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Unbridled Brides

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

April in Paris

It’s all about the story. “Our bride Gabrielle Stevens is wearing a retro dress that goes back in time—it has a very ’40s or ’50s feel,” says photographer Alexandra C. Daley-Clark. “We chose Wharf Street because it has that old European feel. We could be just off the Champs-Elysées with the street lamps, the cobblestones, the creperie, and the bicycles. When people outside Maine see this shot, they always assume Europe.” Just look at the groom. “Ron Schmidt looks like he just floated up from the Boulevard! Sometimes you see an image and it just has that certain feel that lends itself to be seen in a sepia tone or black & white.”

La Tour Eiffel

“If that would’ve been extra.”

“I paired a vintage dress with modern purple patent pumps….so there was a bit of ‘something old’ and ‘something new,’” Gabrielle says. Just like the Forest City. “We wanted to show how beautiful, romantic, and worldly Portland can be.”

Now That’s Entertainment

If you have family members working in regional arts venues, why not go up on stage yourselves? That’s right, be the show. Lyndsey and Ben Russell’s wedding was so over-the-top, it vibrated across town from prenuptial toasts at Gritty McDuff’s (see front cover) to a heart-pounding reception for 170 in Port City Music Hall.

“The most outlandish thing we did was tap the kegs ourselves to kick off the reception,” Lyndsey says. “It really offered a unique and fun atmosphere. It felt like a big party the moment you stepped in the door. People raved.”

Other examples of joie de vivre: “We didn’t really follow traditions. Bridesmaids didn’t wear matching dresses, we didn’t do a bouquet or garter toss, we served gourmet finger foods and passed apps only (mini sliders, fries, fondu).” Sorry, limo drivers: “We used a school bus as our mode of transportation.”

More unusual details: “Ben and the groomsmen were running a lit-
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Image by Nadra Photography
tle late because they were off shooting skeet and lost track of the time.” As for the beery exchange of vows, “Our officiant was Ben’s aunt–if she noticed [we’d had a few], she didn’t mention it–Ben’s aunt and uncle used to be affiliated with Stone Coast Brewing Co.”

Bowl You Over
Or maybe you’d like to game your wedding like Melanie Morin, who married Chris Michaud at The Sports Arena in Bangor. In this case, ‘nice pins’ refers to the bride. We’re not saying everyone got totally waxed here, but instead of having a first dance, they shared an intimate “first air-hockey game,” Melanie laughs. As for the cute composition of the bridal party, it’s a perfect strike.

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