Man pleads guilty to bigamy charge

By Ron Brown

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Bruce Lee Brinkman had more love than he could handle.

On Valentine's Day 2000, he married Margie Diane Anderson in Mississippi and left her several weeks later.

Five days before Christmas that same year, he married Peggy Ann Nolin in Lynchburg.

Three weeks later, Brinkman, 47, left her as well.

"He packed his bags and was gone," said Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Chuck Felmlee.

Unfortunately for Brinkman, he didn't pack up a scrap of paper that he left behind with wife No. 1's telephone number scribbled on it.

Nolin picked up her telephone and called the first Mrs. Brinkman in Mississippi.

She found out that Brinkman had never bothered to end the first marriage before entering into matrimony again.

"She came to the Lynchburg Police Department to see if she could get the marriage annulled," Felmlee said.

When she told her story to Investigator Dennis Lariviere, he decided to pursue Brinkman on a bigamy charge.

On Thursday in Lynchburg Circuit Court, he pleaded guilty and was placed on probation.

"He told Lariviere that he had failed to get his first marriage annulled," Felmlee said.