

University Couple—

'Sheenu' and 'Kim' To Marry In Ancient Indian Ceremony

By MARY MOHR Staff Writer When A. V. Srinivasan marries Kamla Khuller Aug. 6, the wedding will certainly be one of the most unusual ceremonies in Iowa this year.

THE WEDDING rites, which actually begin the night before, will all be read and chanted in Sanskrit. The couple, both citizens of India, will be married in an ancient Vedic ceremony.

Srinivasan, who is nicknamed "Sheenu," is an instructor in the Mechanics and Hydraulics Department. His bride-to-be, better known as "Kim" or "Kimmy," is working on her M.F.A. degree in poetry.

Although both lived in India, they met, fell in love and decided to marry at the University.

The wedding ceremony has been handed down from generation to generation in their native land. It will be performed by a distant relative of the bridegroom's, S. K. Desikachar, who will come from his home in Kentucky to officiate.

The wedding will be in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Royce Beckett, 338 Clark St. Beckett is a professor of mechanics and hydraulics.

THE CEREMONY begins the night before the vows are actually taken. These initial rites are called Nischithartham.

That night the couple, seated on a small platform facing the east, will announce their decision to wed. The priest will read the ancestry of the couple, going back three generations.

"Our ceremony will be a modification of the traditional Vedic one," Sheenu explained. "The priest will have one or two assistants. In India there are usually eight. But there are just not that many people here who know the old ceremonies. In India, it is passed down from one generation to the next."

THE NEXT MORNING at 3:30 the rites will continue. This part of the ceremony is called Kanyadana, which means giving away the daughter.

"The idea is similar to that part of the American ceremony in which the bride's father escorts her to the altar and then hands her over to the groom," said Kim. At this ceremony the couple will wear their wedding clothes. The bride will have a pink sari embroidered with silver thread and silver sandals. The sari was handmade in India and was sent to Kim by her mother.

KIM WILL ALSO wear some bright glass bangles and bracelets that she brought from India. Red and white bangles are a traditional part of the Indian wedding costume.

"Mine will be red," Kim said. "I wasn't exactly planning on getting married when I left, so I do not have the customary ones."

Her fiancé interrupted her to wink and say, "But I see you did bring bangles, just in case."

KIM'S HAIR will be piled high on her head and intertwined with flowers, perhaps roses. In India, the bride would wear jasmine in her hair," she said. Sheenu will wear a saffron dhoti, the bridegroom's costume in India. Saffron is regarded as a sacred color.

THE COUPLE will sit together on the platform. The priest will say prayers and sing hymns, pray-



Sari Wedding Dress

Kamla Khuller, G, New Delhi, India, models the sari she will wear for her wedding Aug. 6. The sari, sent from India, is pink with an embroidered silver border. Miss Khuller said the silver made the sari stiff and it was hard to get it to drape properly.

—Photo by Kathy Ketchum

Sheenu. "Sometimes the engaged man will wear one in India."

When she is married, Kim will wear the mark in the middle of her forehead which Americans often mistakenly call a caste mark.

"All married women wear this," she said. "But a widow would never have one. Some unmarried girls have this. This is more for decoration—just like an American beauty spot."

COMING HALFWAY around the world to meet the one you will eventually marry is not something new in Kim's family.

"My father was from Punjab, India, and he had to go to England to meet and marry my red-haired, hazel-eyed Scottish mother," Kim said.

"Father was working as an inspector in a factory during the war. Mother was working in the same factory," she explained.

KIM RESEMBLES her father although her broad accent sounds Cockney or faintly Scottish. She pronounces India as "Indi-ee". This contrasts with the crisp, British accent of her fiancé.

Kim was born in England and lived there for 11 years. She has also lived in Calcutta and Delhi. Sheenu lived in Bangalore, a town in the state of Mysore. It is located in south central India, about 200 miles from Madras. Sheenu taught engineering at the University of Mysore for four years.

HE RECEIVED his M.S. from the University in 1962 and his Ph.D. in mechanics and hydraulics in June.

Eventually the couple plan to return to India. After their wedding they will go to Gainesville, Fla., where Sheenu has a position on the staff of the University of Florida.

ing for the success of the marriage.

Then the two will join hands and walk seven steps around the sacred fire which will be burning in a container in the middle of the room.

This part of the ceremony will end about 10 a.m.

The couple will also have a civil ceremony to comply with Iowa law. It will be performed in Danforth Chapel by Dr. Robert Michelsen, director of the School of Religion. Another student from In-

Six Weeks Over; 18 Rust Students Return to Miss.

The 18 Rust College students ended six weeks of intensive study at the University Saturday afternoon, and left by chartered bus for Holly Springs, Miss., site of their campus.

The students, sponsored by the Mississippi Support Program (MSP) in Iowa City, had been studying mathematics, reading, speech and composition.

They were the first group of students to be invited to what MSP officials hope will be a permanent arrangement in Iowa City and a pilot project to be followed by other communities.

The project was a "family event" for the homes of persons who volunteered to become "parents" for a Rust student.

dia, Rita Mitra, and Sheenu's brother, Seshadri, will be the attendants.

AFTER THIS CEREMONY a reception will be held in the home of Paul Engle, professor of English. Indian sweets will be served.

At the end of the ceremonies, the bride's father will give his daughter to the bridegroom, signifying the start of their life together.

KIM HOPES her parents can attend the wedding.

"But they are having trouble getting out of the country," she said. "To prevent the draining of currency, the government does not allow anyone to take money out of the land. And it would be hard to travel without money."

During the wedding ceremony, the bride will receive a gold ring. After the ceremony, Sheenu will also get a gold band.

"MY RING does not have the same meaning that the American man's wedding band has," said

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Campus Notes

LEWIS NAMED TREASURER Richard S. Lewis, recently of the University, has been named treasurer and controller of Connecticut College, New London, Conn.

During the past six years, Lewis has been a specialist in institutional research, assisting in the development and presentation of the University's legislative programs to the State Board of Regents and the state legislature.

TEXTILE TOUR Adeline M. Hoffman, professor of Home Economics, will visit major clothing and textile firms in the Far East for three weeks beginning Aug. 10.

Prof. Hoffman will join a group of 125 Americans who will visit in Japan, Taiwan, and Hong Kong under the sponsorship of Fashion Group, Inc., a professional organization for women in the fashion industry and for educators who train students for work in the industry.

The group will visit in Tokyo, Kyoto, Toba, Hakone, Taipei, and Hong Kong.

D.I. DELIVERY Wednesday will be the last day of off-campus delivery of The Daily Iowan. Copies will be available at the Union information desk and in the lobby of University Library.

Most Iowa Prep Teachers Teach in Their Major Field

By BILL SHERMAN Staff Writer

Last year, women physical education teachers had the best opportunity and their male counterparts had the least opportunity to teach full time in Iowa high schools what they had majored in. This was one finding revealed in a study currently in progress by Perley O. Brunsvold, superintendent of schools at Mason City.

MORE THAN 80 per cent of the women physical education teachers taught full time in that area, but only 23.61 per cent of the men who majored in physical education taught all their classes in that area.

Men who majored in art and music had the best opportunity to teach full time in their major area of preparation, defined by Brunsvold as the area in which the teacher majored as an undergraduate.

Women science and social studies teachers had the least opportunity to teach full time in their major area. More than 50 per cent of the women in these areas taught outside their area of major preparation.

WHEN MEN and women's teaching assignments were combined, math teachers had the best opportunity to teach full time in their major area. The percentages by curriculum of all Iowa high school

teachers (grades 9 through 12) teaching full time in their undergraduate major field were: math, 77.98; English, 75.85; art and music, 74.84; general vocational and industrial vocational, 71.68; business education, 67.94; science, 63.93; social studies, 57.33; foreign languages, 56.60; health and physical education 32.93.

In his study Brunsvold analyzed the teaching assignments of 8,749 full time classroom teachers in 452 of the state's 459 high schools. The seven schools not studied were eliminated because of errors or incomplete answers on forms used in the study.

The purpose of the study was to analyze certain variables in relation to teacher assignment practices in Iowa high schools last year. Six variables were tested against those teachers who taught full time in the area they majored in as undergraduates.

THE VARIABLES studied were: size, based on high school enrollment, assessed valuation for each resident pupil in average daily attendance, per pupil expenditures for current operating cost, average years experience in the present position, the pupil-teacher ratio, and per cent of teachers with master's degrees.

The average years of experience in the present position was the only variable that did not show a significant relationship with teaching assignment.

TWO FACTORS in Brunsvold's study indicated the quality of instruction may be better in the larger high schools than in the smaller high schools. In the 15 largest Iowa high schools' the

range of teachers teaching full time in their major area was 65 to 83.56 per cent. In the 15 smallest schools no teacher in two schools was teaching full time in his major area. However, in one of the smallest high schools 57 per cent of the teachers were teaching full time in their major area.

The largest high schools had a higher percentage of teachers with master's degrees. The range in the 15 largest schools was 65 to 83.56 per cent. Fifty per cent of the teachers in one of the 15 smallest schools had master's degrees. But 10 of the smallest schools had no teachers with master's degrees.

Other findings in Brunsvold's study were: THE HIGHEST percentage of Iowa high school teachers with master's degrees last year was in science, with 28.31; the lowest area of master's degree teachers was English, with 16.54 per cent.

ENGLISH TEACHERS are the oldest (average age 39.4), the most experienced (10.8 years), and the least likely to be married (61.11 per cent) high school teachers in Iowa.

Health and physical education teachers are the youngest (average age 31.2), the least experienced (7.1 years), and the most likely to be married (84.35 per cent).

ONLY 288 HIGH school teachers in Iowa received an undergraduate degree in a foreign language. Most female high school teachers majored in English. The fewest majored in science.

Most male high school teachers majored in social studies. The fewest majored in foreign languages.

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