



SUMMER SEASON

Julie Brown's 'Strip Mall,' a possible cult hit, starts Sunday on Comedy Central.

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SILICON VALLEY
L I F E

HEALING POWER

Lourie Campos' dog Woody had a great bedside manner when she was ill.

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JUNE, SPOON: Here's Santa Claran **Steve Weber**, who has been doing his Forrest Gump look-alike shtick outside the Bubba Gump Shrimp Company eatery in Monterey for the past four years, telling of a first in that career: "It was late in the day, and keep in mind that at that point I'm especially weary of loony people with hare-brained requests." A man asks Weber if he'll pose for a photo with his daughter and her friend and then say, "Paula, Mike has something he wants to ask you." They pose and Weber says his line. "Mike at this point fumbles in the waistband of his pants, pulls out a ring box, gets off the bench and down on one knee and says, 'Paula, we've been through a lot. I'd like to continue the rest of my life with you. Will you marry me?' Paula is sort of freaking out and emotional and then they kiss and after what seemed like an eternity, she blurts out a yes. All the while the father is snapping photos and I'm thinking to myself, 'Should I eat the barbecue shrimp tonight or the fried shrimp?' Just kidding about the thought thing. I finished my shift on the bench, changed my clothes and proceeded to get two 'Stupid Is As Stupid Does' hats that I presented to the couple. I told Mike that anyone who would propose marriage on a bench with Forrest Gump deserves this hat. I told Paula that anyone who would accept marriage to a man who proposed on a bench with Forrest Gump also deserves one. The wedding will be in Modesto (or Fresno). I forget." And you can forget about the "life is like a box of chocolates" thing. Life — this life, anyway — is like a movie.



LEIGH WEIMERS



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Photo sent to Steve from engaged couple

A Marriage Proposal

Saturday, May 6th, while working in Monterey at Bubba Gumps, an event occurred that hadn't happened previously in my four years as *Forrest Gump*. It was late in the day and I was less than a half hour from finishing my day. Keep in mind that at that point in time, I'm especially weary of loony people with harebrained requests. A man approaches me and whispers into my ear, "I'm going to take a picture of my daughter and her soon-to-be fiancée. After the picture is done, I want you to say, 'Paula, Mike has something he wants to ask you.' He will then propose marriage." At this point, I'm thinking, 'whatever.'

I invite the couple over in my customarily warm gump greeting, "PAULA AND MIKE...GET YOUR BUTTOCKS OVER HERE". Paula and Mike join me on the bench, we take the photo and I say, "Paula, Mike has something he wants to ask you". Mike at this point fumbles into the waistband of his pants, pulls out a ring box, gets off the bench and down on one knee and says, "Paula, we've been through a lot, I'd like to continue the rest of my life with you, will you marry me?" Paula is sorta freakin' out and emotional and then they kiss and after what seemed like an eternity she blurts out a yes.

All the while, the father is snapping photos and I'm thinkin' to myself, 'Should I eat the barbecue shrimp tonight or the fried shrimp?'....actually, I was just kinda dumbfounded.

The family went into the restaurant to eat, I finished my shift, changed my clothes and proceeded to get two 'Stupid is as Stupid does' hats that I presented to the couple. I gave Mike the hat and explained that anyone who would propose marriage on a bench with Forrest Gump deserves this hat. I told Paula anyone who would accept marriage to a man who proposed on a bench with Forrest also deserves one. The wedding will be in Modesto (or Fresno....I forget) on September 1, 2000. That's all I've got to say about that.

Forrest Gump *aka Steve Weber*