



LOVE, JENNIFER The kindly star smooched a young fan

WHAT BEATS AN AUTOGRAPH FROM JENNIFER LOVE HEWITT?

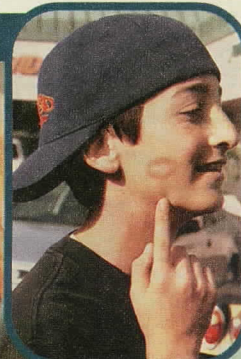
How about a big kiss!

JENNIFER LOVE HEWITT gave an adoring young fan a gift he'll never forget and may never wash off – a kiss on the cheek!

When Paul Rodrigues, 12, spied the Party of Five star at a Studio City, Calif., shopping mall, he summoned all his courage and politely asked for her autograph. But he quickly realized he didn't have a pen or paper.

That's OK, said Jennifer: "I'll give you something even better – a kiss!"

Says the breathless boy: "WHAMO – she gave me the greatest kiss I'll ever get!" ★



SEALED WITH A KISS Paul Rodrigues, 12, shows off his sweet smack from the Party of Five star

EX-LAW & ORDER STAR DRUNK & DISORDERLY

ECCENTRIC former Law & Order star Michael Moriarty has turned into an out-of-control drunk and now faces charges of beating up his live-in love.

Moriarty, who is becoming better known for his bizarre behavior than for his role as District Attorney Ben Stone on the NBC series from 1990 to 1994, was arrested for assaulting Margaret Brychka late last month.

And as this photo shows, he was unsteady on his feet Dec. 7 when he made an appearance on assault charges in a Vancouver courthouse. The case was continued.

"Michael's in bad shape and it shows," says a pal. "His face is red and his skin is blotchy from so much drinking and chain-smoking. It's tragic."

Friends say this violent incident has been coming because the actor has been drinking heavily for months, starting with white wine in the morning.

"Wine is Jesus to me," he told a reporter. "My only problem is when I go deep red. I love red wine. When I go red, everyone watch out."

And no one knows that more than Brychka, 43.

According to police, the couple was in a Vancouver restaurant when the actor slapped her across the head. She called police, who say both had been drinking.

Friends say that after the attack, Brychka kicked out Moriarty, 59. He now sleeps in hotels and wanders from bars to pool halls, where

Michael Moriarty charged with assaulting his galpal



MORIARTY has gone from playing a dapper district attorney on Law & Order to a disheveled defendant leaving court on domestic assault charges

he buys admirers rounds of drinks.

"Michael starts off the evening with \$500 in his pocket and goes to sleep only when he's run out of money," says an eyewitness to Moriarty's public drunkenness. "But now he's only allowed in about half the bars in town."

According to pals close to

Moriarty, the actor's binges can last for days, weeks or months.

"I'm a party dog. I love bars," Moriarty bragged in a Canadian TV interview.

Moriarty is also famous for his wacky political views. The actor claims to be a Catholic Republican Monarchist and says that CNN is

the Communist News Network and liberals "are evil because they empowered women."

These types of wild comments caused strife on the set of Law & Order, especially after the actor publicly feuded with Attorney General Janet Reno, accusing her of trying to censor television.

After quitting his \$1 million-a-year television role, the actor divorced his second wife and moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. In 1997, he and galpal Suzy Cabrita were arrested for public drunkenness. The following year they married, but the relationship was filled with fights and drunken bouts.

"I had him off drinking for nine months," says Cabrita. "Then he started again. It's hard to watch."

Two years ago, Moriarty met Brychka in a bar.

"Margie is tough enough to stay in the ring with me," he said a few months ago.

Brychka says that since they've been together, she has seen Moriarty go on at least three binges. In the past he has always come back to her and dried out. But she says his last violent rage was the last straw.

Still, some of Moriarty's friends haven't given up on him.

John Pineau, owner of MacKenzie's Cabin where the actor used to drink up a storm, has banned him for his own good.

"Michael's in a bad way," Pineau confides. "If I can help him stop drinking by not allowing him in my place, I'll do it." – **ROBIN MIZRAHI** ★