

Friday Follies 03/08/2002

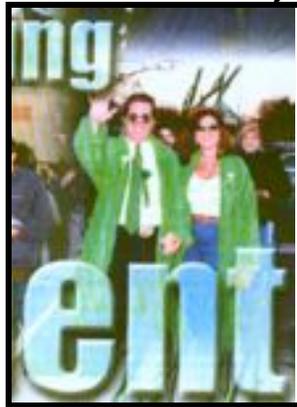
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Hey!

It feels like the whole world is on spring break!

In preparation for St. Patty's Day next weekend, I thought I would send you this photo along with more Irish jokes.

**From the cover of the St. Patty's Day section of the paper March 15, 2001!**



**Who is this "strange" GREEN couple?**

Our third anniversary is also next weekend (St. Patty's Day), so I thought I would send a note describing our engagement in January 1999. I hope you enjoy.

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### THE ENGAGEMENT

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January 26, 1999

Good Morning!

I didn't want to wait until the Friday Follies to tell you the details, so I thought I would send it now.

JP proposed Saturday night and gave me a LOVELY ring. We are both so excited and happy. When you are young and decide to get married, you are totally optimistic - to the point of being unrealistic. You think you will never have any problems, will never be like other married couple - you know- you will never fight, etc. Well, somehow when you are older it is very different. We are both going into this with our eyes WIDE open. I think that is why it took us six and a half years to finally decide to do this, but now that we have committed, it feels wonderful.

We had plans to go see Roger Williams in concert with the Virginia Symphony Saturday night, and JP picked me up so we could have cocktails at his house prior to the

event. (He said with another couple. Little did I know they were actually out of the country!) When I got there, he had four Champaign glasses out, each with a beautiful strawberry in the bottom waiting for the Champaign. He said the other couple was going to be late, and we would just toast privately before they arrived. Well, I am sure you guessed it by now. He had the ring stuck in the strawberry in the bottom of my glass.

Actually, very early in the conversation, I caught a glimpse of it out of the corner of my eye and didn't know what to do! Was I supposed to tell him that I saw it and ruin his surprise?? Or finish the glass of Champaign and then pretend to discover it?? I took a few sips and then couldn't contain myself anymore. I burst out giggling and said, "JP, I saw it!" He said with a forced straight face, "Saw what?"

With that, we both started laughing and trying to "fish" the ring out of the Champaign flute with our fingers, spilling Champaign all over the floor. Then down on one knee he went for a very sincere, emotional, traditional proposal.

After that we went to the concert where we had second row, center aisle seats. The concert was exceptional. I noticed that JP slipped off for a few minutes during intermission, and know him as I do, I knew he was "up to something." Turns out, he had actually called Mr. Williams before the concert and had arranged for the following: (By the way, Roger Williams called us back and left a wonderful personal congratulations on the answer machine that we did not pick up until much later. Real Cool!)

Well, right there in Chrysler Hall in front of thousands of people, Roger Williams ended his concert by dedicating "AUTUMN LEAVES" to US. Unbelievable, but somehow it didn't surprise me at all!



After the concert, J.P. was still very nervous. I told him to calm down, everything had been perfect all night. Not to worry. Relax, enjoy the rest of the evening. He said he was hungry, had dinner reservations at my favorite neighborhood Italian restaurant, Fredrico's, and the restaurant's kitchen would be closing at 10:30. I told him that was OK. Really. I said it had already been a perfect evening, and we could just go by his house and grab a hot dog if it was closed...but still, he drove like a bat out of hell. I honestly think we made it from Norfolk to Virginia Beach in less than 10 minutes!

We drove by the restaurant to see if it was still open and there was a tiny, dim light on inside. We went inside. It was empty...all except for one candle-lit booth in the corner. As we approached, I heard "Autumn Leaves" playing on the stereo and saw the entire table and booth had been sprinkled with autumn leaves from his front yard.

Candles were glowing, music was playing, Champaign was chilling, and dinner was served as we sat down. He had set all of this up with the restaurant that day at noon and was afraid we were too late. AGAIN - PERFECT. He finally relaxed!



**HA! Look how frazzled he looks! Poor baby!**

Maybe this will explain to some of you that do not know my JP that well yet, how very special he is. One thing is for sure, life will NEVER be DULL with my baby..."

Love to all,  
Judi Jones

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### THE ENGAGEMENT

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And now, after three years next weekend, I can assure you all....  
It has been ANYTHING but DULL. (smile)



Grow in peace and wisdom...  
Remember, life is short...we need to make it a good one.  
Grow in peace and wisdom.  
Your Friday Friend,

Judi Godsey

PS. NOTE OF CAUTION... 20 employees were fired from The New York Times here in Norfolk for sending lewd and indecent e-mails. (To my knowledge, none of the 20 were on our list - even though some of the attorneys who represent the company were!) I have asked each and every one of you on this list to tell me if these "Follies" place you in jeopardy, or even if they offend you. Please understand that they are intended to be light-hearted and are not mean-spirited in any way. If you are ever offended, do not hesitate to ask to be taken off the Friday list.

PSS. If you send a joke and I don't use it, it is because it has been used before, and I try not to repeat. Remember, I have been sending these since August of 1997. You tend to go through huge numbers of jokes that way.

Disclaimer: When anyone asks if I type all of these jokes, the answer is, "No!" I cut and paste one evening during the week (30 minutes, TOPS). I don't have time to sit, read, and retype jokes all day! If you would like to see a small portion of what I actually do, look up our homepage at [www.chcs.pvt.k12.va.us](http://www.chcs.pvt.k12.va.us) and check out the Soundings section, a publication I produce four times a year which pretty much recaps most of what I am involved in.

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