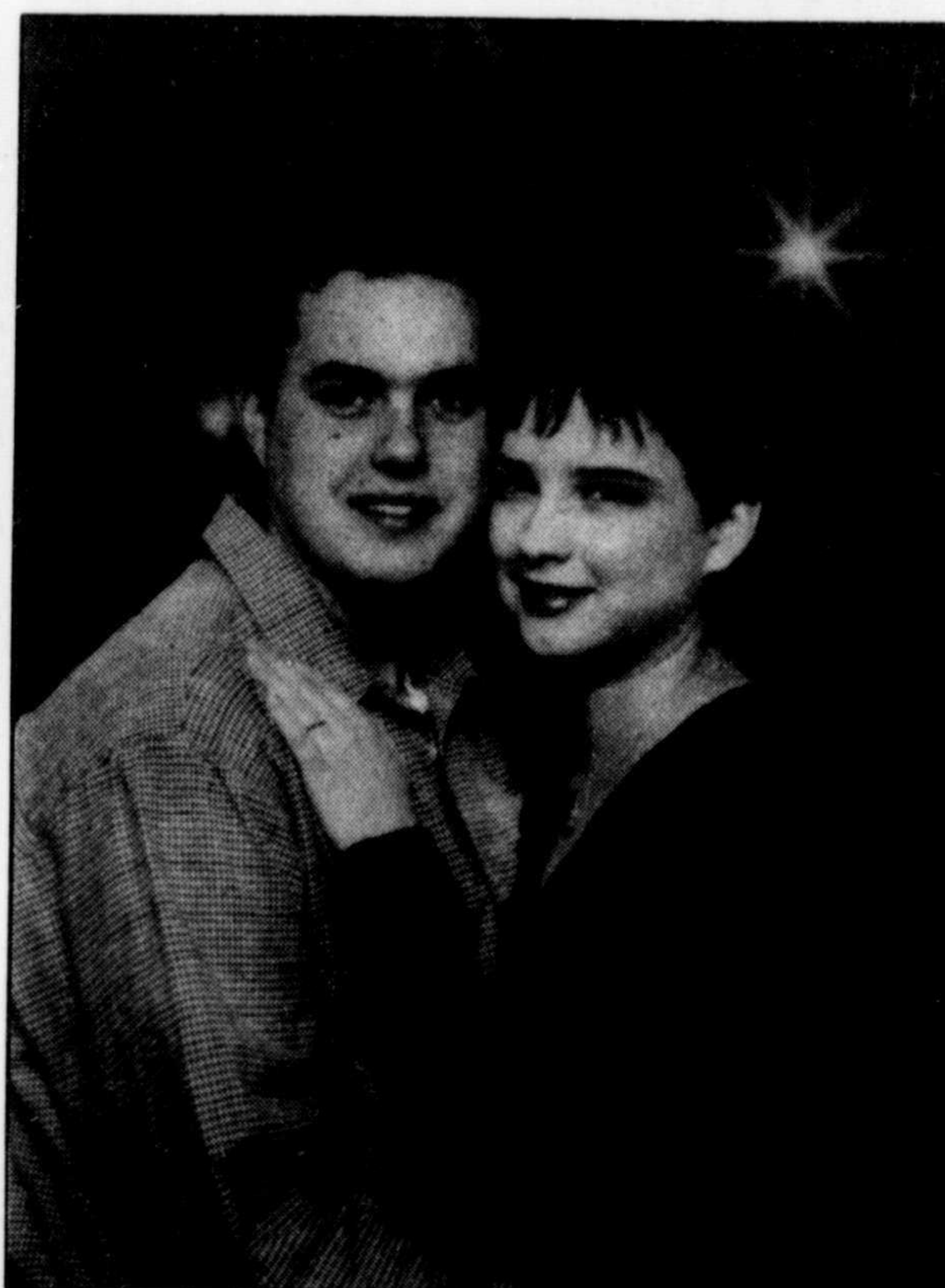
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Reddy - Smith

Cathy and Larry Reddy of Calabogie, Ontario are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Jody to Lawrence Smith, son of Harvey and Fern Smith of Shawville. Wedding to take place September 9, 2000 in Calabogie.



Brownlee - Prins

Boyd and Betty-Lou Brownlee of Shawville, Quebec, announce the engagement of their daughter Karen Ann to Jason Andrew, son of Ted and Glenna Prins of Pembroke, Ontario. Wedding to take place August 5, 2000, at the Shawville Wesleyan Church.

A precious symbol of love and devotion, pearls are the perfect match for any wedding gown

As most brides-to-be know, the process of planning a wedding can be a trying one, full of important and difficult decisions. Fortunately, there is one decision that has been a no-brainer for generations of

brides: what type of jewelry to wear on the big day. The choice of pearls has been a cherished bridal tradition since 3,000 years before the birth of Christ. With the advent of cultured pearls in the 1920s, the tra-

dition continued. Today, the wearing of cultured pearls by the bride not only is an honored tradition symbolizing happiness and marital bliss, but also a great way to add an elegant accent to any bridal ensemble.

With the different varieties of pearls and range of styles available, now more than ever, there is pearl jewelry to fit every bride's personal style and budget. As most brides prefer to wear white pearls, Akoya or South Sea pearls are two fabulous options.

Akoya pearls are the classic cultured pearls that immediately come to mind whenever the word "pearl" is mentioned. Cultivated in Japan, Akoya pearls generally are thought of as having the most intense and brilliant luster of all pearl varieties.

South Sea pearls, on the other hand, are known for their extraordinary size, which ranges from 10 millimeters to as large as 20 millimeters. Considered the Rolls-Royce of pearls because they are among the most rare and valuable of all cultured pearl varieties, South Sea pearls have a silky luster that makes them the perfect match to almost any bridal gown.

When choosing cultured pearls for a wedding, it is best to buy them from a knowledgeable and reputable jeweler. The Cultured Pearl Information Center recommends that a bride keep several points in mind when buying pearls. First of all, because cultured pearls are a product of nature, they seldom, if ever, are perfect.

Perhaps the most important quality to look for in a pearl is its luster. Luster is the combination of surface brilliance and a deep-seated glow emanating from within the heart of a pearl. When looked at in normal light, a highly lustrous pearl produces an almost mirror-like reflection on the surface. The appearance of a white, dull or chalky surface indicates that a pearl is of lower quality.

Another aspect to consider when choosing a pearl is the cleanliness of its surface. It should be relatively free of blemishes that appear as cracks, bumps or pits. The cleaner the surface of a pearl, the more valuable.

Furthermore, the shape of a pearl is another important factor to consider when purchasing jewelry. Round pearls traditionally are the most popular choice for weddings. However, irregularly shaped or baroque pearls also can be lustrous and appealing, and often cost less than round pearls.

Cultured pearls range in size from smaller than 3 millimeters, as in the case of small Akoya pearls, to as large as 20 millimeters for a South Sea pearl. All other factors being equal, the larger the pearl, the more valuable.

Whatever the bride decides, she can be sure that along with adding subtle elegance to her wedding gown, her cultured pearls will be one of the most cherished mementos from her big day. As a symbol of love and devotion, her pearls will become a staple in her wardrobe for years to come.



Lemaire - Burke

Studio Andrée

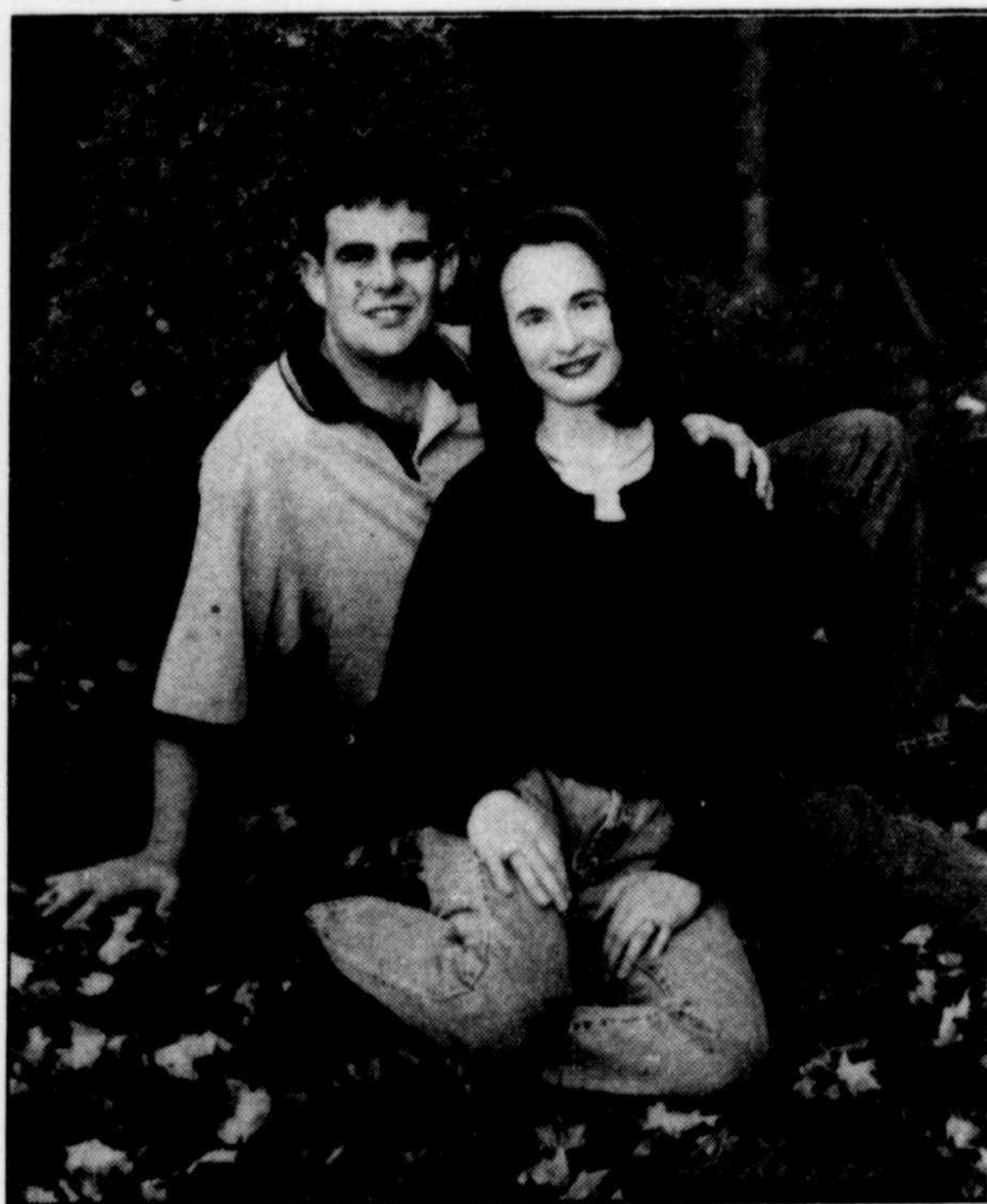
Mr. and Mrs. Michel Lemaire are pleased to announce the upcoming wedding of their daughter Manon to Joël Burke, son of Mrs. Charles Burke. Wedding will take place on Saturday, April 29, 2000, at St-John's the Evangelist Church, Campbell's Bay, Québec.



Cartman - Hodgins

Studio Photography

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Cartman along with Mr. Donald S. Hodgins and Mrs. Sharron Hodgins are pleased to announce the upcoming marriage of their children Christina and Andrew. Wedding will take place on May 20, 2000, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Ladysmith, Quebec. Dinner and reception to follow in Shawville, Quebec.



Sharpe - Rogers

Studio Andrée

Lorne and Edrie Sharpe are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Janet, to Brian, son of Grant and Ann Rogers. Wedding to take place on June 17, 2000, at Shawville United Church.

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(MS) — The wedding day is one of the most exciting and memorable days in a couple's life. The bride and groom want everything, from the gown to the flowers to the food served at the reception, to be perfect. Most of all, they want the memories of the big day to be special.

The entertainment provided at the wedding reception is critical in determining the success of the event. The choice of music for the reception can make or break the entire party. Regardless of whether you use a live band or disc jockey, lively music and a personable bandleader or DJ can help build a mood and play songs that can get the guests dancing.

Hiring the right band or DJ for your wedding can be confusing. Asking good questions, knowing the right answers and getting all guarantees in writing will ensure the selection of reliable, reputable vendors. The following questions and answers, courtesy of Modern Bride magazine, can help you hire the best musicians for the reception.

1. Can I determine the quality of a band's performance by listening to a tape or viewing its video? If you like the sound on the tape and/or the way the band delivers on video, inquire about where you can see the group play at a showcase, an actual wedding or some other place where it is booked.

2. How can I be certain that the band I book will be the one at my wedding? It is essential to get the name of the band in writing on your contract.

3. Does the orchestra have liability insurance? A reputable company will maintain such coverage. Most reception facilities require that the orchestra furnish them with a certificate of insurance.

4. Does the band take breaks? Most bands take a 15-minute break after a 45-minute set. Taped music can be arranged during the breaks or continuous music (at an extra charge) can be planned.

5. Are there additional charges for traveling time, playing during cocktails and overtime? Probably. Ask about that at your initial meeting, and be sure that those charges are clearly stated in your contract and understood before you sign it.

6. Is there a surcharge or sales tax? There is no sales tax on musical services, but there may be some surcharges (i.e. payroll, transportation). Be sure to ask.

7. Does the band have an extensive song list with selections that appeal to a wide range of guests? A good band will be able to play a range of music that spans the decades, from big band to Top 40 to Motown hits, as well as ethnic pieces.

8. Will the band members wear appropriate attire?

Unless otherwise noted, and depending on the formality of the wedding, members should wear black tie.

9. Is there a way I can be sure the amplification will not be deafening? Tell the bandleader or DJ of your concern, so if this is not a

place where the group has played before, he or she can check out the location to prepare ahead for any acoustical challenges that must be addressed to keep the decibels under control.

10. Does the bandleader or DJ act as master of ceremonies and coordinate the

sequence of events at the reception, and if so, should I meet with mine about this before the wedding? The master of ceremonies is usually the bandleader or DJ, and you absolutely should have an in-person meeting to talk over the reception events.



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Peck - Mohr

Studio Andrée

Kathy and Brent Peck wish to announce the engagement of their daughter Christina Katherine to Karl Hilliard, son of Mary Theresa Murdock and Erwin Mohr. Wedding vows to be exchanged on September 23, 2000.

Beautiful fine jewelry down the aisle

(MS) — "It is not from reason and prudence that people marry, but from inclination," observed the 18th-century writer Samuel Johnson. If he was right, then millions of young couples will be so inclined in this millennium year, creating what promises to be a record number of nuptials.

Like every wedding ceremony, each bride will be different, as will her choice

of what to wear down the aisle. Setting her apart are her jewelry and accessories, as well as the style of her gown. However, unlike the wedding dress, destined to be worn just once, the perfect jewelry will enhance her look today and provide pleasure for years to come.

With so many choices available, what jewelry should a bride wear on her

important day and what appropriate jewelry gifts can her family and friends provide? According to bridal experts, the leading fashion trend is strapless gowns, placing emphasis on the bride's shoulders and neck. With that in mind, a perfectly chosen necklace and earrings are essential.

Many brides will accessorize to match the trim on their gowns. Pearl trim? A cultured pearl necklace, a South Sea pendant or perhaps a long strand of freshwater pearls woven into her hair would complement. Beaded details? Opt for something sparkly, like a diamond tiara or hair clip.

For many young brides this year, it is not just the gown that will be white.

About 25 percent of new brides are choosing platinum for their wedding sets. In that case, a delicate platinum necklace and small hoop earrings would be a perfect choice. If her rings are in white gold, a small pearl or diamond pendant on a white gold chain would be the perfect accompaniment.

For most brides, a simple necklace is the best. Popular this year are tiny illusion looks in which pearls, beads or diamonds appear to float on invisible wires. Newer still are antique-inspired, multi-strand collars that cover all or part of the neck. And for the classicist, no bride could go wrong with a strand of cultured pearls or a lacy diamond choker.

In earrings, the popular look is feminine, yet understated, often borrowing themes from Victorian times. This means earrings with delicate florals or openwork designs. Diamonds, pearls or perhaps pastel-colored gemstones can embellish them. In fact, an effective and memorable "something blue" could be a pair of sapphire, aquamarine or tanzanite earrings.

In this millennium year, the perfect gift for the wedding couple will be engraved with their names and wedding date. Items can range from a silver tray, frame or desk set with their initials entwined or personal items for each, like a romantic gold locket, a money clip, cuff links or watch engraved with a personalized message. An engraved gift becomes an instant heirloom in remembrance of that special day.

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Harris - Greer

Studio Andrée

Mr. and Mrs. Brian (Bucky) Harris are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Kimberley to Cory Greer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jason Greer. Wedding to take place July 8, 2000, at Saint Paul's Anglican Church, Shawville, Quebec.

Thank the ones who make the wedding day special

One of the most important tasks that the bridal couple must complete is the overwhelming job of writing thank-you notes to all who sent gifts. The job of sending these notes is so time-consuming, because they must be written; a verbal thank you is not enough.

Wedding gifts are given to both the bride and groom. When writing a thank-you note, be sure the signature reflects both of them. Writing the notes is not just the task of the bride, so be sure to put the groom to work. One idea is

for the groom to write to his friends and the bride to hers.

Make sure the gift is specifically mentioned in the note, keeping in mind that monetary gifts should never be referred to by dollar amount.

Finally, couples should share any special memories they have of their guest from the wedding. Not only will they be thanking the guest for the gift, but most importantly, they'll be thanking him or her for coming to and celebrating the happy occasion with them.

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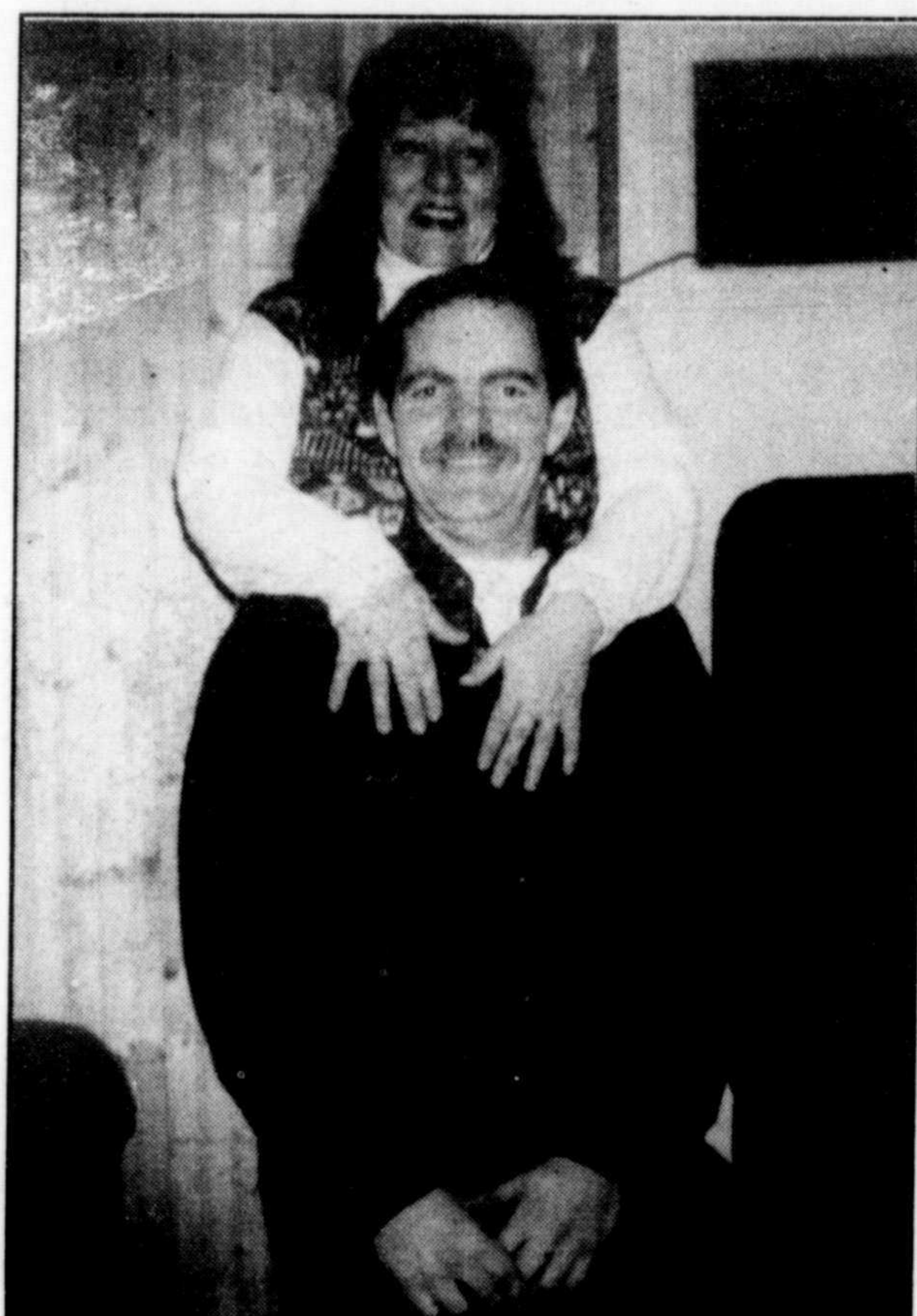
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St-Jacques - Leach

Lucie St-Jacques and Robert (Bubba) Leach are pleased to announce their engagement. Wedding to take place in May, 2000.



Studio Photography

Smith - Falasconi

Durrell and Karen Smith are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter Lisa to Roland, son of Rolando and Gisela Falasconi. Wedding to take place June 3, 2000, at St. Edward's Parish.

SHAWVILLE LIONS HALL

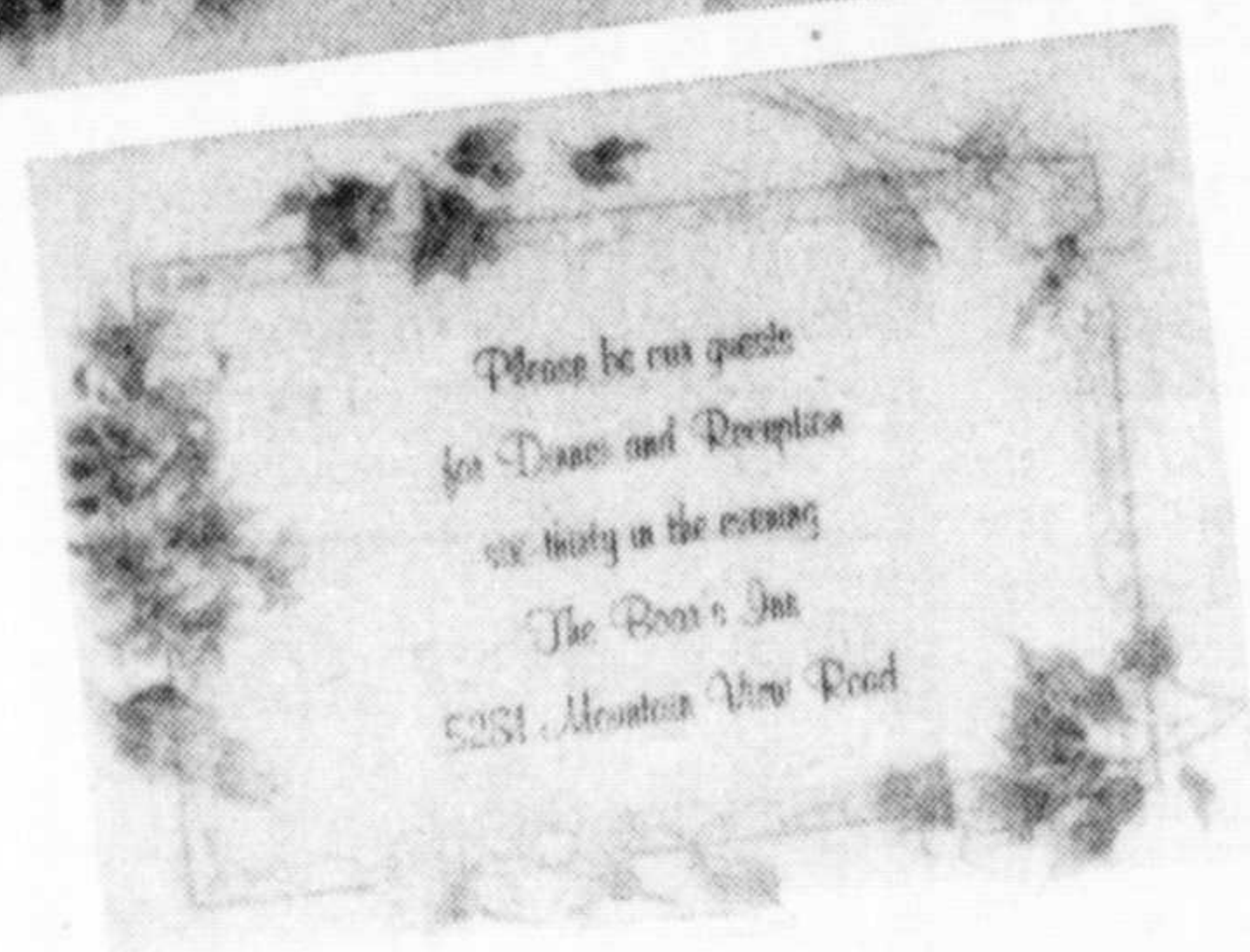
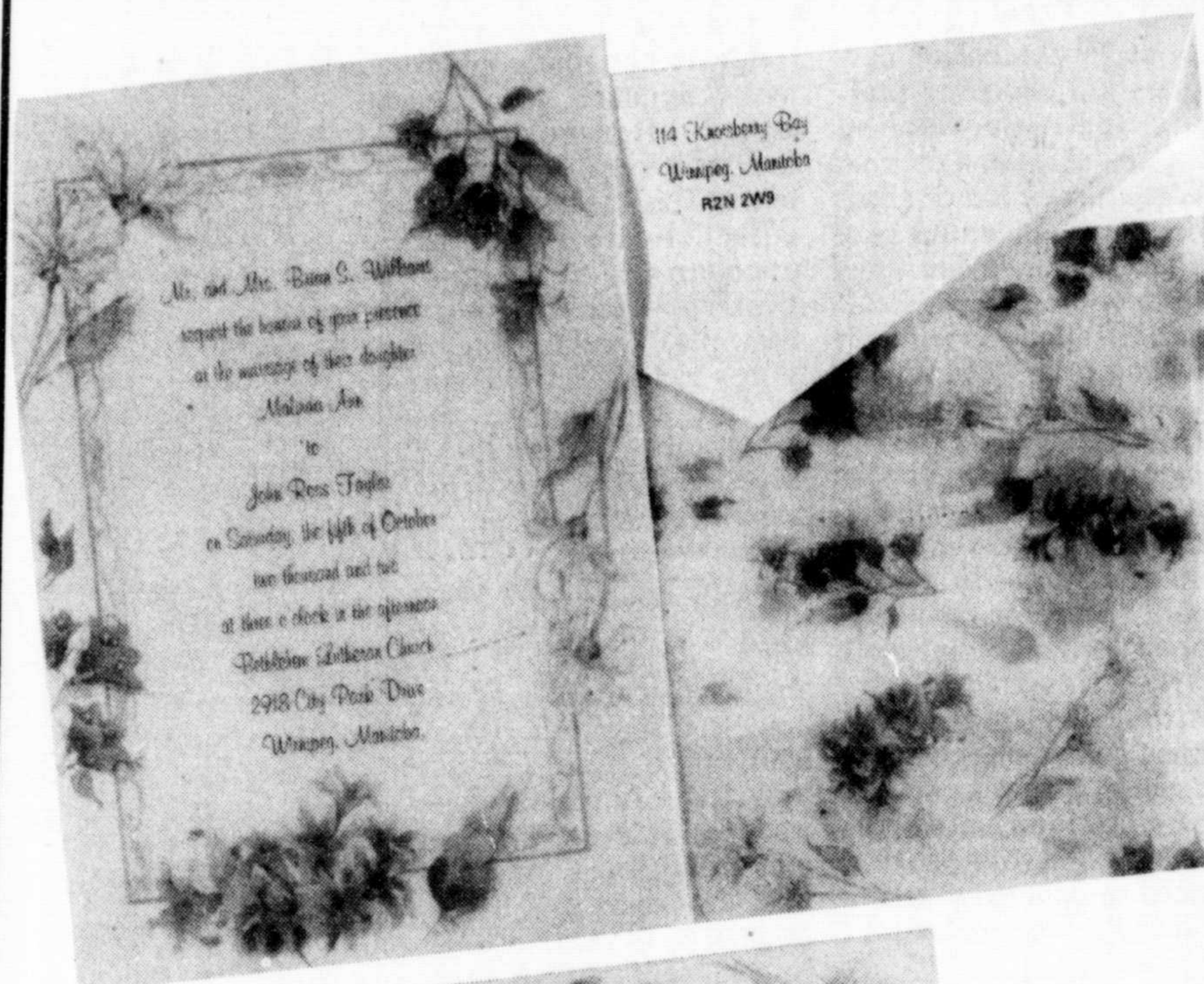
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Turcotte - Finan

Mary and Dwaine Turcotte and Ken and Fran Finan announce with pleasure the engagement of their children, Kim Marie and Carey Reid. Marriage to take place August 26, 2000, in Renfrew, Ontario.

On Your Wedding Day



Girard's Photography

Charter - Young

Gary and Doreen Charter are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Sarah Isabella to Scott John, son of Hugh and Judy Young of Bristol, Quebec. Wedding to take place July 8, 2000, at Renfrew Presbyterian Church.



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The final countdown: tips to keep from going crazy

(MS) — After all those months, and even years, of planning, your wedding day has almost arrived. However, with the wedding almost one month away, the final details must be taken care of. You may be driving yourself crazy trying to remember everything that needs to be done, so the ceremony and reception

will go off without a hitch. To ease the tension you may encounter during the next month, Modern Bride magazine offers some helpful tips to ensure that all tasks will be completed, so you can relax and enjoy your wedding day.

The month before your wedding

- Develop an orderly system of tracking guests' responses.

tem of tracking guests' responses.

- Discuss the bachelor party with your fiancé. Suggest the event be scheduled at least a week before the wedding day.

- Call the caterer, and finalize the menu. Be sure the cake has been ordered.

- Give your caterer a reliable estimate of the number of guests expected at the reception.

- Confer with the florist to be sure everything is ordered. Confirm the time that flowers will be delivered and decorations will be completed.

- Arrange the transportation schedule for the wedding party.

- Make certain you are insured against damage or loss in transit.

Two week before the wedding

- Set a date with your fiancé to get your marriage license.

- Be sure all clothing and accessories for the bridal party are in order.

- Submit your wedding announcement and photograph to the society editor of your local newspaper.

- Change your name on your bank account, Social Security card, license, insurance and other documents if you are assuming your husband's last name.

- Call guests who have not responded to their invitation to ask if they'll be

attending.

One week before the wedding

- Confirm ceremony vocalists and musicians, and recheck your musical selections.

- Present a small gift or note of appreciation to friends and relatives who did special favors and made the planning run smoothly.

- Add last-minute acceptances, and phone your caterer with the final guest count.

- Do a final check on details with your florist, caterer, sexton, clergy, musicians and photographer.

- Finalize your honeymoon plans, and begin packing.

One day before the wedding

- Have a manicure, pedicure and even a massage to pamper yourself.

- Attend the rehearsal. Review all important duties with the principals in the wedding party.

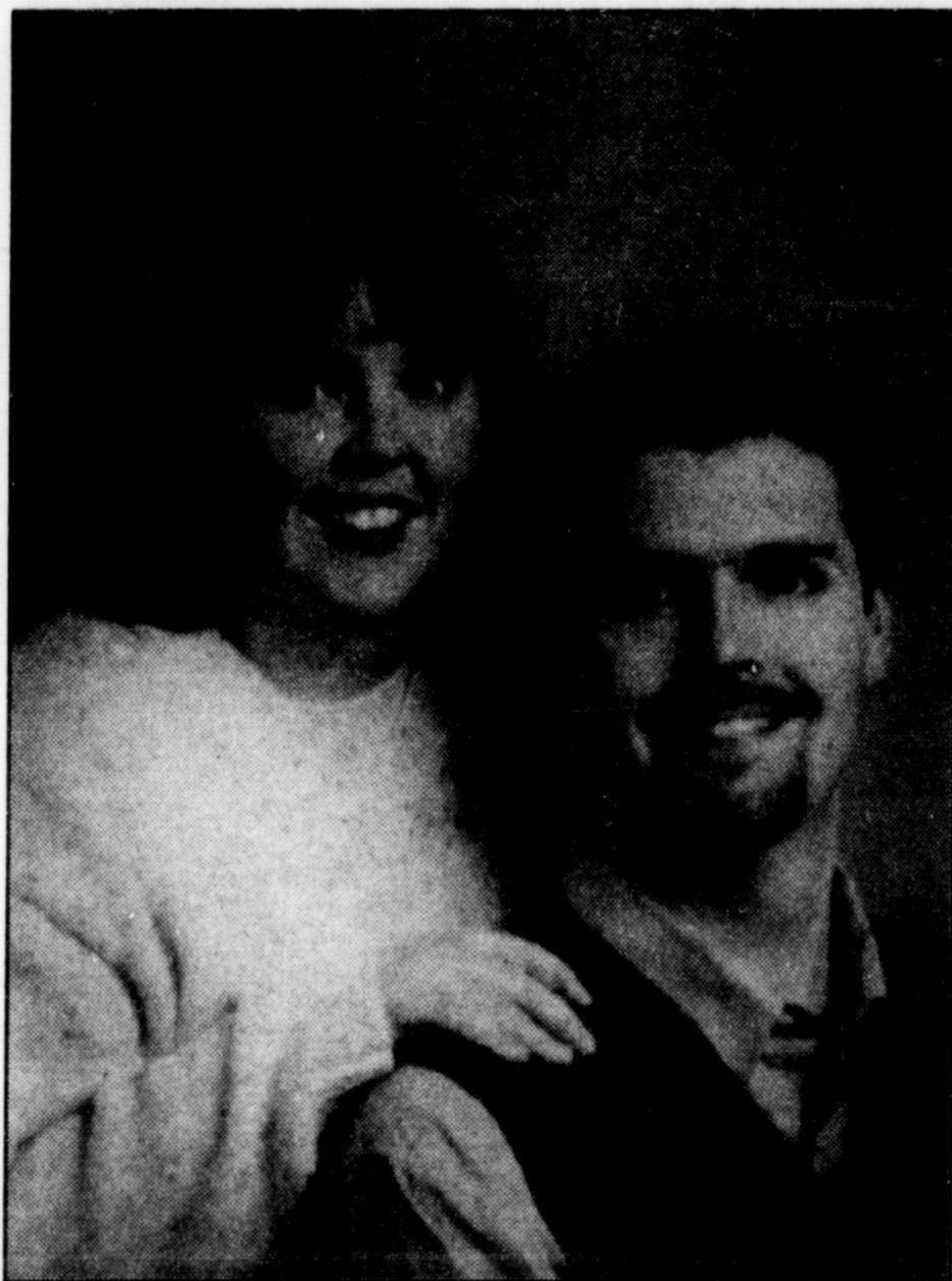
- Give ushers the list of guests to be seated in the reserved section.

The wedding day

- Rest and thoroughly relax in a nice, warm bath.

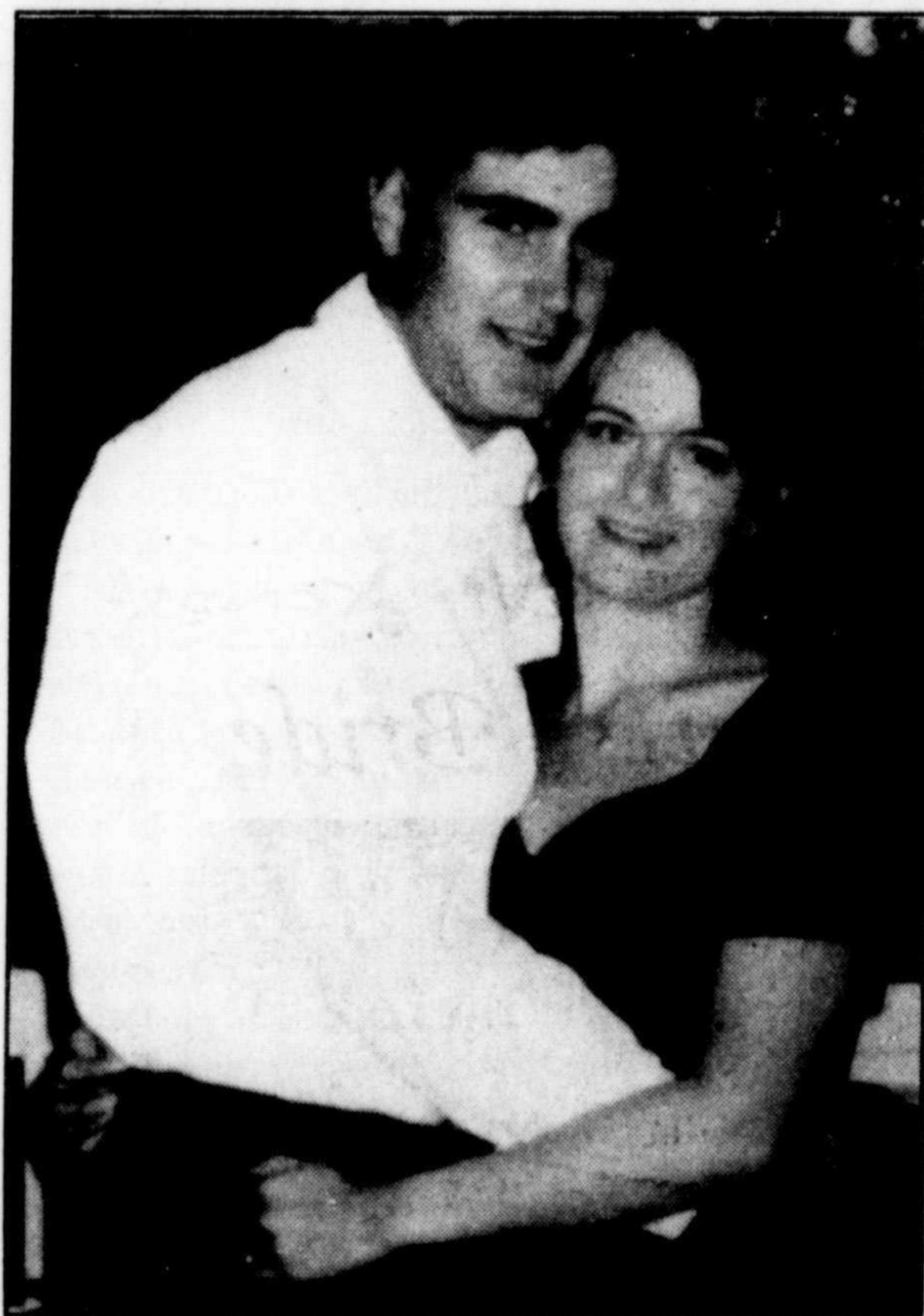
- Allow plenty of time to dress — about two hours before the ceremony, if possible.

- Have a wonderful wedding, and enjoy every moment.



Dagg - Fletcher

Ron and Sandy Dagg are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Robyn, to Rob Fletcher, son of Steve and Anne Forbes and Jim and Donna Fletcher. The wedding will take place at St. Edward's Church, Bristol, Quebec, on September 16, 2000.



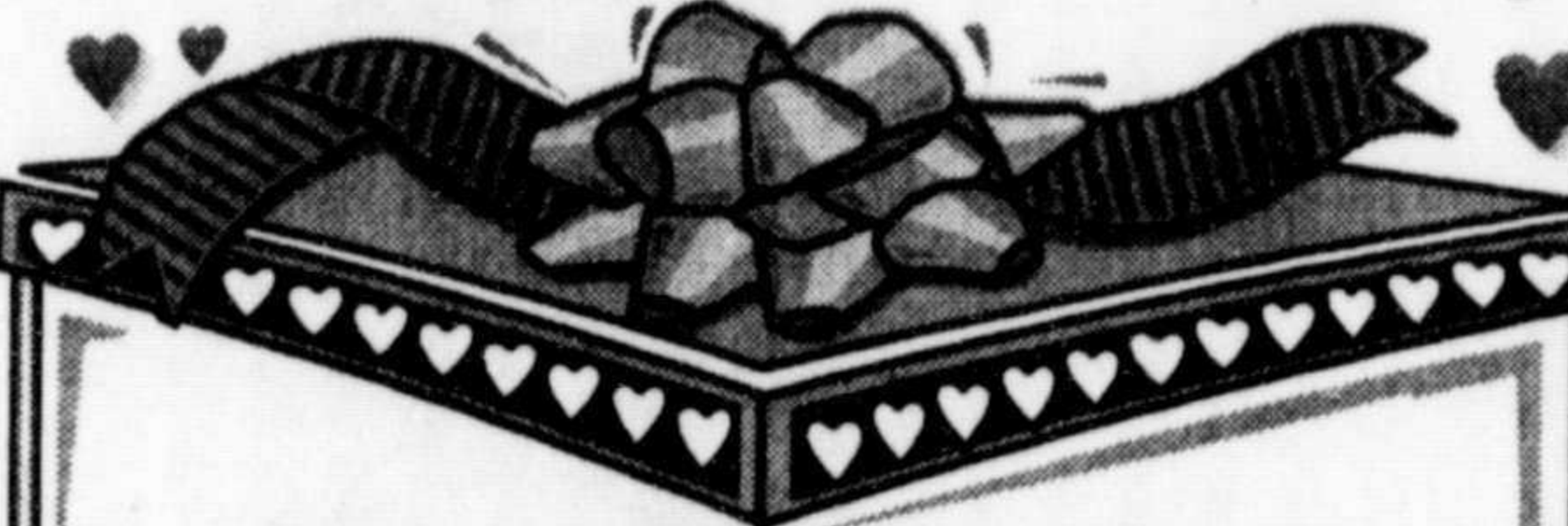
Crane - Greer

Clyde and Becky Crane, of Kanata, and Archie and Debbie Greer, of Norway Bay, are pleased to announce the upcoming marriage of their children, Cathy Crane and Roger Greer. Wedding to take place in Shawville.



Beaudoin - Clérout

Mr. and Mrs. Sandy and Armand Beaudoin of Aylmer, Quebec (originally Otter Lake) are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Lory, to Martin Clérout, son of Micheline and the late Gilles Clérout, of Aylmer, Quebec. A candlelight wedding ceremony will take place at St. Mark's Church, Aylmer, Quebec, on August 19, 2000.



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**Wong - Russell**

Janey and Kin were united in marriage on February 13, 1999, at the Chateau Cartier, Aylmer, Quebec. Janey is the daughter of Betty and George Russell of Bristol, Quebec. The couple now reside in Barrhaven, Ontario.

**Ralph and Melanie Lang**

On July 10, 1999, Melanie, daughter of Heman and Brenda Walls, and Ralph, son of Elwyn and Lynn Lang, were united in marriage at St. Paul's Anglican Church. We would like to extend a warm thank you to our wedding party, Rob Beck, Laura Palmer, Trevor Walls, Sally Trafford, Jason Brock, Canda Walls and Miranda Greer. A sincere thank you to our family and friends who made our wedding perfect.

The four C's: the key to buying a diamond ring

The diamond engagement ring has been a symbol of love and romance since 1477 when Archduke Maximilian of Austria gave Mary of Burgundy a gold ring set with a diamond as a token of his love. Today, the tradition of the diamond engagement ring continues. According to a new consumer survey, 70 percent of all brides-to-be receive one.

A diamond is an expression of individuality. Just as love is unique, no two diamonds are alike. Each diamond has its own personality and sparkle. Therefore, when purchasing a diamond engagement ring, it is important to become an informed consumer.

A little knowledge can go a long way to help unearth the best-quality diamond within a budget. Understanding diamonds requires knowledge of the four C's: cut, color, clarity and carat weight. These four variables are key to answering the elusive question as to why two diamonds of equal size may not be of equal value.

• **Cut** — Although diamonds can be cut in several shapes, like oval, marquise, pear or round, it is the quality of the cut that gives the stone its brilliant sparkle. Light is reflected best when all of the facets are perfectly proportioned.

• **Color** — The best color is no color. A totally color-

less diamond best allows white light to pass effortlessly through it and be dispersed as rainbows of color.

• **Clarity** — The term "clarity" refers to a diamond's lack of naturally occurring inclusions, often called "nature's fingerprints," most of which are not visible to the naked eye. The fewer the inclusions, the more valuable the diamond.

• **Carat** — Carat refers to the weight of the stone. There are 100 points in a carat. Therefore, a diamond of 50 points weighs one-half of a carat.

Deciding how much to spend on a diamond

engagement ring is very personal and obviously depends on income. Most people find the two months' salary guideline to be helpful in determining how much to spend. Most importantly, choose the finest-quality diamond affordable, because a diamond engagement ring is a unique symbol of commitment that will be treasured for many years.

To find out how to get the best diamond, consumers should visit a reputable jeweler whom they know and trust. The diamond engagement ring is an investment in a couple's future and, like love, can grow more precious with time.

They're getting married — let the planning begin

He popped the question, and she said yes. Maybe he got down on his knees, maybe he didn't. As familiar or traditional as the simple little question, "Will you marry me?" may be, nothing can take away from the one-of-a-kind story of how they fell in love or the look in her eyes when he asked — but this isn't the time to be idling in the moment.

The engagement must be announced, the news spread. Informing family, friends and co-workers is what makes the engagement feel official. And more importantly, it is what gets the wedding planning in motion, beginning with the question, "When?"

Choosing a wedding date, one that allows the bride and groom-to-be an ample amount of time to prepare, is a must. How much time a couple needs will vary with the size and style of wedding they choose. If planning a traditional wedding, the couple should give themselves at least nine months to a year to prepare for it.

The next step lies in selecting just the right place to exchange vows and with whom to share the experience. This will help the couple determine the size and style of their wedding. If taking a traditional approach, the couple will want to select their honor attendants — bridesmaids for the bride, groomsmen for the groom. Additionally, the two can begin compiling a guest list.

As they compile the guest list, the couple should consider their gift registry. It's best to register for gifts at

more than one store, in more than one price range. This allows guests more flexibility in choosing gifts.

Next, the couple must decide on the wedding professionals — the musicians, photographers, videographer, florist and caterer. A visit with the officiant should be arranged as well, in the event that any pre-wedding requirements need to be fulfilled.

Once the ceremony and reception sites have been booked and the necessary decisions made, the couple should consider their honeymoon. Consulting a travel agent always is a good idea. In doing so, the couple may receive discounts and other unique benefits or travel packages by making it known that they'll be newlyweds.

After the reservations have been made, the couple at last can begin focusing on themselves. In order to look as dazzling on their wedding day as smiling figurines atop a wedding cake, the bride- and groom-to-be will need to decide on their wedding apparel. If wedding attendants are involved, the bride will want to keep her bridesmaids in mind — the color and style of dresses they'd feel most comfortable wearing.

A successful wedding takes time and careful organization. To be safe, the bride- and groom-to-be should purchase a wedding planner. This way, they won't run the risk of forgetting the little things, like bands — not the kind that play music, but the kind they'll be wearing on their fingers for the rest of their lives.

**Drozd - Smart**

Les and Rossie Smart, Shawville, Quebec, and Tadeusz and Krystyna Drozd, are happy to announce the marriage of their son and daughter, Michael Leslie and Aneta. The vows were blessed in God's Mercy, Roman Catholic Church, Brzeg, Poland, June 19, 1999, with Mike's sister Laurie Paul and Aneta's brother Dariusz Drozd as witnesses. Mike and Aneta are presently living in Frankfurt, Germany, where he is employed as an electrical engineer with Nortel.

Les and Rossie have a lovely new daughter-in-law; Gramma Ruby another granddaughter; a new sister-in-law for Tim and Sylvie, Laurie and Doug, Pat and Sandy, to tease, a nice new Auntie for Kyle, Stephanie and Abby to love.

Mike and Aneta would like to thank everyone for their prayers, best wishes and gifts. A special thanks to Chris McDowell, Ottawa; Johnny Sedlack, California; the families from England and Canada who came from so far to make their day such a wonderful memory.

✓ Bridesmaids' gifts

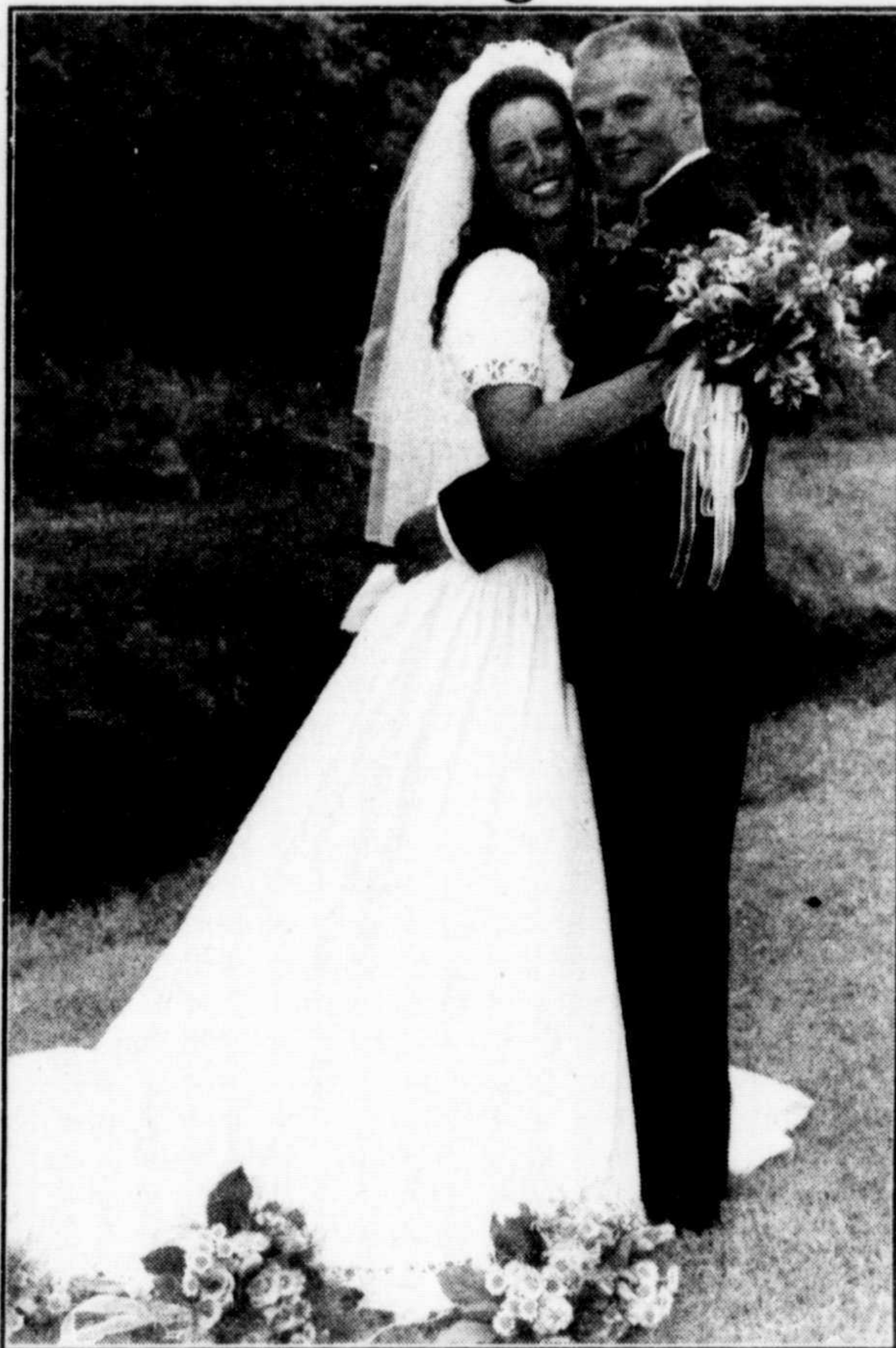
A pearl and silver hair barrette, silver charm bracelet, or necklace with a sweet flower or monogrammed heart pendant make for endearing flower girl presents.



Tim Wickens Photography

Robert and Krista Lang

Robert and Krista Lang were united in marriage on May 22, 1999. Many sincere thanks to family and friends who celebrated with us and helped to make our day a special one. We truly appreciate everyone's kind wishes and generosity.



Studio Photography

Kranendonk - Hodgins

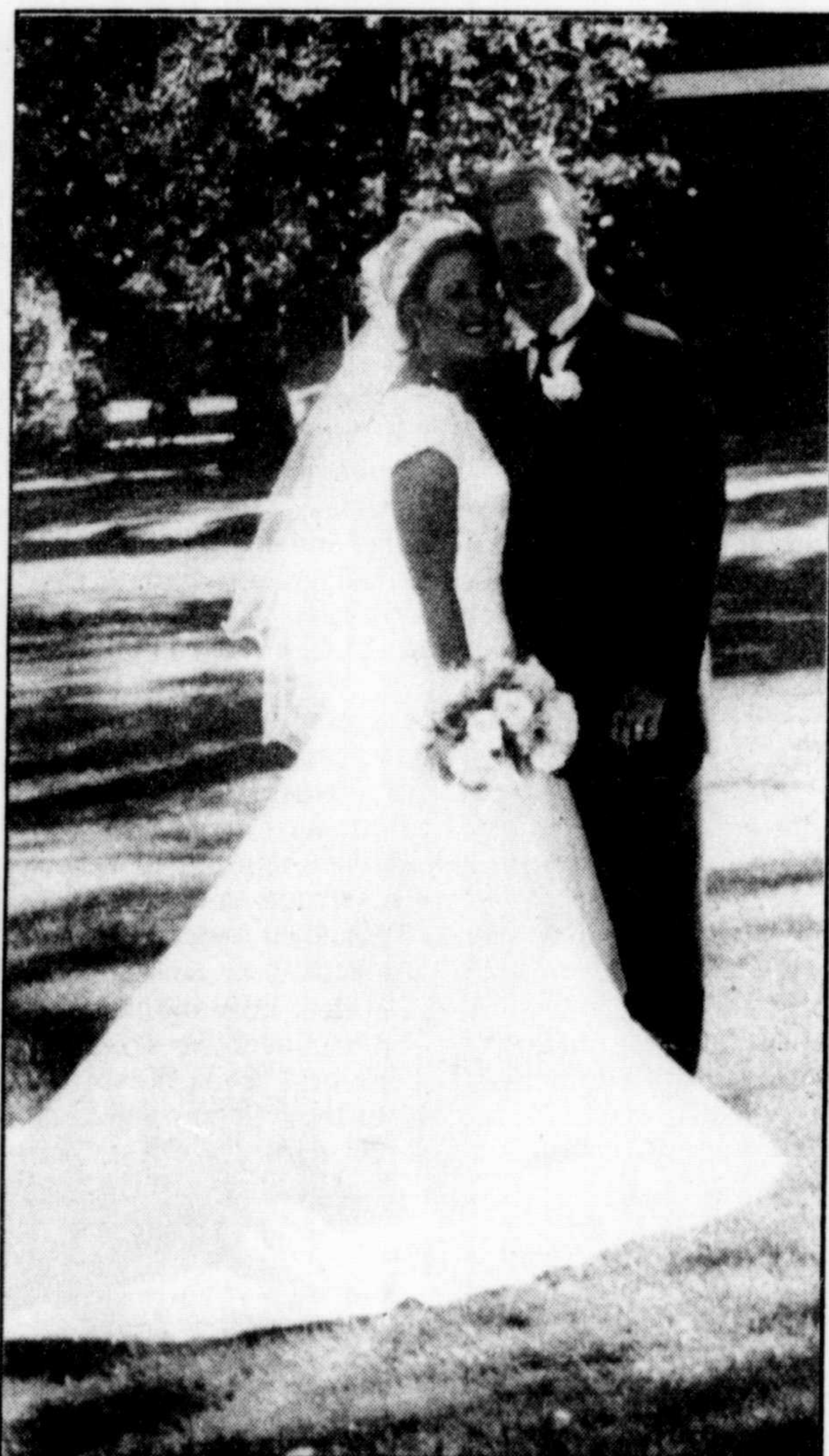
Basil and Lorraine Hodgins are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Janice to Dennis, son of Teun and Nel Kranendonk of Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Marriage took place on July 3, 1999, at Shawville United Church. Janice and Dennis wish to thank their families, relatives and friends for helping to make their day special. They now reside in Hellevoetsluis, the Netherlands.



Studio Photography

Stewart - Cartman

On August 7, 1999, Lisa, daughter of Wesley and Karen Cartman, and Trevor, son of Reuben and Patsy Stewart, were united in marriage at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Shawville, Quebec. A sincere thank you to our wedding party, maid of honour Jayme Hines, and best man Lee Benoit. Bridesmaids Christina Cartman, Heather Cartman, Ronda Richardson, Jaime Christie, Kegan Keon (junior) and flower girl Shania Hodgins. Ushers Greg Wrinn, Luke Murphy, Scott Lemay, Carey Finan, Tyler Orr (junior) and ring bearer Scott Cooligan. We would like to thank our family and friends for making our day a special one.

**Little - Rennette**

James Little and Kelly Rennette were united in marriage on August 28, 1999, at Trinity United Church in Thunder Bay, Ontario. James is the son of Eleanor and the late Garnet Little of Shawville, Quebec. Kelly is the daughter of Meredith and Fred Rennette of Terrace Bay, Ontario. Jim and Kelly now reside in Pincher Creek, Alberta.

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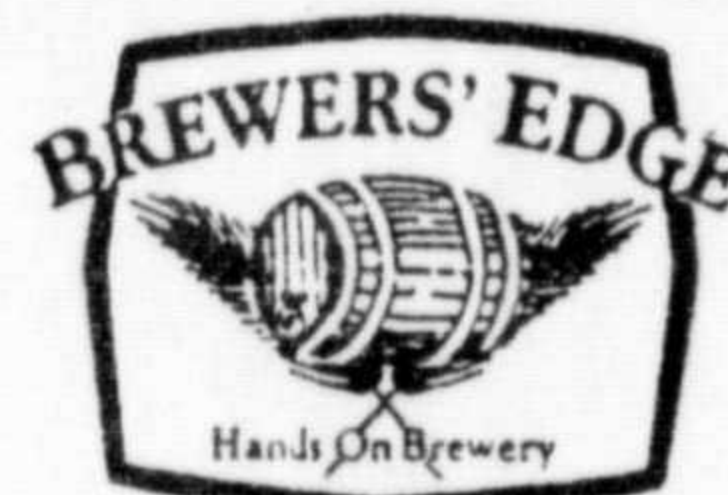
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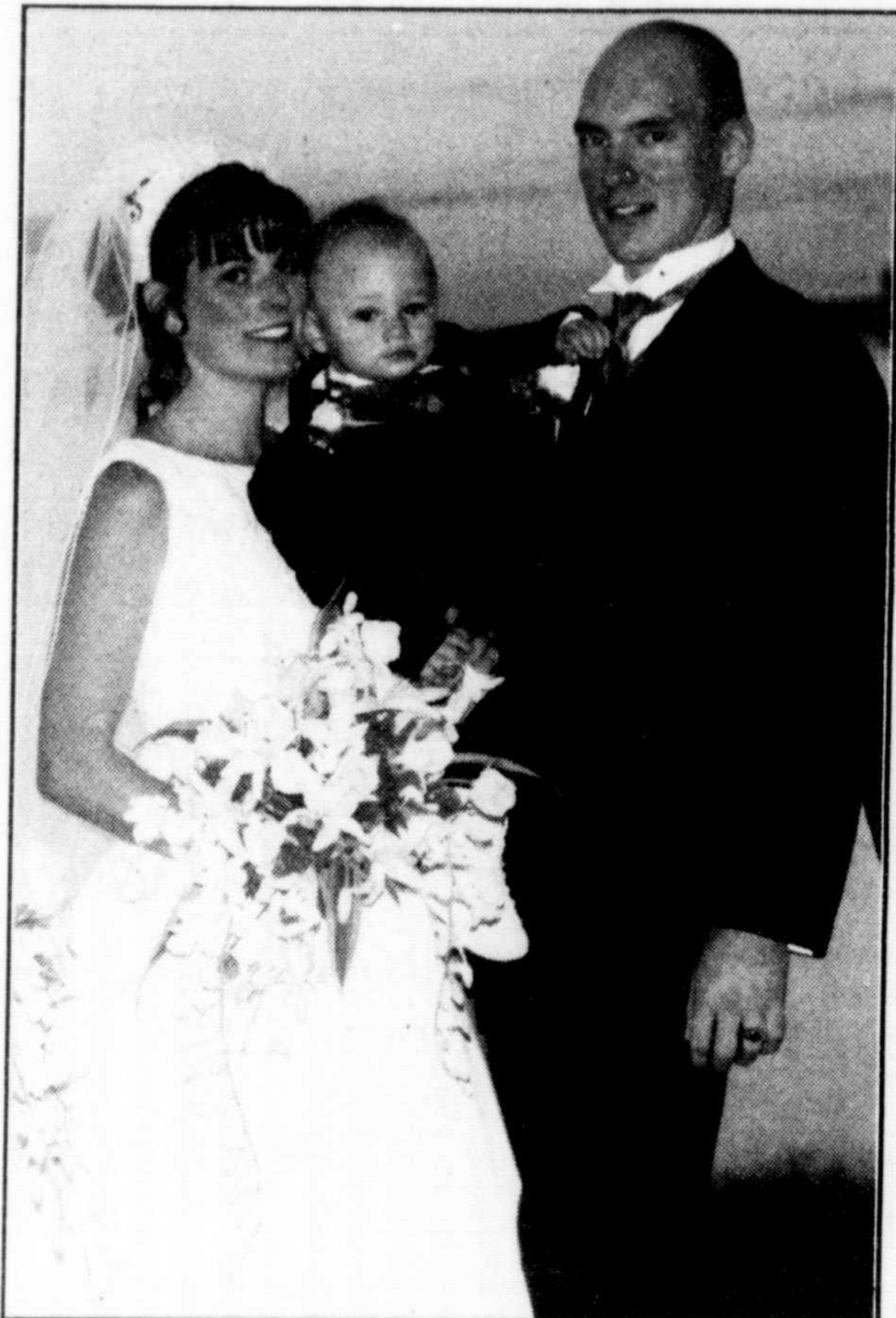
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**Richardson - Stanley**

Studio Photography

Mark and Vikki exchanged vows on September 17th, 1999 at St. Mary's Church in Quyon. Vikki is the daughter of Beverley and Don Stanley of Quyon. Mark is the son of Barbara Lewis and Barney Richardson of Shawville. Vikki was escorted down the aisle by their son Briggs and her father. Special thanks to the wedding party, Kelly Stanley, maid of honour, Allan Kuehl, best man, Joanne McMurray, Garth Yach, Betty-Lou Trudeau, Rick Atkinson, Karen Stanley, Chris McIntyre and family and friends for making our day a memorable one.

**MacDonald - Conrod**

Dianne Conrod and Drew MacDonald were married in Geneva, Switzerland, on August 5, 1999. They went to the Riviera for their honeymoon.

Here comes the bride and her bridesmaids

Looking beautiful as they walk down the aisle

Searching for that perfect gown, a bride-to-be is faced with an array of difficult decisions. Should she choose satin or lace? Will she have a train? A veil? Or, will a simple headpiece suit her best? And this is just the beginning.

There also are the bridesmaids to consider. Rarely does one dress style flatter everyone. All too often, a bride-to-be chooses one uniform look for all of her attendants, leaving the bridesmaids to grin and bear it. As a result, they end up paying a lot for a dress that they only will wear once, before it gets pushed to the back of the closet, forever out of sight.

A well-dressed bridal party is not difficult to achieve, provided that everyone keeps an open mind. While most brides-to-be have vague notions of what dress styles will be most flattering to their figures, it helps to have a professional, objective opinion. The most significant decisions are made in the dressing room and, more often than not, the gown style a bride finds most pleasing rarely is the original style she had in mind.

When selecting gown styles that best suit the bridal party, it is important to consider the following factors.

• **Shape** — Typical dress shapes include the ball gown (natural waist with a voluminous skirt); basque (natural waist with a V-shaped front); bustier (strapless with sculpted bust line); empire (high waist that falls just under the bust line with a slender or A-line skirt); princess or A-line (falls along the outline of the body into a flared skirt); and sheath (narrow, fitted style shaped at the waist). While the bride may prefer a ball gown for herself, the bridesmaids' preferences might differ over A-line vs. sheath. It is perfectly acceptable to mix-and-match, but if a bride wants a uniform look, varying the

necklines offers a less subtle, yet still flattering alternative.

• **Neckline** — If the bride is firm about what dress shape she wants her bridesmaids to wear, the best place to improvise is in the neckline. Necklines range from high and close-to-the-neck to low and off-the-shoulder. Other types include the boat or bateau (follows the curve of the collarbone, high in front and back, wide at the sides); jewel (collarless, rounded neckline that hugs the base of the throat, just above the collarbone); square; and sweetheart (shaped like the top of a heart).

• **Sleeves** — Sleeves pose another opportunity for variety in dress style. Sleeves can be cap (very short and fitted, covering shoulders and very tops of arms); fitted (slim sleeves that taper as they reach the wrist); three-quarter (cover three-quarters of the arm, stopping on the forearm, just below the elbow); puff (gathered into a gentle puff near the shoulders); or not there at all (sleeveless or spaghetti straps).

As for which dress for which figure, knowing everyone's best (and less-than-best) features is essential. Petite figures look nicest in empire, sheath, and princess or A-line dress shapes that give the illusion of elongated lines, drawing the eye upward. Collars and sleeves should be proportionate to arms, therefore small and delicate.

Full figures look best in a princess shape with an open neckline, like sweetheart or jewel, and three-quarter sleeves that conceal the arms. A basque shape or a dropped V waist is slimming for full hips. An empire shape (lifted waistline) flatters thick waists.

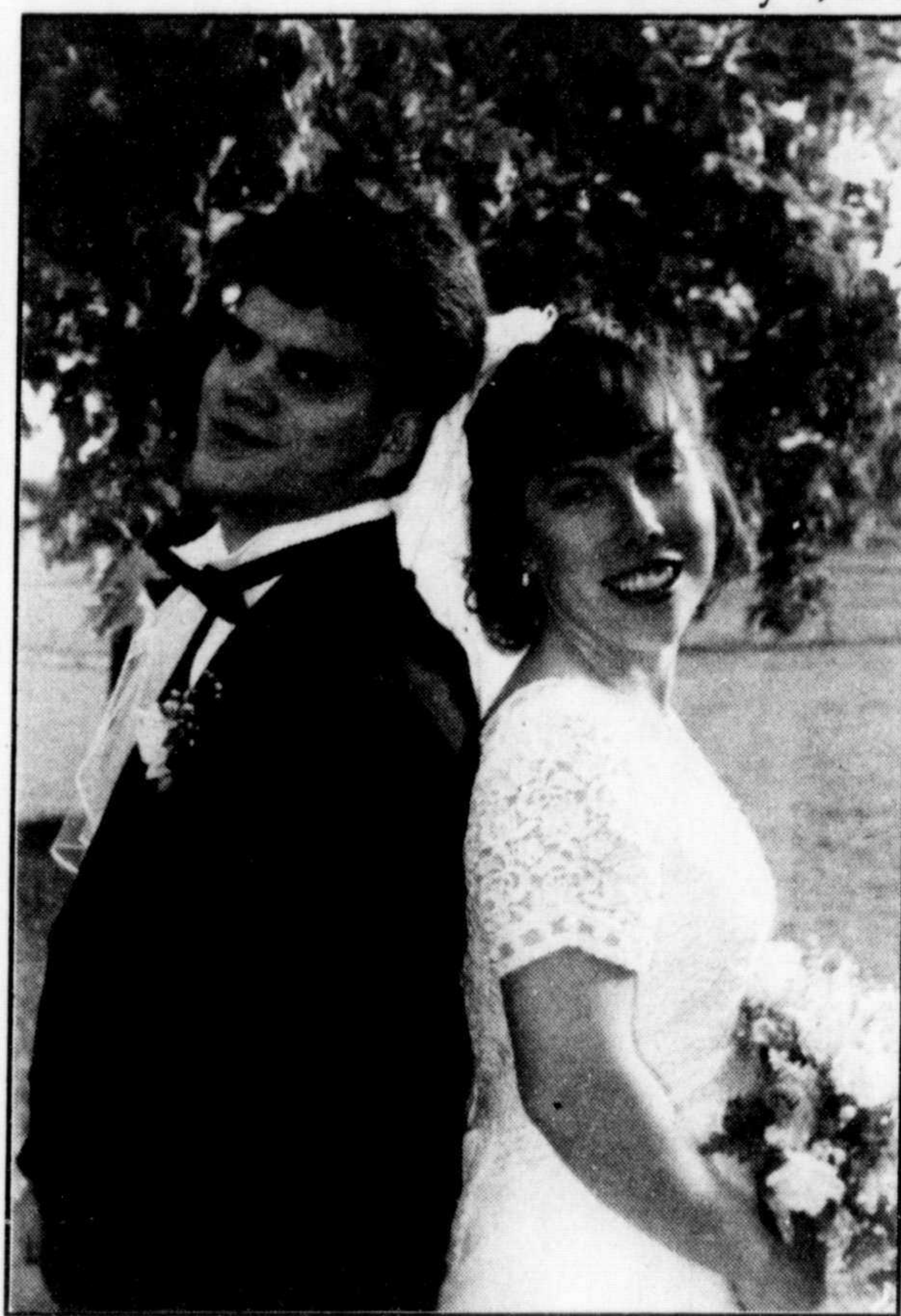
Whatever style of gown a bride chooses, she can be confident knowing that she and her attendants will look their best when they consider these factors and keep an open mind.

Groomsmen gifts

Men's sterling jewelry and accessories are back in vogue. Choose from cuff links in classic and novelty themes to compliment individual personalities, link or ID bracelets monogrammed with initials or engraved with a personal message.

Music at the reception

Keep in mind the size of the ceremony and location. While a string quartet might be the perfect background for an intimate ceremony, a larger hall will not share the same acoustics.



Studio Photography

Egan - Pirie

Nancy and Dan Egan would like to thank their parents, George and Winnifred Pirie and Bob and Cookie Egan, as well as their family members and friends, for all their love and support. Everyone helped make September 25th, 1999 a very special and memorable day.

**Young - Patterson**

Chad Young and J. Lisa Patterson were united in marriage on Saturday, June 12, 1999, at St. Andrew's United Church, Renfrew, Ontario. Chad is the son of Doug and Ramona Young of Shawville, Quebec. Lisa is the daughter of Bev and the late Ken Patterson of Renfrew, Ontario. The ceremony was followed by cocktails and dinner at the bride's parents. Followed by a reception at the Armouries in Renfrew. The couple honeymooned in Niagara Falls and are now residing in Nepean, Ontario. Mr. and Mrs. Young wish to thank their family and friends for travelling near and far to share their special day.



Mayhew - Emmerson

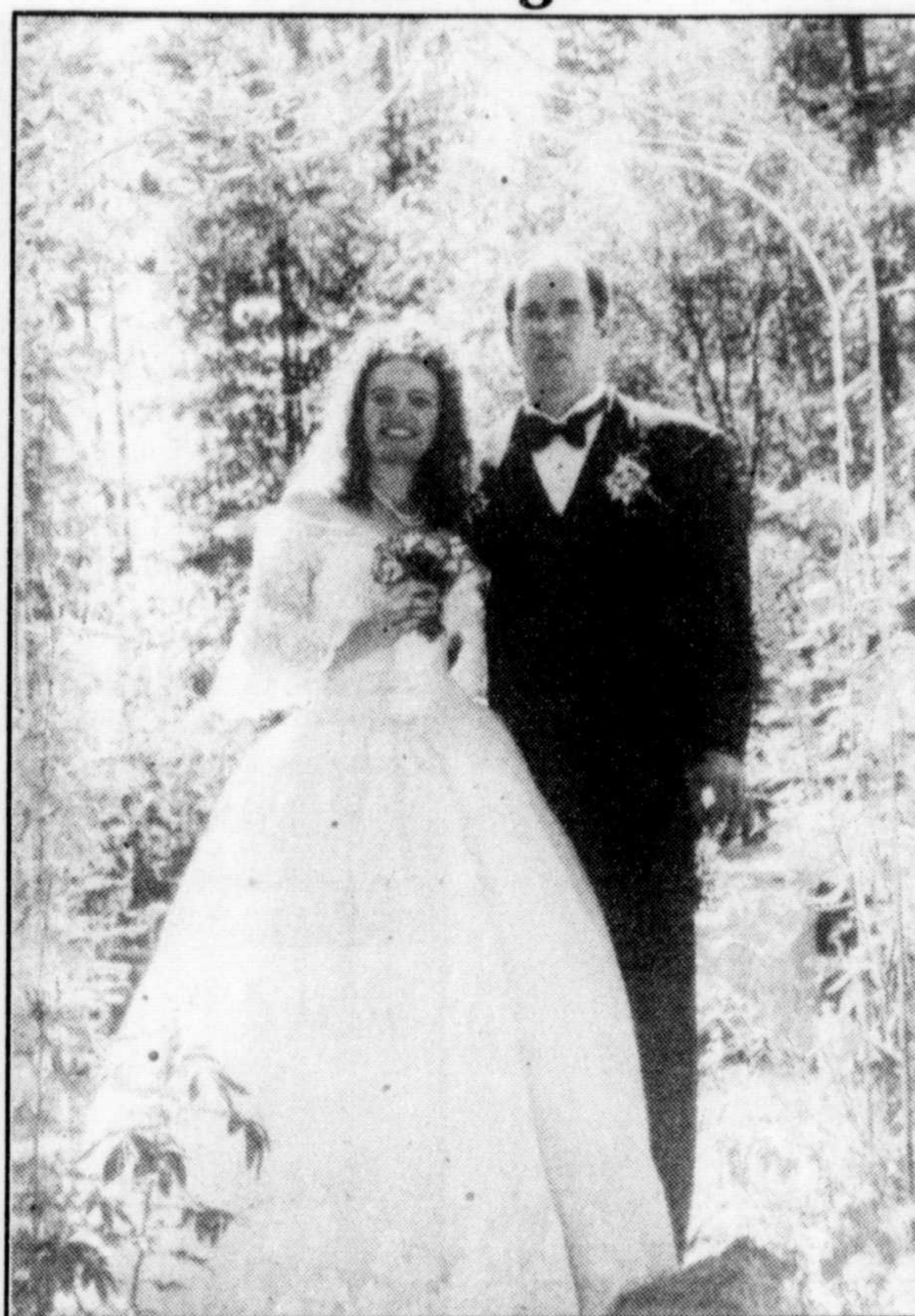
Studio Andrée

Gerald and Hazel were married on October 9, 1999. Gerald is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mayhew. Hazel is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Emmerson. Marriage took place at Bethel Pentecostal Church with Pastor Dave Hamm officiating the service. Dinner and reception was at Auberge Mont Blanc.



Mr. and Mrs. Allan Lachance

It is with pleasure and joy that we, Mr. and Mrs. Adrien Turgeon, announce that our daughter Julia Anne Maria Adrienne and Joseph Gilbert Allan son of Mrs. Richard Lachance, pledged their love as one at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church, Vinton, Québec, on July 10, 1999. Maid of honour was Kelly Turgeon. Bridesmaids were Nora Turgeon and Michelle Lachance. Flower girls were Jaleysia Chee and Darby Foran. Best man was Neil Ladouceur. Ushers were Damian Lachance and Théode Turgeon. Ring bearer was Michael Foran. The couple honeymooned in Cancun, Mexico, and now reside in Calumet Island, Québec.



Moquin - Cutler

Arlene Cutler wishes to announce the marriage of her daughter Joy to Richard Moquin, son of Esther Moquin and Mike Moquin. Marriage took place August 28, 1999.



Mr. and Mrs. Lee Brownlee

VeraLynn, daughter of Eric and Evelyn Campbell, and Lee, son of Brian and Brenda Brownlee, were united in marriage July 3rd, 1999, Bethel Pentecostal Church, Shawville, Québec. Thanks to everyone who made our day memorable.

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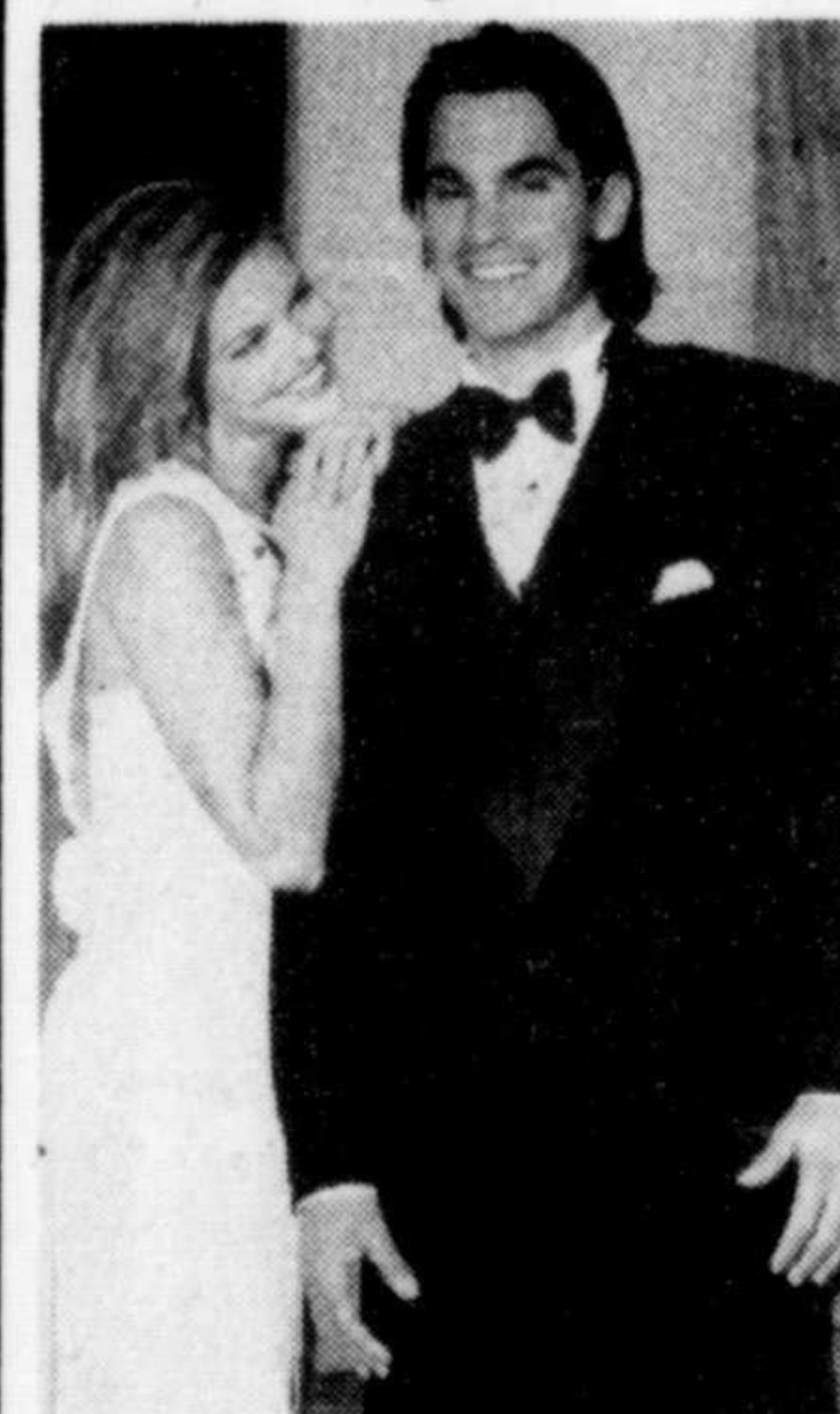
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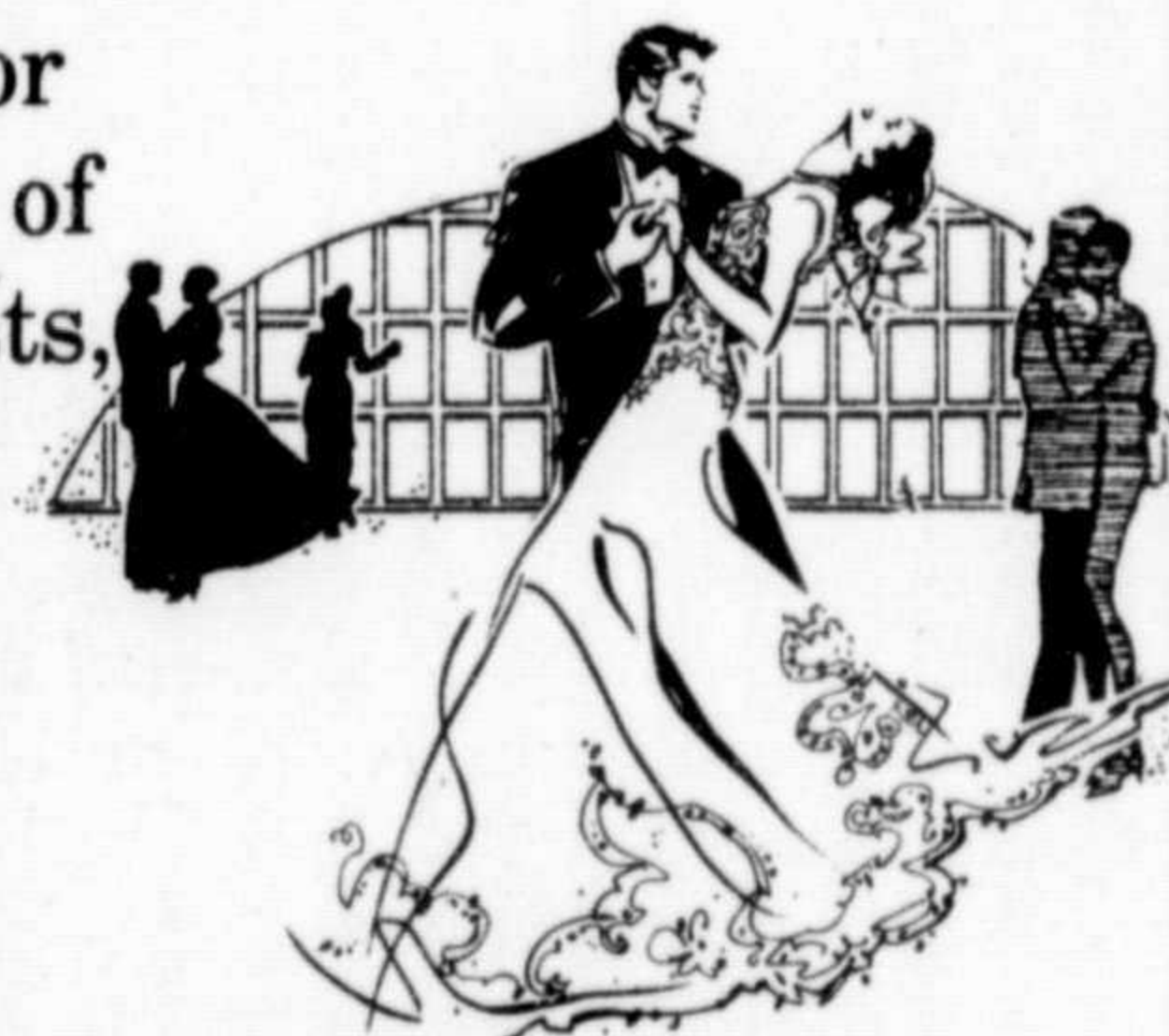
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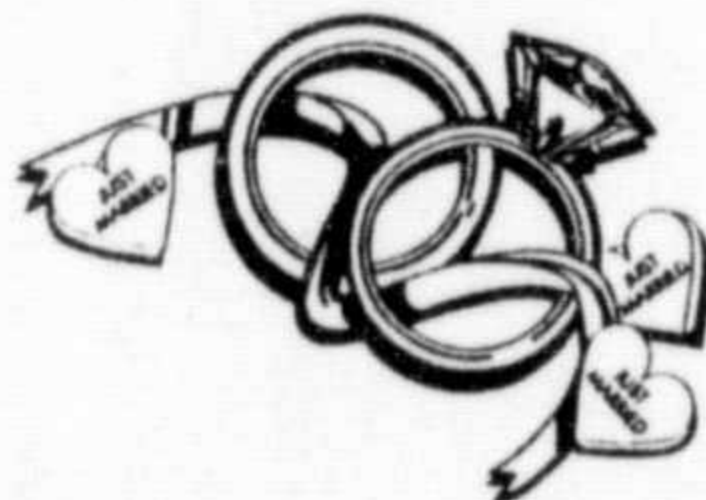
**Durocher - Smith**

Studio Andrée

On Saturday, February 13, 1999, Norm Durocher and Meegan Smith were united in marriage at the Shawville United Church. Meegan was presented in marriage by her parents, Robert and Laurel Smith. The maid of honour was the bride's sister Melissa Smith and the best man was the groom's brother Sylvain Durocher. The bridesmaids were Ashley Smith, sister of the bride, Michelle Beale, friend of the couple and Robin Durocher, sister-in-law of the groom. The ushers were Robert Smith, brother of the bride, Shane Howe, brother-in-law of the groom and Stéphane St. André, friend of the couple. The flower girl was Bianca Beaumont, friend of the couple and the ring bearer was Jesse Howe, nephew of the groom. Tricia Smith, cousin of the bride was the master of ceremonies for the day. The happy couple spent their honeymoon at Le Château Bromont in the Eastern Townships. We would like to thank our families and friends for making our day such a memorable one.

**Raymond - Shaver**

Fred and Eleanor Shaver are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Suzanne to B.J. Raymond, son of Doug and Patricia Raymond of Kingston, Ontario. The wedding took place June 5th, 1999 in Kingston. Officiated by Doug Pilgrim of Renfrew, maid of honour Christine Shaver, bridesmaids Sandra and Catherine Shaver, Samantha Raymond and Sara Coulter. Best man and groomsmen were brothers of the groom. The couple honeymooned on P.E.I. and now reside in Kingston, Ontario.

**Vajda - Donnelly**

Sherly Ann Mary Donnelly and Christopher Allan Vajda were united in marriage October 9, 1999, in Hamilton, Ontario. Parents of the bride are Joseph and Monique Donnelly and parents of the groom are Frank and Gale Vajda.

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Home sweet home: easy relocation tips

Congratulations — you and your spouse are moving into your first home together as newlyweds. Whether that means a house with a white picket fence or an urban condo on a tree-lined street, the process of moving — even with help from professional movers — can be overwhelming.

By following a few helpful moving tips, you can make the load a little lighter and lessen the chances of letting your excitement about a new home get lost within the rummage. Following are some tips to help you get started:

- Make a list of addresses and phone numbers of utility companies, newspapers, magazines and any other publications to which you subscribe. You will need to inform them about your move. Then, familiarize yourself with the new area. Locate the nearest pharmacy and bank; check for branch stores or offices and make sure your new information is in their database.

- Get a free change-of-address kit from the post

office. For extra flair when informing friends of your move, send specially designed change-of-address cards (available at card shops) or create your own and personalize them using rubber stamps or stickers.

- Make sure you have plenty of boxes on hand. First, pack the things you don't use or need right away, and move them in early. Anything you can take care of ahead of time will make the moving day easier. Remember to label the outside of the boxes so you know what is inside each one.

- Consolidate as much as you can. Wrap fragile items in towels, linen, tissue or thick layers of newspaper. Use smaller boxes for heavy items like books, and larger boxes for lighter items.

- Before you start unpacking, make the bed. Moving can take days, but this way, you're guaranteed a good night's rest, no matter where you leave off in your unpacking. And, you'll be better rested for the next day's labors.

Walking down the aisle with ease

(MS) — He's popped the question, she's accepted and the newly engaged couple instantly hears wedding bells. Now, between spending quality time together, dealing with future in-laws and going about everyday activities, there's a new addition to their "to do" list ... squeezing in time to arrange a wedding. With so much planning, it's no wonder so many brides- and grooms-to-be feel stressed and frustrated.

To help future brides, here are tips for tackling pre-matrimonial anxieties:

- **To invite or not to invite** — Deciding on the guest list can be one of the most daunting tasks for a couple. Torn between parental obligations, friends and co-workers of the bride or groom often are left without an invitation. To accommodate all parties involved, divvy up the list so that the bride and groom, the parents of the bride and the parents of the groom each invite one-third of the guests.

- **Get moving** — A regular exercise routine not only will ease stress and reduce tension, but will make it easier to get a good night's sleep. Also, to alleviate the pressures of the

day, take a brisk walk or hit the gym later in the afternoon rather than in the morning.

- **Shopping together ... happy together** — The registry process can be a harrowing experience for some couples as the bride and groom will have different ideas on what they need to start a new life together.

- **Prenuptial hair "do"** — Avoid a "bad hair day" on the big day. Schedule a trial run with the actual stylist two or three weeks before the ceremony. Bring the veil and photos of the gown, if possible, to give the stylist an idea of the image being portrayed. Take a snapshot of the run-through hairstyle as a quick reference for the stylist on the wedding day. More importantly, don't get a drastic haircut less than two months before the wedding, since there won't be time to undo the damage.

- **Bridal party pampering** — For an ultimate stress buster and bridal party thank you, spend the morning of the big day soaking up spa treatments at a local salon. Between appointments with a hairstylist, makeup artist, manicurist or masseuse, there won't be any time to be nervous.



Gauthier - Gagnon

On the 20th of February, 1999, a beautiful winter wedding took place at Ste. Anne's Church on Grand Calumet Island. Christine Gagnon, daughter of Nicholas and Thérèse Gagnon, exchanged wedding vows with Paul Gauthier, son of Raymond and Paulette Gauthier. Congratulations and best wishes in the future.



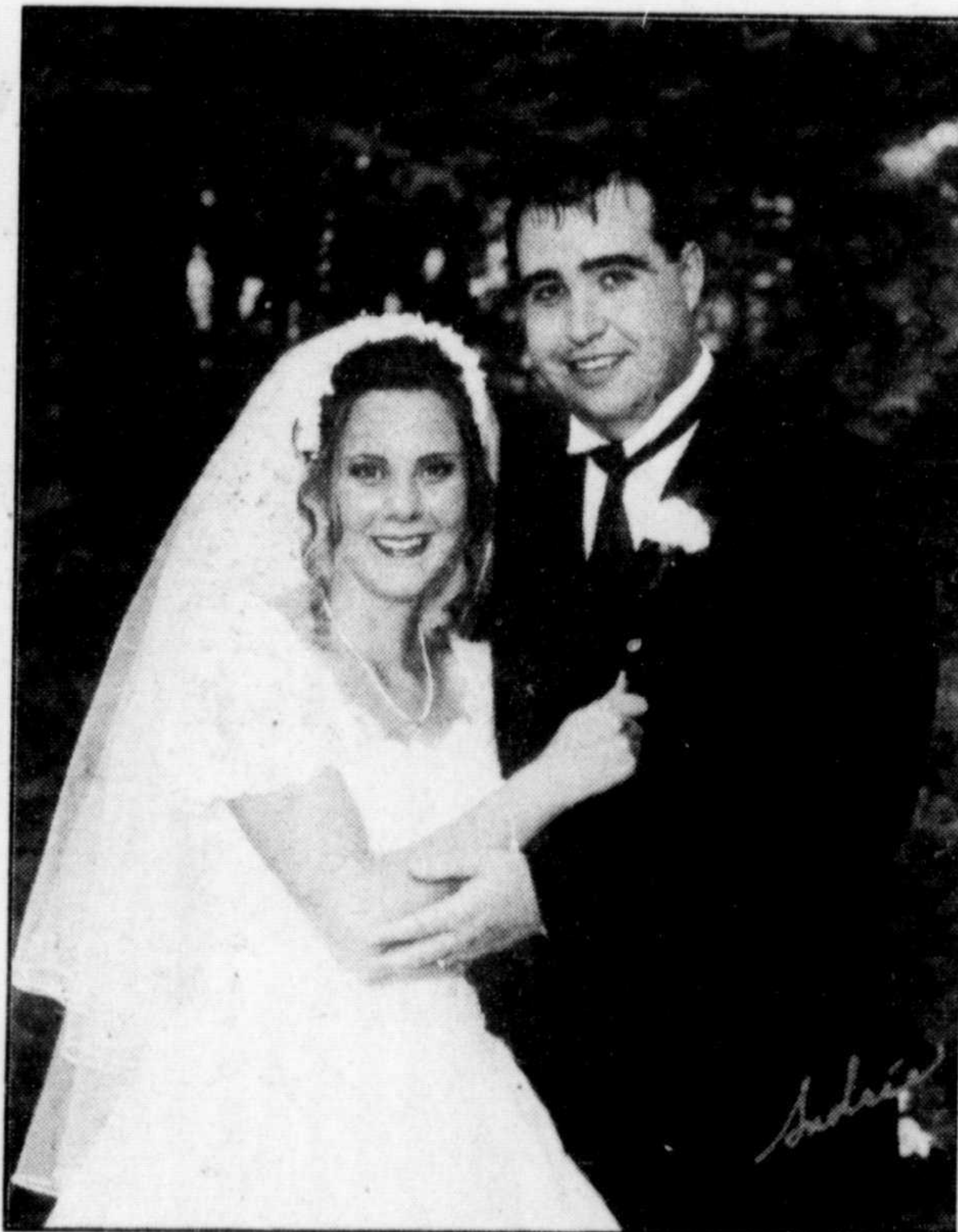
Shrimpton - Gagnon

On May the 29th, 1999, a beautiful spring wedding took place at Ste. Anne's Church on Grand Calumet Island. Kellie Shrimpton, daughter of Barry and Marion Shrimpton, exchanged wedding vows with Philippe Gagnon, son of Nicholas and Thérèse Gagnon. Congratulations and best wishes in the future.



Findlay - Hines

On October 2, 1999, Jayme Hines and Kevin Findlay were united in marriage at Shawville United Church. A special thank you to our best man and matron of honour, Dennis Mousseau and Lisa Cartman. Special thank you to our wedding party Janet Sharpe, Ashley Carson, Ronda Richardson, Chelsea Carson, Paul Mousseau, Bernie Mousseau, Adam Hines, Taylor Beeman and our two flower girls Alyson and Amanda Mousseau. Thank you to Rev. Mark Fearnall, Chrissy Peck for singing and Kristen Atkinson for the scripture reading. We wish to thank our family and friends for making our day so special.



Asselin - Bélair

Le 17 juillet 1999, Sonia, fille de Marcel et Denise Bélair et Pascal, fils de Feu Ferdinand Asselin et Marcienne Asselin, se sont unis par les liens du mariage en l'église St-Pierre, Fort-Coulonge, Québec. Le magnifique cortège était composé de : Gabriel Lemaire, page; Jeneviève Lemaire et Isabelle Lemaire, bouquetières; Christine Bélair, Chantal Gauthier, Julie Noël, Mélanie Bélair et Julie Laroche, filles d'honneur; Lorenzo Passarelli, Pierre Beaulieu, Jean-François Arpin, Yannick Asselin et Étienne Lemaire, garçons d'honneur.

Ce fut une journée extraordinaire, remplie d'émotions, de bonheur et d'amour. Le lendemain de la cérémonie, le couple s'est envolé vers Cuba pour leur lune de miel. Nous désirons dire merci du fond du coeur à tous ceux et celles qui ont fait que ce jour restera gravé à tout jamais dans le coeur de ces amoureux. Thank you to each and everyone who made this day one that will be remembered forever.



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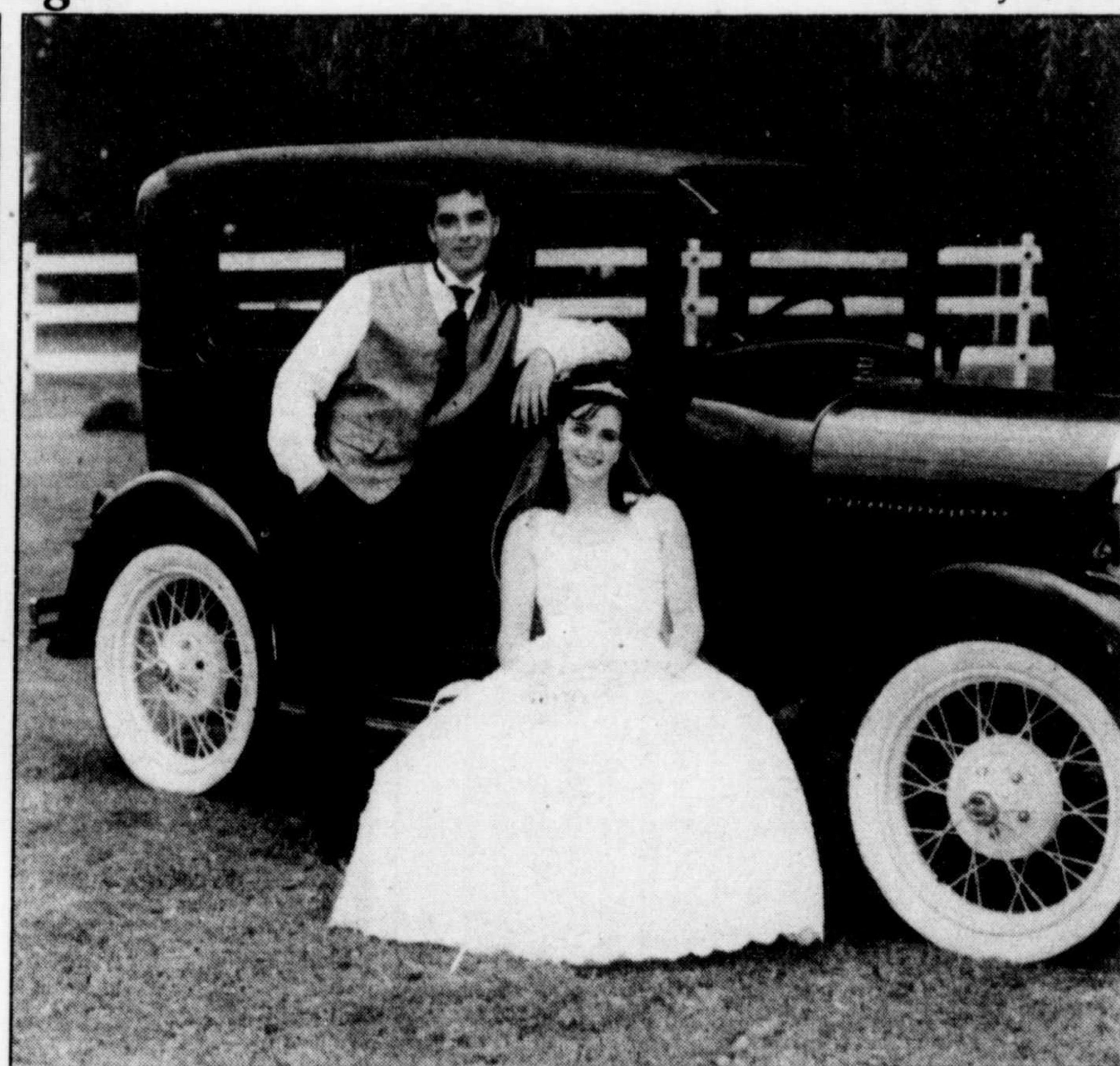
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**Gauvreau - Telford**

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gauvreau were united in marriage on December 4, 1999. Attendants were Elaine Telford and Ronald Telford.

**Bertrand - Stewart**

On September 4, 1999, Heather Stewart, daughter of Jim and Anna Stewart of Bryson, and Marcel Bertrand, son of Ronald and Sylvia Bertrand of Fort Coulonge, were joined in Holy Matrimony by Father Ethier in the presence of their families and friends. She was attended by her sister Sherry Lepine and Marcel's brother Melvin. Her attendants were from left to right Nat St. Pierre, Sylvie Beland-Stewart, Cynthia Desrochers, Louise Dube, Martine Bertrand, Sherry Stewart-Lepine, the bride Heather, the groom Marcel, Melvin Bertrand, Ray Lepine, Jamie Stewart, Scott Lepine, Spencer Lepine and Shawn Stewart. The flower girl was Jessica Padget and ring bearer Andy Danis. After a reception at the Bryson Lions Hall, they left on a short honeymoon to Onaping Lodge in Onaping, Ontario. They now reside in Mississauga, Ontario.

**Horner - McMunn**

Leigh Ann, daughter of Neil and Helen McMunn of Shawville, and Edward, son of Bill and Joy Horner of Nepean, were married at Shawville United Church on the 31st of July, 1999. We wish to express our thanks to the friends and family members of our wedding party. Matron of honour was Karen Barr, and maid of honour Melissa Smith. Bridesmaids were Shelley Edey and Jennifer Nicoll. Best man was Wayne Hutchings and groomsmen were Robert McCleary, Jeff Edey and Robert McMunn. The Reverend Mark Fearnall officiated. A sincere thank you to all who helped to make our day so memorable.

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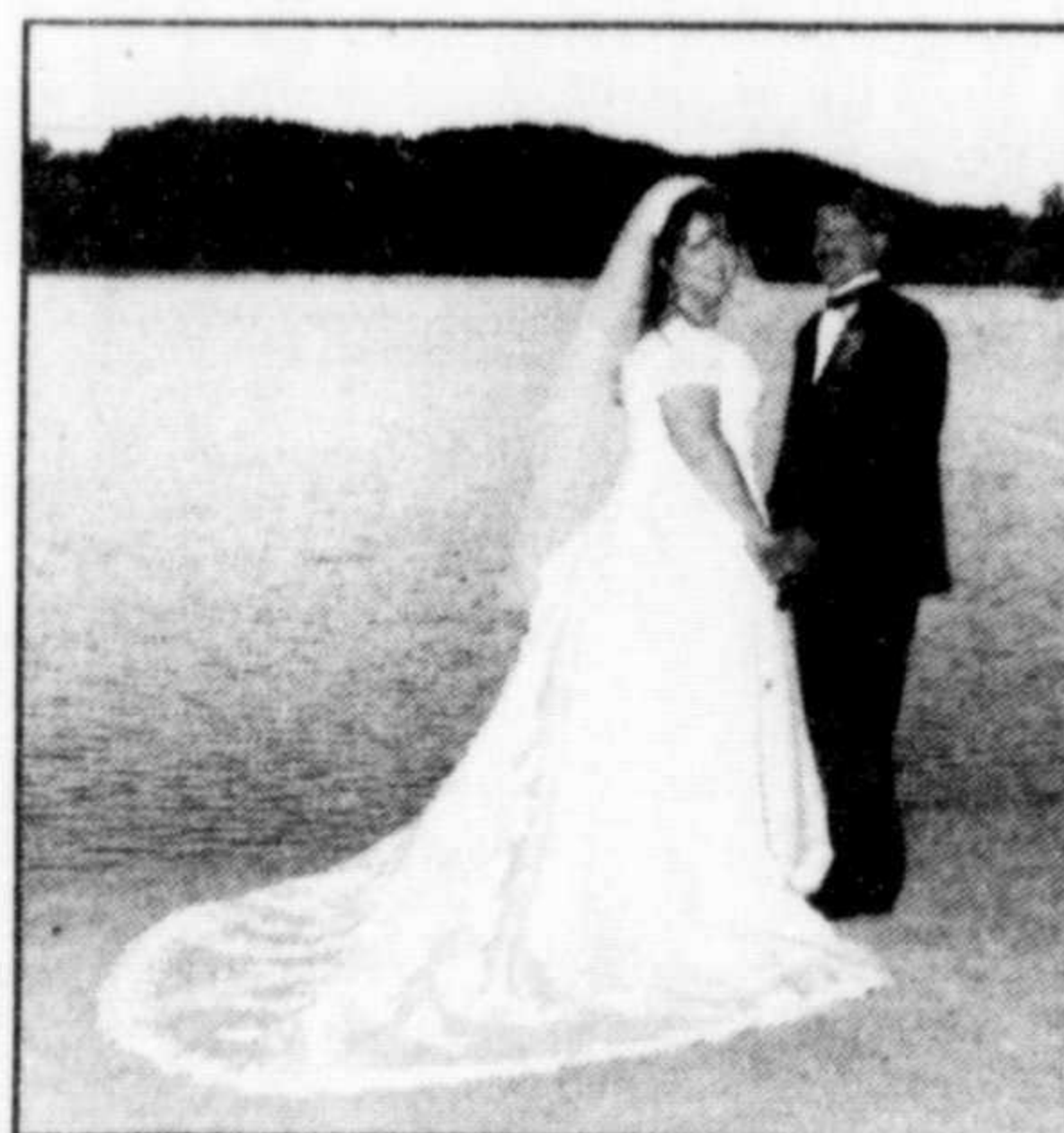
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