

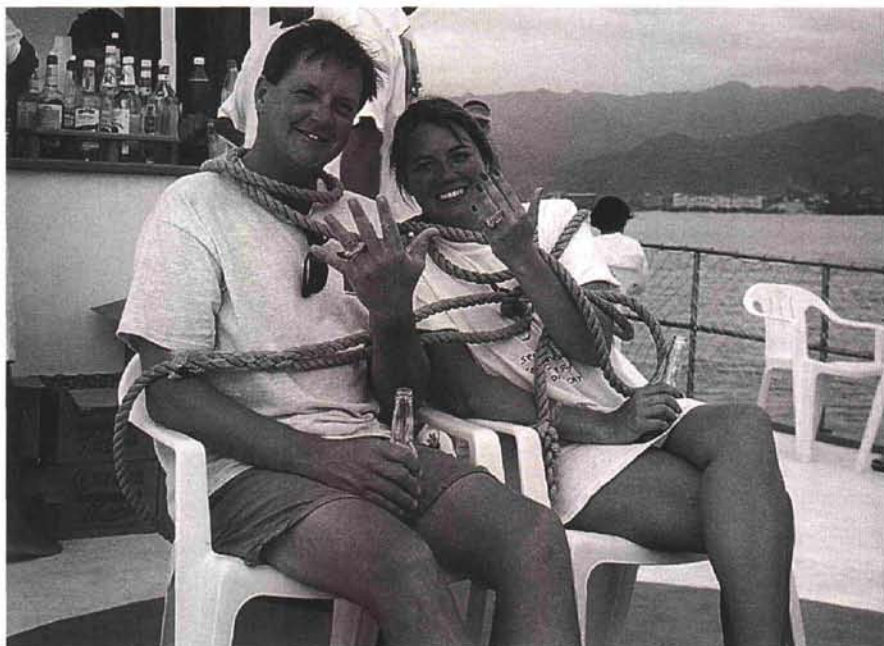
The Sky Has Fallen (And That's a Good Thing)

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Dateline: November 7, 1997, Puerto Vallarta. Today, in the city of Puerto Vallarta, the state of Jalisco, and the country of Mexico, the sky has fallen. It has snowed in July. The Cubs have won the World Series. The Bears have won a game. And most unexpectedly, Dave Blomquist has taken the vows of marriage. The MAGCS has lost one of its most renowned bachelors since Mike Bavier to wedlock.

Now, perhaps I am not the most qualified individual to make an unbiased observation on this institution, but in Dave's and his new wife Michelle's case, I can. I have had the pleasure of knowing Dave forever and Mrs. Blomquist (wow!) for slightly less; and I can honestly say, "Cool." In the coming years, when you've had the opportunity to meet Dave's betrothed, you'll learn what those of us who already know her have learned: the perfect mate for everyone IS out there . . . even for Dave.

In attendance for the unique and wonderful event were several of our MAGCS colleagues, including Dave Nadler, Tim Davis, Tim Anderson, Dan Sterr, Joel Purpur, Brian Winkel, Jose Herrera, and myself (along with assorted wives, significant others, and companions). Rounding out the group were friends and family of the bride and groom, making for an intimate and fairly raucous occasion.



Dave and Michelle have tied the knot

The ceremony itself was held on Friday evening on the beach in front of our hotel. Weddings in Mexico are not much different from those in the States, with the few noted exceptions such as the fingerprinting at the altar and the added presence of a translator. Wedding receptions in Mexico . . . well, I can't comment much on that, although photographic evidence indicates that I was, in fact, there. I can say that one advantage is that fragile objects such as bottles and cameras, when inadvertently dropped, do not break on sand floors.

So, when you are reading this, tip your coffee cup and toast this lucky couple. Yes, the sky has fallen; and yes, it has snowed in July; and yes, the Cubs have won the World Series; and yes, Dave Blomquist is a happily married and very fortunate man. As for the Bears? The sky might need to fall a bit further. ■



A cold day in July? No, just some wedding-goers who didn't understand the Weather Channel in Spanish. L to R: John Gurke, Tim Davis, Joel Purpur, Dave Blomquist, Brian Winkel, Tim Betts, and Dan Sterr. (Nadler wanted nothing to do with this group.)