

AGGIELIFE

THE BATTALION

Page 3 • Friday, February 14, 2003

Going the distance Students share extreme ways they've surprised Valentine's Day dates

By Nishat Fatima
THE BATTALION

Getting kidnapped from your bedroom and being blindfolded at 5 a.m. in the morning would be a traumatic ordeal for most people. For Victoria Masters, it was a way for her boyfriend to show how much he cared.

"It was sunrise the morning of Valentine's day, and I was sound asleep in my bed. All of a sudden I was rudely jerked out of bed, and before I could gather myself, I was blindfolded and my hands were tied up. I was led by two people out to a car, and I was too terrified to even scream," said Masters, a junior business major.

Masters said even the subtle hints dropped by her boyfriend weren't enough to ease her worry. "All of a sudden in the car, all of my favorite songs started to play, and that terrified me even more," she said. "It made me think that whoever was trying to hurt me had been observing my behavior for a while."

When the destination was reached, Masters said she was in for a surprise.

"After about 20 minutes of driving, I was on my last nerve with worry," she said. "Then, the car stopped and one of the people came to the back seat, gently led me out of the car, untied my hands and took off my blindfold. As I opened my eyes, I saw my boyfriend and his buddy, with silly grins on their faces and the local IHOP behind them. We went inside and my parents and best friend were there too, all in on the scheme."

Masters said she appreciated her boyfriend's effort,

but was too shaken to be enamored.

"I know that my boyfriend just wanted to be romantic and surprise me, but I was still trying to calm down from the scare I had felt earlier," she said. "Also, I had stubbed my toe, and I only had on my pajamas while it was freezing cold outside. And since I was straight out of bed, I looked like a complete mess in front of everybody. Since then, we broke up, and even though we laugh about the story now, it wasn't the brightest thing that he had ever done."

Rachel Herrington, a sophomore biology major, said she wanted to surprise her boyfriend with a breakfast-in-bed treat, but the results were nothing like she had planned.

"I went out of my way and got to his house at six o'clock in the morning, even though I had to be at work at nine," she said. "When I got there I reminded his mom not to give off any hints, because she is horrible at keeping secrets."

Herrington found out that a simple reminder wasn't enough to keep the cat in the bag.

"I had been working for at least an hour, and still had a ways to go," she said. "I was still in the process of making waffles with strawberries, buttermilk pancakes, fresh coffee and juice when I heard his mom yell, 'put some nice clothes on' from across the hall. I was mortified, but ran across the kitchen anyways, hoping that she was talking to somebody else. But sure enough, she was coming down the stairs, and leading my sleepy boyfriend with her."

Herrington said there was no way to salvage the situation.

"Apparently, (my boyfriend's mother) tried to be helpful by going into his room and waking him up for breakfast, without even asking me if I was ready," she said. "To make things worse, as (his mother) walked in the room, she opened his blinds, bringing into plain view my car parked in his driveway. She didn't even have to say a word after that for him to figure out what was going on. It ruined all of my hard work."

On what he described as "the most messed up" Valentine's Day in history, Stephen Ross

said he upstaged his friend's concert, embarrassed himself by singing in front of a hall full of people, was called a drunk while sober and inadvertently gained a "fiancée," all because of what he thought was a clever scheme to impress his girlfriend.

"I had been dating this girl for about six months before we had a Valentine's Day to celebrate," he said. "She swore by humor and said that it was vital to relationships. Keeping that in mind, when we went to see my friend's band perform on Valentine's Day, I secretly asked my buddy to lend me some stage time so that I could serenade her. Since everybody knew I can't carry a tune to save a life, I figured that it would be a sure-fire way to impress her. I sound worse than a crow when I sing and figured it would get her as well as the whole crowd roaring with laughter."

Ross said that his theory worked perfectly until he reached the chorus to the tune he picked.

"I chose to sing the song 'Coffee and TV' by Blur because my girlfriend loved that song," he said. "I got through the first verse and noticed that my girlfriend was laughing hysterically, just like the entire hall. I was basking in the glory of the attention I was getting and because my plan was going so magnificently, I got to the chorus of the song and sang the part, 'Take me away from this big bad world and agree to marry me,' when suddenly my girlfriend jumped out of her seat and yelled, 'Yes, I'll marry you.'"

Ross said that he was flattered, yet mortified at this unexpected surprise.

"Right as she accepted my proposal, the whole crowd, who had been slightly confused up 'til this point, started to clap as if everything made sense all of a sudden," he said. "In the midst of all of that chaos my girlfriend started to run up to the stage. As I saw her approaching, I heard my friend yell from back stage, 'Is he drunk? Did he



IVAN FLORES • THE BATTALION

just propose to his girlfriend? Did that idiot forget that he isn't even in college yet?"

Ross said that he was completely sober, but he had a lot of explaining to do that evening.

"I had no clue that she was so into the relationship," he said. "I never imagined that things would turn out the way that they did that night. She wasn't happy when she found out what was really going on, and I think that incident was the beginning of the end for us. All I wanted to do was make her laugh."

NEWS

THE BATTALION

NEWS IN BRIEF

Corps of Cadets weekend review

A&M's Corps of Cadets held its annual Military and Review on the Drill Field at 5 p.m.

A three-day review will feature various activities including marching, band, and midshipmen from schools across the state. More than 70 cadets will discuss leadership theory and practice and hear the words of guest speakers. There will be round table discussions on topics such as historical perspectives on leadership and the 21st century role of the Corps of Cadets.

Schools around the state will be represented by Virginia Tech, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, The Citadel, Georgia College and State University and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. A midshipman from the Naval Academy will also be present. Representatives from the University of Texas at Austin, Texas Christian University and Prairie View will also take part in the activities.

Fest 2003 to Willie Nelson

Willie Nelson will headline the 2003 Chili Cookoff on April 5, the chili cookoff held in Texas.

The event will be joined by Roger Miller, Cory Morrow, Cross Country and Ragweed and Gander.

Due to last year's downturn in ticket sales, the event attracted 25,000 people. Organizers donated more than \$105,000 to local community charities. Ticket sales said entries will be \$20, beginning in March, and tickets will be \$20.

President Bush's focus on Iraq and the war against terrorism. Osama bin Laden's capture on Sept. 11, 2001.

Present danger that we face from terrorism and from al-Qaeda. Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi.

THE BATTALION

Brandie Liffick, Editor in Chief. The Battalion (ISSN #1055-4726) is published daily, except on Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer (except University holidays and breaks) at Texas A&M University, P.O. Box 11111, College Station, TX 77840. Postmaster: Please send address changes to The Battalion, University, 1111 TAMU, College Station, TX 77840. Publication of advertising does not constitute endorsement by The Battalion. All rights reserved. For classified advertising, call 845-5958. Offices are in 015 Reed McDonald Hall, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. A part of the Student Service for Texas A&M student to pick up a copy of the Battalion. First copy free, additional copies are \$50 per school per fall and spring semester, \$17.50 for the summer months. To charge by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, call 845-2411.

Verbatim
DIGITAL VINYL CD-R
80MIN 700MB

MAKE MUSIC TO _____ TO.

DIGITAL VINYL CD-R™ FROM VERBATIM: IT LOOKS LIKE A RECORD.

No matter how you fill in the blank, make sure your personal music mix is recorded on Digital Vinyl from Verbatim. It looks like a record, but it sounds like one of the highest quality CD-Rs in the world. So get some Digital Vinyl, and start _____ing today.

For a list of retailers, visit www.digitalvinylcdr.com.

2416 Texas Ave. College Station Kroger Center 696-5464

3306 E. 29th St. at Briarcrest in Bryan Near Blinn & St. Joseph's 774-3871

SMOOTHIE KING
Nutritional Lifestyle Centers™

www.smoothieking.com

"BODY FOR LIFERS"

EAS
25% to 40%
OFF Everyday
"No Membership Required"

Introducing our Hot Line
Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner

Gourmet Kingstix "Stuffed Bread"
Pepperoni
Jalapeno Cheddar Cheese
Spinach Feta
Apple Cinnamon

Also
Hot or Cold Coffee Drinks
Mocha
French Vanilla
Irish Cream
Amaretta
French Roast

Check Out These
Great Monthly Specials for February!

- Muscle Milk.....\$24⁹⁹
- Xendrine.....\$29⁹⁹
- I-AD by Ergopharm.....\$52⁹⁹
- Lean Body 20 pack.....\$31⁹⁹
- Hydroxycut 140 caps.....\$31⁹⁹
- SciTech Nutrition (creatine 500g).....\$19⁹⁹
- Isopure Zero Carb 7.5 lb.....\$65⁹⁹
- Cell-Tech 4 lb.....\$45⁹⁵

FRIDAY, FEB. 14 TUESDAY, FEB. 18

LIVE **In The Band**
World Premiere & Songwriter Show
featuring:

Seth James & Feeding 5000

Doors open at 8:00p.m.

8-10 p.m.
\$1.50 Mixed Drinks }
\$1.50 Longnecks }

Roger Creager Doug Moreland
Jason Boland Dub Miller
Bleu Edmondson Randy Rogers
John Evans Phil Pritchett
Django Walker Wade Bowen

LIVE AT HARRY'S

Check out our website for upcoming events at www.bcsclubs.com!