



staff photo by David Fisher

Gig'em, newlyweds!

This couple didn't waste any time last year. They got married in the Memorial Student Center courtyard on the same day they graduated.

Marriage is back in style; traditional weddings liked

United Press International
The days of tying the knot while pulling the rip cord during a free fall at 2,500 feet are gone.

Traditional weddings are back in style.

"They're not getting married in T-shirts or while skydiving anymore," said wedding photographer John Apai. "Everybody's going back to tradition."

"Weddings, themselves, are back in style," said Carol Lewczak, a bridal fashions saleswoman. "There are more people getting married now than ever before."

Barbara Tober, editor of Bride's Magazine, has been closely watching the wedding business nationwide for the past 17 years.

"Marriage hasn't been this strong since the 1940s when all the men came home after World War II," she said. "Marriage has now come back as a very strong institution."

With this return to the traditional comes a renewed interest in old-fashioned components of the wedding ceremony and reception — special clothes, flowers, music, food, wedding cake, photographers and celebrating the happy occasion with family and friends.

"Traditionally, everyone

chooses all-white wedding cakes, with no plastic pillars or swans," said Matthew D'Agostino, general manager of a bakery.

"Then in the 1960s it swung the opposite way. The cakes had flowers the color of the bridesmaids' gowns, plastic champagne glasses between the tiers, fountains beneath the cakes and lots of other frilly effects," D'Agostino said.

"Now couples want simpler, more traditional wedding cakes like before."

As for wedding apparel, "Over the past five years, I've seen a change back to the more traditional look," said John Olla, manager of a formal wear shop.

"In the 1960s and early '70s you had wild colors with wide lapels, and heavy ruffled shirts."

"Nowadays, the men are wearing wing collar shirts, small bow ties with the band collars, and even cummerbunds."

"Even the colors have gone back to the traditional, more conservative black, white and gray."

Bridal gowns also have been changing since the 1970s, Tober said.

"Dresses are very feminine, with lots of pearls, crystal and lace. They are not bigger than life like (Princess) Diana's, but they are pretty and elegant."

Flower arrangements are being made to complement the bride's gown, said florist Joan Maguire.

"For example, some girls wearing a Victorian style dress would choose a high and airy bouquet with such flowers as gardenias, white roses and lilies of the valley."

Maguire said most women choose real flowers for their weddings, rather than silk. The most popular flower this year seems to be the white rose.

Videotaping of weddings is another passing "fad," photographer Apai said.

Traditional wedding photography is still very popular. Couples are turning away from special effects pictures, Apai said, and instead are choosing a small number of formal portraits and going "heavy on the candid

shots at the reception.

"It was the younger brides who always went big for the special effects," he added. "Nowadays, women seem to be older when they get married."

The average bride is older than 22, not 19 like she used to be, and has worked and traveled more, Tober said.

Older, more mature brides are making slight changes in tradition.

"Basically, the reception is traditional, with the food, band and wedding cake," said Ken Gilmore, a restaurant maitre d'.

"But many times they don't have the bouquet and garter-throwing ceremonies or do the bit where they feed each other after cutting the cake."

To Tober, this means that, "People want to be married and stay married. The 1980s promise to be an incredibly romantic decade."

Love is on the top ten of the wedding charts

United Press International
NEW YORK — Sexual intercourse is number nine on a list of the 10 most important parts of marriage.

The list was drawn up by two family life experts, Dr. Sol Gordon and Dr. Kathleen Everly. Gordon heads the Syracuse University Institute for Family Research and Education and Everly was its former executive director, and is president of Ed-U Press in Fayetteville, N.Y.

Their inventory of the 10 most important factors is on the inside back cover of "How Can You Tell If You're Really in Love."

- The list:
- Love, sensitivity and respect for each other.
 - A sense of humor and playfulness.
 - Honest communication without violating private thoughts and experiences.
 - Doing meaningful things together.
 - Sharing time with people who are really enjoyed, either

- Not compromising who you are or want to be, or what you want to have — like children, a career, or faithfulness to each other.
 - Tolerance for weak spots — such as being tired, clumsy or irritable at times — and for opposite points of view.
 - Acceptance of each other's likes and dislikes and levels of energy.
 - Sexual intercourse.
 - Sharing household tasks.
- Drs. Gordon and Everly also

- list the 10 least important parts of marriage:
- Simultaneous orgasms.
 - Having identical interests.
 - Having perfect children.
 - Keeping up with the Joneses.

- Having only the same friends.
- Home Box Office.
- Full disclosure — especially of events prior to marriage.
- Lots of money.
- Microwave oven.
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