

PAOLITE

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Engaging Moments

PHS staff members recount how their love stories began

With Valentine's Day next week, some could say that love is in the air here at PHS. Not only with students, but many teachers as well. Engagement is a big step in life and some teachers have had some pretty surprising and interesting proposals.

Fever Pitch

Henry Cruz, who supervises the new language lab and is the baseball coach, incorporated baseball into his proposal.

Cruz and his wife, Jolynne, have been married for nine years. The proposal happened on February 27, 2000 during their senior year of college. This day was also Henry's dad's birthday.

Henry's family came in from Puerto Rico to watch Henry play college baseball in Tennessee for the first time. Everyone knew that he was going to pop the question, teachers, coaches and students. Everyone kept this from Jolynne, and Henry's family also had no idea what was about to happen.

It was parent's weekend for the team and the stands were packed. The plan was that everyone was going to put their name in a hat to decide who would throw the ceremonial first pitch. (Well, that is what Jolynne thought, the announcer knew different.)

When the announcer said Jolynne's name she went down to the pitcher's mound. The teams catcher was sent out to the plate to

catch the first ball but the coach called for Henry to go catch it. Henry had a ring in his back pocket and Jolynne could not see it. So she threw the ball and Henry caught it (in baseball it is traditional for the catcher to return the ball to the pitcher). Henry started back to the mound, the PA then came on and said, "Jolynne, there is something else Popo (his nickname) needs to ask you." Henry then asked her to marry him, and she said yes.

Brewster's fake ring

Principal Casey and English teacher Jaye Brewster have been married for nineteen and a half years.

Casey proposed to Jaye on Christmas Day of 1991. Casey had wrapped her a package of fake jewelry, including plastic necklaces, earrings and rings.

When Jaye opened the gift she thought, "Why did he give me this?" When he saw the confusion on Jaye's face he said, "No, that one's real." Casey pointed to the ring in the package and replaced it with a real diamond.

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