

ABBY LANGILL marries BENJ HOFFNER

July 7, 2006 | Catamount Ranch & Club | Steamboat Springs

Fresh wildflower blooms and rustic, homemade touches complement the natural beauty of the mountain setting at this quintessential Colorado wedding.

Abby wore a lace gown and waist-length veil, both made by her mother. "I originally fell in love with a designer gown, but had sticker shock when I found out how much it cost," says Abby. "My mom is a talented seamstress—she made all of my childhood dance costumes—so we decided we could make a similar gown ourselves. We had a blast working on it together." Benj donned a classic black suit from Allen's Clothing [970-879-0351] and black cowboy boots, a nod to his ranch upbringing.



The couple's 200 guests looked on as Abby and Benj recited their self-written vows against a stunning backdrop of mountains and aspen groves.



The couple shared a kiss in the doorway of the site's historic barn, part of Catamount's original homestead.



The reception centerpieces of sunflowers, statice, gerbera daisies, fern, and goldenrod were set on top of Aspen tree rounds (carved with the couple's initials) cut from Benj's family ranch. Each table was named after a different Colorado wildflower.

The couple's flower girls (all Abby's cousins) picked wildflowers in the meadows surrounding the wedding site. "I was actually the flower girl in the wedding of one of my flower girl's parents," says Abby. "So it was a neat turnaround to have their daughter be in my wedding."

All the flowers, including the bride's bouquet of gerbera daisies, roses, irises, larkspur, and heather, were by Alpine Floral & Atrium [970-879-2682] in Steamboat Springs.



The Catamount Ranch & Club [970-871-9300, catamountranchclub.com], a 4,000-acre recreational preserve, is located one valley over from the Hoffner family ranch. The site features a 530-acre lake, which the reception tent overlooked.



For their first dance, Abby and Benj chose "Look at You Girl" by Chris LeDoux. "We're both a little bit country, and it's just a good, classic country song," explains Abby of their choice. The dancing continued until it started to get dark, at which point everyone made their way to a local bar to continue the fun.



Since Abby and Benj don't like cake, they served individual cheesecakes instead. "We also had a toppings bar with things like fresh fruit for guests to add to their cheesecake," says Abby. All catering by Catamount Ranch & Club.

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