

Summer Lovin'

Students remember good, bad summer flings

By LIZETTE RESENDEZ
THE BATTALION

When Karen Bailey, a senior nutrition major, went to a party in June 2000, she did not expect to find long-term love.

"I figured he'd be a nice guy to date for the summer," Bailey said of the young man she met at the party. "But we haven't stopped dating since."

Bailey listens to rap, rock and dance music while her new man loves Texas country music so much he's created a Website devoted to the music and its artists. "I've seen Roger Creager twelve times in the past year," Bailey said. "And now I've got a T-shirt from Roger Creager that's signed 'Thank you Karen.'"

For her boyfriend's birthday, she traveled to different parts of Texas to have a Texas flag signed by several Texas country music artists, including Roger Creager, Pat Green, Cory Morrow and Jack Ingram.

Bailey said that she and her boyfriend have changed, but she has become accustomed to her new lifestyle.

"We both used to go out a lot," Bailey said. "But since we got together, we've settled down and go out with other couples."

While Bailey found a steady boyfriend in a summer fling, most students watch their new flames, along with the summer, come and go.

Lyndsey Peterson, a junior accounting major, had just left high school and a group of friends that she described as "goodie goodies" when she graduated two years ago.

"In high school I had my good-girl clique," Peterson said. "We all went to church together."

The summer before she came to Texas A&M as a freshman, she met a man she worked with and began dating him.

"He had so many tattoos and piercings," Peterson said. "I didn't like that very much, but at the time, I was really looking for something new."

Peterson left her summer fling in Austin however, as she prepared for her transition from high school to college.

"I didn't want to be tied down when I went to school," Peterson said. "I wanted to go out and meet new people and not have to check

in with anybody or feel guilty." Summer flings can also teach a person

a lot about themselves and what they expect from a relationship. Noah Nix, a sophomore general studies major, found what he wanted in life and in relationship after having a summer fling with a girl within his old circle of friends.

"In high school, I never really pursued girls," Nix said. "I would wait for them to approach me and then date them. I was too shy to approach the girls I was interested in dating."

After dating one girl, Nix realized he had not been interested in any of the girls he had dated.

"She was pretty wild," Nix said. "After that one girl, I realized that's not the type of girl I wanted to date."

Nix described the girl of his dreams as reserved and not aggressive and said he has a new set of friends who fit his new ideals.

"I feel really comfortable with the group of people I hang out with now," Nix said. "I'm trying to get in with Christ and away from my old lifestyle."

James Hearn, a senior microbiology major, has had both positive and negative experiences with summer flings.



ADRIAN CALCANEO • THE BATTALION

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Honeybrowne
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Honeybrowne's second album, *Finding Shade*, is a rockin' CD for any lover of Texas country music. Singers Fred Andrews' and Clay Garcia's vocals are comparable to those of Pat Green and Robert Earl Keen.

Honeybrowne is made up of Fred Andrews (vocals, electric and acoustic guitars), Shade Degges (bass), Clay Garcia (vocals, harmonica, electric and acoustic guitars), Rick Hall (drums) and Casey McPherson (keyboard and accordion).

The opening song is a cover of the classic "Love the One You're With." The upbeat guitar and drumbeats are enough to get anyone pumped up, and when paired with Andrews' voice, this could easily be one of the best songs on the CD.

Honeybrowne adds dimension to this Texas-style CD with an impressive range of

See HONEYBROWNE on page

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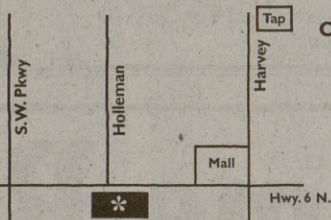
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