



Bobbie Jo McKnight and Wade Lee with her children

Pair wed in February

Bobbie Jo McKnight and Wade S. Lee of Goodland married Saturday, Feb. 22, 2003, at the Goodland United Methodist Church.

The Rev. Janet Hernandez officiated the double ring ceremony.

Robert L. and Judith A. McKnight of Goodland, the bride's parents, gave her in marriage. Marvin J. and Sandra Kuhn of Hays and Gail and Sherrie Lee of Osborne are the groom's parents. Sherrie Lee is a former Goodland resident.

The bride wore a white satin gown with a sweetheart neckline, lace and beading on the bodice and lace gauntlet sleeves. The dress had a half-cathedral train, and the bride wore a white veil held by a pearl tiara.

Tracy Waugh of Goodland, best friend of the bride, was the matron of honor, and Tina Lee of Plainville, sister-in-law of the groom, was the

bridesmaid. They wore purple western-style dresses.

Wayne Lee of Plainville, brother of the groom, was the best man, and William McKnight of Goodland, brother of the bride, was the groom's attendant. They and the groom wore black tuxedos.

The best man and groomsman also served as ushers. Tracy Waugh and Tina Lee were candle lighters. Aaron McKnight, son of the bride, was the ring bearer. Stephanie Bauer and Danielle Lovato, daughters of the bride, were flower girls.

Cake, mints and peanuts were served at the reception with coffee, tea and punch.

The bride graduated from Goodland High School and now attends the Northwest Kansas Technical College. The groom graduated from Hays High School and is a truck driver.

College chooses Goodland native for distinguished fellow award

A Goodland native has been chosen as the 2003 Distinguished Alumni Fellow for the Kansas State University-Salina's College of Technology and Aviation.

Roger C. Fortmeyer graduated from Goodland High School in 1965 and from the university in 1974. Vera and the late Loyal Fortmeyer of Goodland are his parents.

He was selected from among 16,000 candidates as the fellow of the year and attended two days of events Feb. 24 and 25. He toured the campus, spoke during classes and was honored at a banquet. He also had a reunion with his favorite professor, Larry Farmer, who is now

retired.

Fortmeyer is a process engineer for ABB Totalflow in Bartlesville, Okla. The company manufactures flow meters for natural gas pipe lines and other petroleum industry equipment.

Fortmeyer sets up and improves the processes on the manufacturing floor. He works with the research and design and the manufacturing personnel to design these processes.

He has served on the electronic advisory board at K-State-Salina since 1977 and has seen many changes at the school. He is a lifetime member of the alumni association.

Fortmeyer attended Kansas Wesleyan University and Washburn University before graduating in 1974 from what was then Kansas Technical Institute with an associate's degree in electronics technology.

Song a hit but leaves many scratching heads

Recording artist Afroman stirred up a great debate with his song "Because I Got High." The song, featured during the ending credits of the Kevin Smith movie "Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back," became an instant hit but is left a lot of people scratching their heads.

Some think it's a joke among marijuana smokers, while others feel it has a strong message against the substance. Afroman himself says it's not supposed to be pro- or anti-drugs; it simply describes his past experience with marijuana.

While surely most people who hear the song might agree that the song portrays marijuana in a negative light, since it doesn't actually tell the listeners not to smoke, the message is not quite clear.

However, it does poke fun at potheads and people who let marijuana impact their lives so profoundly.

Does the song make marijuana sound cool? Not by most people's standards. After all, why would a person smoke pot if he knows it would prevent him from doing so many other things? As the song relays, marijuana can affect relationships, jobs, school, money, etc. How can that be cool?

Many people are confused about the song. The song's surprise success even left Afroman himself in a daze. Radio stations were worried



cris lovington

- prevention center

about the calls they would receive if they played the song, and parents were concerned about the message when their children listened to the song.

Even MTV had its reservations about playing the video, and agreed to do so only after having the artist change certain scenes in the video and editing a few lyrics. Even so, the song would not be played during the ever-popular "Total Request Live" and only aired during the late night hours.

MTV has survived its fair share of controversy, so it's surprising to some that they would cringe at the idea of showing people smoking marijuana or singing about it. But, the fact remains-marijuana is illegal and harmful. It appears MTV would rather not promote it.

Next time you hear the song, think about what Afroman is really saying. Sure, he's poking fun at stoners without being mean; after all, he used to be one.

But, really listen to the words. Think of all the stuff he says he woulda/coulda/shoulda done but

didn't because he got high. Ask your teen if that's how he wants to live his life?

The song may be a big joke among marijuana smokers, but it's also a reflection on how substance abuse really can damage and ruin certain aspects of a person's life. Talk to your teen about the lyrics and how marijuana affects a person's health and life.

If you would like to share your opinion either way, call me at 899-3848 or send me an e-mail at cris-nwkrpc@yahoo.com.

The lyrics are:
I was gonna clean my room until I got high.
I was gonna get up and find the broom but then I got high.

My room is still messed up and I know why.
-Cause I got high [repeat 3X]
I was gonna go to class before I got high.
I coulda cheated and I coulda passed but I got high.

I am taking it next semester and I know why.
-Cause I got high [repeat 3X]
I was gonna go to work but then I got high.
I just got a new promotion but I got high.

Now I'm selling dope and I know why.
-Cause I got high [repeat 3X]
I was gonna go to court before I got high.
I was gonna pay my child support but then I got high.

They took my whole paycheck and I know why.
-Cause I got high [repeat 3X]

Alma, Neb.; four daughters, Dr. Cynthia (Robert) Frederick of Arvada, Colo., Susan Webster of McCook, Yvonne (Steven) Sonnek of St. Clair, Minn., and Jennifer (James) Hillemeier of Byron, Minn.; two sisters, Louise Balias of Colorado Springs; a brother, Donald (Joann) Webster of Haigler, Neb.; 12 grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; and two step-great grandchildren.

The rosary was said at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 14, at Carpenter-Breland Funeral Home. Mass of the resurrection was at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 15, 2003, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in McCook, with the Rev. Gary Brethour officiating. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery.

Memorials may be given in care of the funeral home, 305 W. C St., Box 476, McCook, Neb. 69001.

T.J. Hellerud

T.J. Hellerud, 16, of Brownell, formerly of Goodland, died Friday, March 14, 2003, at Grissell Memorial Hospital in Ransom.

He was born March 19, 1986, in Goodland. He grew up in Goodland and was involved in football, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America and G-Club while a student at Goodland High School.

He was a junior at LaCrosse High School and was active in Future Farmers of America. His goal was to play in the National Football League.

When football wasn't on his mind, his friends were, and each of them played an important part in his life. When he needed quiet time, T.J. was either fishing or hunting.

Preceding him in death were his grandfathers, Tom Hellerud and Ruben Maier, and an aunt, Myrna Shearer.

Survivors include his parents, Tom Hellerud and companion, Karen Nelson, of Goodland, and Cynthia and Steven Maier of Brownell; a step-brother, Joey McDonald of Milburger; four sisters, Kristen Hellerud and companion Matt Madden and Danielle Hellerud, all of Great Bend, Autumn Hellerud of Mulvane and McKenna Hellerud of Goodland; and his grandparents, Isabelle Hellerud of Goodland, Joe and Barbara McDonald of Brownell and Doris Meier of Nekoma.

Memorial services were held Monday, March 17, 2003, at the Fitzgerald Funeral Home in Ness City, and a funeral service will be



Hellerud

held at 3 p.m. today, Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at the Goodland First United Methodist Church with Pastor Janet Hernandez officiating. Burial will follow in the Goodland Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Goodland High School Football Scholarship Fund or to the Kansas Department of Wildlife for habitat in care of Bateman Funeral Home, Box 278, Goodland, Kan. 67735.

Stanley Webster

Stanley Gene Webster, 72, McCook, a retired sugar plant chemist, died Tuesday, March 11, 2003, at Community Hospital in McCook.

He was born Nov. 12, 1930, at Brush, Colo., the son of Frank and Lydia (Freehling) Webster and graduated from McCook High School in 1949.

He served in the navy from 1951 to 1954, graduated from McCook Community College in 1956 and the former Kearney State Teachers College in 1959.

On August 12, 1958, he married Marlene Kashka in Atwood. He was a chemist for Great Western Sugar Co. in Loveland, Colo., for 19 years and for Southern Minnesota Sugar Beet Co-op in Renville, Minn., for eight years. He returned to McCook in 1987 after being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

Preceding him in death were his parents.

Survivors include his wife, Marlene of McCook; two sons, Master Sgt. Gregory (Jill) Webster of Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., and Marc (Dalette) Webster of

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