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Marriage and College- Yes

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The Mal Schmidts

At Home

On Campus Say—



Marriage and College—Yes

By Gloria Sheebe
Technical Journalism Senior

MARRIAGE on the campus is painting a new and exciting picture of college life. The carefree attitude of the racoon clad jolly boys has taken a back seat. Today's college men and women have their eyes upon the future and are building it together.

One of the five hundred married couples living in the trailers, barracks and quonset huts on the Iowa State College campus, are the Malcom Schmidts.

The courtship of this Mr. and Mrs. stretches clear back to their toddling days. They were anything *but* the proverbial childhood sweethearts.

"I was a head taller than Mal when we were seven. If I wanted to play with the gang it had to be football! Because I was the biggest one of the team it was my job to run interference. There I was, growing into young womanhood—hand outstretched, head bent down, knees sprinting high, tackling every man that made a pass at Mal!" Mary Ann laughed.

"Funny," Mal grinned, "how the situation went in reverse."

Football times

"You didn't switch over to the offense for a mighty long time. You were so busy chalking up swimming trophies, athletic scholarships, All-American awards, that you were never aware of the feminine gender."

"What!" Mal asked in pseudo bewilderment, "You would have me break training?"

"Spring training has nothing on setting up house-keeping," Mal winked. "We'd been thinking about

getting married since April '51 when we were pinned. But finances had us worried. Even though Mary Ann would be graduating in June and working, I wasn't so sure that I could keep up my sports and studies along with the responsibilities of marriage," Mal said.

"But after I coyly arranged for evening get togethers with friends of ours who were married and going to school, things began to look up. We checked into living expenses—rent for barracks quarters in Pammel Court was only \$18 a month. We were told that fuel expenses in winter amounted to about \$10 a month. The college provided laundromat services and we figured \$15 a week should cover food expenses. Mal's scholarship and ROTC income would cover those minimum costs and with my job in the testing bureau we could see our way clear," Mary Ann explained.

College marrieds

"In August '51 all my knee scraping antics and female wiles paid off. We joined the poor but happy ranks of the college marrieds."

When Mary Ann and Mal Schmidt moved into their three room wooden barracks they took a deep breath, pushed up their sweater sleeves and went to work.

"After all the paint mixing and brush slapping I did those first two weeks I thought I could get in the trade," Mal said.

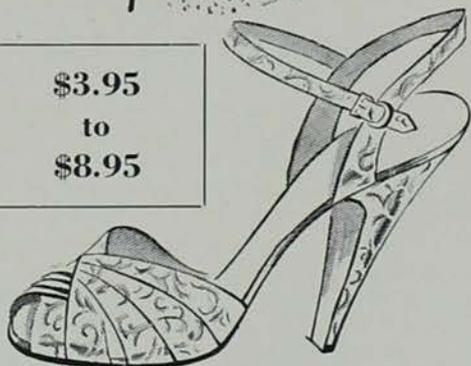
"You got off easy," Mary Ann laughed, "When I think of the nights I spent sewing the kitchen curtains

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Beautiful, Expensive - Looking

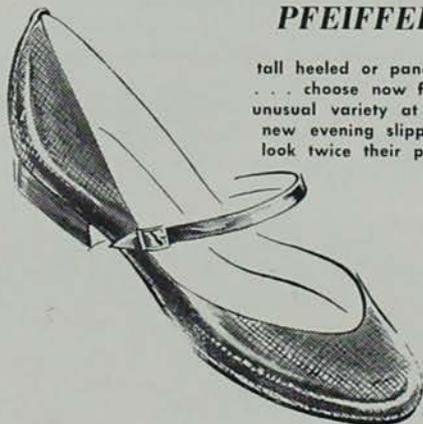
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Schmidts—

(Continued from page 13)

and sink drapes, cutting plastic squares for storm windows, running up bamboo rods for our storage niche and fixing ivy plants for our pride-and-joy bookcase, I get tired all over again!

"Some bookcase, huh," Mal grinned, "It took me all of five minutes to make it. Three white pine boards, twenty seven bricks and two granite blocks and there she stands. Total cost — \$3."



"But Mother told me about moments like this," Mal laughed. "Who'd ever think I'd be drying pots and pans, scrubbing kitchen floors and making beds, dusting . . ."

"Hey, hold on," Mary Ann interrupted. "We agreed that as long as I was working we'd go fifty-fifty on the housework."

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"I suppose we all have our weak moments." Mal concluded. "But I really hit my stride as the family laundress."

"Every week I can be seen with my pack trundling over to the laundromat. With coolie labor like this we keep our laundry expenses down to \$1 a month."

"But we'd never have been able to make this place look like a home without friends," Mal added. "One loaned us the living room carpet and their old refrigerator. When Mom got a new stove we fell heir to the old one, so all-in-all we were pretty lucky," Mal concluded.

"His dad made this honey of a desk and head board for Mal's trophies and that took care of the studying corner," Mary Ann said. "Our wedding showers brought in a lot of gifts in the way of linens and glassware. That only left odd lamps, knick-knacks and final touches to be added."

"I think," mused Mal, "that we've had it a lot easier than most married college students."

"I think any students who are planning to get married should talk the matter over seriously and plan how they are going to meet expenses. Probably most important for them to realize is that their pattern of living is bound to take a more serious aspect. For entertainment they'll rely on their home and their plans for the future," Mal explained.

"But sharing the memories of your college life together and shaping your hopes and dreams for tomorrow is well worth all the heartaches and backaches that come with college marriage," Mary Ann said, taking Mal's hand.

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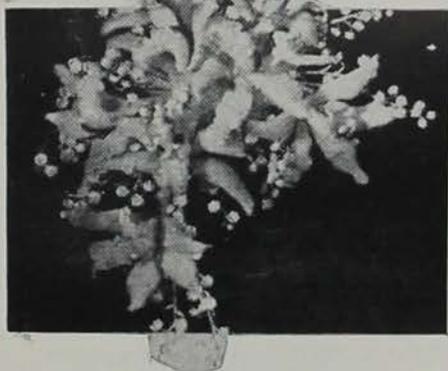
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