



COLBY FREE PRESS

Happy Valentine's Day

Colby couple 'young at heart' after 58 years

By Tisha Cox
Colby Free Press

Bound by their love for each other and affection for their community, Dr. Floyd and Mary Smith have spent 58 Valentine's Days in Colby.

They have done much for the community, and each other, during their 58 years of marriage.

"We were married in 1947 in Chicago," Mary said, and had their reception at the hotel where the ceremony took place.

Chicago was chosen because it was a half-way point for them, and her brother, who was coming from Cincinnati.

The Smiths settled in Colby. Each had a different path to follow before they met. Mary was born in California and raised in Minnesota, and Floyd, a northwest Kansas native.

Before coming back to Kansas, Mary said Floyd was a U.S. Army doctor, serving on a troop transport ship.

He made four trips to Europe and one to Japan.

"He was pretty tired of the open sea," Mary said. "He was not a navy man."

That, and the fact he was from northwest Kansas, prompted Floyd to return home.

He joined the practice of Dr. Carl Eddy at Hadley Hospital in Hays where Mary was working as nurse. She had just completed training at St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing in Rochester, Minn.

After they married, Floyd started his own practice in a home on Seventh Street in Colby. Mary worked briefly, but had the first

of their five children in 1949.

Both have been active in many organizations and Floyd helped build the medical community in Colby.

Floyd and Dr. George Marshall built a clinic on the site where Colby Medical and Surgical Center now sits.

Floyd served on the Colby School Board and Colby Community College Board of Trustees. He was a Boy Scout leader and active at First Presbyterian Church. He was also part of the Thomas County Historical Society.

"Floyd was one of the board members that went to California and helped bring back the Kuska collection to start the museum," Mary said.

Mary was active in church activities like Sunday School and women's groups, Sunflower Girl Scout District Council. She is also a Pink Lady at Citizens Medical Center.

Things have slowed down for the two considerably.

In September, Floyd moved to Prairie Senior Living Complex because of declining health. Mary still lives at their home.

They have nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Their five children are Sue Evans of Colby, Bud Smith of Durango, Colo., Nancy Saddler of Colby, Sally Smith of Colby and Lauri Deviney of Austin, Texas.

Mary has many memories of time spent together — family vacations, helping children with Valentine's Day, and many more.

Floyd has always made sure Mary gets something special this time of year. He's always given her red roses. This year was no exception, as she got some for her birth-



LEFT: Dr. Floyd and Mary Smith after their wedding in Chicago, Dec. 29, 1947. RIGHT: A more recent photo of the couple, who have



Courtesy photos

been married 58 years. The two have been very active in the community over the years.

day this month.

"That was always his thing," Mary said. "Red roses mean 'I love you.'"

She said some of her favorite memories with Floyd and their family are of the outdoors. Floyd has always enjoyed the land because his family farmed and he wanted to pre-

serve the land for future generations.

He likes to hunt, and fish, and also planted trees as windbreaks.

A love of the outdoors also translated into taking the family camping and hiking.

They went to several national parks, including Yellowstone, and

tent-camped.

"That was always a fond memory," she said. "We always enjoyed that."

Mary said Floyd often didn't take time off, and a two-week vacation was the longest he normally took.

Mary added being a doctor's wife

was hard, but the entire family managed to at least eat dinner together once a day.

Floyd practiced until 1983 and he wanted to stay active until Citizens Medical Center was built. He practiced medicine from 1947-1983, and delivered more than 2,500 babies.

Colby awaits Jayhawk Conference action

By John Van Nostrand
Colby Free Press

While fans watch what Jayhawk Conference basketball teams do on the floor, the conference and its member schools are watching even closer what they do to get the players.

Eight Barton County Community College coaches indicted on federal fraud and embezzlement charges has brought schools' recruiting procedures to the surface.

Colby Community College men's basketball coach John Woods was paying attention to what was happening at Barton County.

"I had heard, before the public knew, there might be things going on," Woods said. "I was shocked how deep they are still digging."

Former Barton County men's basketball head coach David Campbell will be sentenced later this month after pleading guilty in November to embezzlement for falsifying timecards. Players could receive money from the federal work-study program without actu-

ally doing any work.

Barton County College Athletic Director Neil Elliott is scheduled for trial in March for charges of conspiracy of theft of federal funds and embezzlement from student programs.

What Woods meant by still digging, is other former Barton County coaches are still awaiting trial for an assortment of charges including embezzlement, mail fraud and others that favored athletes and broke conference recruiting rules.

None of the 2004-2005 Barton County mens basketball players and coaches returned for the current season. Because what happened to Barton County, Woods said he has double-checked his recruiting procedures.

"We are doing this by the book," he said.

Woods said Trojan fans have nothing to fear. "If they came in here, they wouldn't find anything to stick around for." Jayhawk Conference rules prohibit junior colleges from offering student-athletes full scholarships, common at Division

1 four-year schools. Players might be more attracted to schools that offer more than Jayhawk Conference schools. Woods said it is common for Colby to offer student-athletes what they can; waive tuition and book fees. Student-athletes still have to find funds for housing costs, which is about \$3,500 a year at Colby.

Offering a work-study position while in school is another incentive for Jayhawk Conference coaches. Woods said work-study positions can be no more than 20 hours a week.

But knowing what other schools offer, the Jayhawk Conference may not be as attractive as they could be. "We need to get our rules up to date," said Colby Community College Athletic Director Carl Adams. "Our conference has put everyone behind the eight ball."

Adams said Colby Community College has not been suspected of recruiting violations during his six years as athletic director.

"We are comfortable knowing our people are doing what they are

supposed to be doing," he said.

Woods said recruiting violations could happen from the initial contact with the student-athlete to when the player signs on the dotted line. "You have initial contacts with their coaches, then you go see them play, then you visit them and they visit you," he said.

Discussion among coaches is to ease the temptation to break the rules. Adams said a proposal of revising athletic scholarships is expected to be discussed during the Jayhawk Conference meeting of athletic directors and presidents in March.

A proposal includes offering housing in scholarships.

Woods is in favor of that. "The Jayhawk Conference doesn't offer that," he said. "It would eliminate 99 percent of the problem."

Adams does not know how well that proposal is being received.

"If it will pass, I don't know," Adams said. "But the solution is doing it right and everything schools are doing is right and supervised."

Gaschler's order based on the ruling April 8 and at that time will either finalize the initial order, change it or consider other alternatives, said Sheryl Synder, assistant to Mark Stafford, general counsel.

said. "We're not going to go looking in windows."

Richardson County District Judge Daniel Bryan said probation was not an option in Matthew Koso's case because Koso continued to have sexual relations with his underage wife.

Six Trojans qualify

Six Colby Community College Trojan wrestlers qualified for the National Junior College Athletic Association Finals Feb. 24-25 in Rochester, Minn.

The qualifying meet was held Saturday in Powell, Wyo.

Colby came away with a fourth place finish by one point

Colby qualifiers:
133 lbs: Levi Younkin, first

place. 141 lbs: Daniel Prater, third place.

149 lbs: Mat Gilliland, second place.

157 lbs: Matt Schippers, first place.

165 lbs: Jason Schippers placed fourth but was voted in as the Wild-Card.

184 lbs: Bobby Dennis, placed third.

Sweet deals



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Joni and Jenna Ketchum of Colby browsed through books Saturday at Pioneer Memorial Library during the annual "Lover's Day Book Sale." For one day only, patrons could pick up 'sweet' deals on everything from romances to newer hardcover books.

Healing Arts board will review initial order

The Kansas State Board of Healing Arts decided Saturday that the initial order in regards to Colby's Dr. Victor Hildyard will be reviewed at its next meeting in April.

The board's presiding officer,

Edward Gaschler, announced Jan. 30, 15 of the 19 charges of professional incompetency against Hildyard should be dismissed because of a lack of clear and convicting evidence. Those 15 charges all

relate to the evaluation and treatment of patients.

Hildyard's use of language and conduct are the basis for the other three charges.

The board is expected to review

wife, Crystal Koso, is now 15 and will not be 16 by November. Nebraska law prohibits people 19 or older from having sex with those under the age of 16. Crystal gave birth Aug. 24 to a 7-pound, 1-ounce girl, Samara.

"How would we be able to tell if they were having sex?" Bolen

30 months in prison after pleading guilty to a sexual assault charge filed after he impregnated and then married a 14-year-old girl.

Koso could be released from prison as early as November.

Chief of staff Holly Bolen said the office had no plans to file new charges after Koso's release. His

Bruning's office has no plans to pursue Koso case

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Attorney General Jon Bruning's office has no plans to file additional charges against Matthew Koso if he is released from prison and returns home to his underage wife, the office's chief of staff said.

The 23-year-old Falls City man on Tuesday was sentenced to 18 to