Bells Ring at ISU

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Couples who meet on Iowa State's campus often choose to have their weddings in the same area. Gardens, chapels, and even the Union fountain are backdrops for the ceremonies.

A large number of student weddings are held in the churches near campus. Helser Chapel in the Collegiate Presbyterian Church, Nichol's Chapel in the Collegiate Methodist Church, and the Little Chapel in Saint John's Episcopal Church have been favorite places for these students who prefer a small chapel for their wedding.

Mrs. Margaret Lange, Memorial Union social secretary, reports that since 1954, 24 wedding ceremonies have been performed in the chapel beneath Gold Star Hall. Formality has ranged from elaborate weddings to simple and informal services.

The Memorial Union fountain, a less usual setting, provided an interesting background for the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clark, Iowa State University students, in the early evening of August 27, 1960. The couple met while working at the Union and chose this location for sentimental reasons.

Music for their wedding was provided by a piano which had been moved out onto the north door step of the Union. The bride was escorted to the temporary altar near the fountain by her father. The kneeling bench from the Union chapel was used for the ceremony.

"For decorations, we chose two bouquets of gladioli which we placed on the fountain wall," said Mrs. Clark. The evergreen and other foliage surrounding the area added natural beauty to the setting.

Many visiting parents and alumni note with regret that one of the traditions has given way to meeting traffic needs. The six-foot honeysuckle hedge which surrounded the formal gardens, the site of many summer weddings, was cut down 12 years ago because it impaired the view of drivers, said E. C. Volz, professor of horticulture.

After the Wedding

Many wedding receptions have been held in the Sun Room and the South Ballroom of the Memorial Union, said Mrs. Margaret Knapp, reservations clerk for the Union. There was also one reception in the faculty lounge because the couple preferred a small room. Reservations have been made for four wedding receptions in the Memorial Union during the coming June.

Popularity of receptions on campus is attributed to the fact that students like to have their receptions where college friends can easily get together. It's a way to share the happy occasion.

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