

A Natural Fit

BY JULIA SAYERS
PHOTOS BY ALEX & DYLAN
PHOTO AND VIDEO

A COUPLE'S FAMILY HELPED TO
PLAN A PERFECT NATURE-INSPIRED
WEDDING AT RUSSELL LANDS.



FOR HANNAH PARRISH AND WEBB BOBO, planning the perfect wedding was a piece of cake, especially with the help of family. The couple, who met in high school, knew that when it came to their wedding, they wanted something that was romantic and elegant, but not stiff. Hannah says she wanted the day to be airy, breezy, and inspired by nature—but not beachy.

Even though the Prattville couple got engaged at Rosemary Beach—at sunset, while doing acroyoga—they found inspiration for their wedding at the lake. Willow Point Country Club at Russell Lands served as the perfect venue for the September wedding.

“Both of my parents are big golfers, and my mom had golfed at Willow Point before and said we should look at it,” Hannah says. “I was adamant I would not get married at a golf course, but we went to look at it, and it was just beautiful.”

When it came to planning, the couple recruited help from Webb’s mother, Anna

Bobo, who served as their wedding planner. Hannah explains that while she didn’t have much of a vision for the wedding in advance, Anna helped her to create a vision and bring it to life.

Since Hannah has a double major in dietetics and horticulture, she loves plants and nature, and her love for flora helped to inspire the look and feel of the wedding.

“We decided to pull in all the elements of the lake,” Anna explains. “We didn’t want a beach theme, but we wanted to pull water and sun and greenery into it.”

To do that, Anna explains they “didn’t fight

OPPOSITE PAGE: Hannah and Webb got married with the beautiful backdrop of Willow Point Golf Course.

THIS PAGE: Clockwise from top left: The couple’s invitation suite was designed by Cotton & Pine Creative. Guests waved fabric flags to send the couple off. Hannah’s solitaire engagement ring was matched with a wedding band featuring gold leaves. Blue candles accented the natural greenery. The couple overlooks Lake Martin from Willow Point. Potted trees were hung with the guests’ seating arrangements.



THIS PAGE: Clockwise from top left: Hannah's bouquet featured loose greenery and champagne roses. The reception tables had a natural, rustic feel with big glass vases and wooden chargers. Hannah's bridesmaids wore dusty blue bridesmaids gowns. Mr. and Mrs. wreaths were made out of seeded eucalyptus. **OPPOSITE PAGE:** Left to right: Hannah and Webb share their first kiss. The schedule for the evening was written in gold on a framed mirror.

the venue." Instead of bringing in lots of furniture and chandeliers or other décor, they were inspired by the venue's natural setting. They used big glass bottles with flowing greenery; brass to represent the sun; and lots of baskets.

"We used trees and big flowing plants," Anna says. "We had some flower arrangements, but mostly we really tried to make it like an overflow of the nature that was already there."

For the arrangements, Hannah and Anna didn't want anything boxy or circular. Instead, they wanted them to be flowy, big, and airy. They chose lots of white hydrangeas, ruscus, garden roses, dusty miller, seeded eucalyptus, spray roses, ranunculus, and champagne roses. They also used potted trees to hang the name cards on for the seating arrangements.

"Webb's mom was amazing," Hannah says. "She did so, so much for the wedding and really made my vision come to life."

Anna also brought in notions of dusty sky blue to complement the atmosphere. Hannah's bridesmaids wore dusty blue for their floor-length dresses.

The groomsmen wore light gray suits while Webb wore a navy, windowpane plaid suit with a touch of something special—a single calla lily on his lapel. His mother Anna carried calla lilies in her wedding, and Hannah wanted a touch of that in theirs. Webb's father also wore one.

Hannah found her dress at I Do Bridal in Montgomery. The Pronovias dress was the first one she tried on, and she immediately knew it was the one. Although it was several sizes too large, after four rounds of alterations, it finally fit perfectly. She altered the sleeves to be off the shoulder instead of spaghetti straps, and the flowy train and lace fit perfectly with the romantic details of the day.

The 5 p.m. ceremony was held under a gazebo on the property. Webb's uncle officiated the ceremony, which featured a gospel-centered

message. The couple exchanged traditional vows, but at their first look prior to the ceremony, they exchanged personal ones.

The reception was held under a tent near the ceremony location. The food was provided by Willow Point. Hannah says Webb's one request was that there be good food. Willow Point delivered on that with entrée options of short ribs and chicken piccata. The wedding cake, made by Webb's aunt, featured flavors of chocolate, caramel, and espresso. The groom's cake was made by Anna.

A four-person band provided the music for the reception, and the couple's first dance was to "Can't Help Falling in Love" by Elvis. Since the couple had to be in Mobile the following week for an internship Hannah was starting, they didn't immediately go on a honeymoon. But they did have a unique experience on their wedding night. One of Webb's family friends is a pilot, so after the reception, he flew the couple to Fairhope, where they spent the night at the Grand Hotel.

When guests were ready to leave the party, they were treated to dessert party favors made by Hannah, her mother, Anna, and Webb's sisters.

"Everyone used their talents and abilities and just poured into Webb and Hannah in whatever ways they could," Anna says. "It was just a really beautiful thing."

Hannah and Anna both agree the day went off without a hitch. Although they say the planning process was a lengthy one, it was never difficult.

"Any time you have a wedding, there's high stress and lots of details. Things can really go south very quickly," Anna says. "What Hannah and I did, along with her mother, was that we just prayed that her and Webb would really feel the love of God and the love that they had for each other. Life is so hard, so we wanted this to be a time where they could put that aside and have a break from reality and feel the Lord's presence to fill them up to go out and do their thing in life." ■



Clockwise: The couple leaves to a send-off of waving flags. Guests were given homemade sweet treats as a party favor. Hannah and Webb cut their wedding cake, which was made by Webb's aunt. A display of some of the couple's photos throughout their relationship.



DETAILS

Florist: Grace's Flowers

Hair and Makeup: L'Esprit Salon

Venue: Willow Point Country Club, Russell Lands

Entertainment: Emerald Empire Band

Photographer/Videographer: Alex & Dylan Photo and Video

Wedding Cake: Ellen Hamilton

Groom's Cake: Anna Bobo

Catering: Willow Point Country Club

Wedding Dress: I Do Bridal

and Formal

Bridesmaids Dresses: I Do Bridal and Formal

Invitations: Cotton and Pine Creative