Wedding belle in Magnum's future?

By STEVE K. WALZ

AFTER six years and dozens of unfulfilled romantic flings, "Magnum P.I." mega-hunk Tom Selleck finally meets the woman of his dreams in a blockbuster two-part story which will kick-off the CBS series seventh, and probably final, season opposite ABC's "Dynasty" this fall.

The storyline which CBS has diligently tried to keep secret for several weeks begins when Magnum, who usually resides in Hawaii, is summoned to Los Angeles to check out problems at a movie company.

His boss Robin Masters orders Magnum to serve legal papers to the company's hot-shot lawyer. The lawyer turns out to be a dazzling beauty named Cynthia Farrell, played by Dana Delaney. From this rather awkward encounter, a sizzling romance develops, and Magnum is forced to examine his emotions as he contemplates marriage.

"It's a very special episode," says Delaney. "It's the first time a girl is proposed to by Magnum. The chemistry between them is wonderful. I would say that shooting this episode was the best three weeks of my life. I felt guilty about being paid."

The actress adds that the 'issue' of their marriage will remain unresolved for the moment, but CBS is contemplating exploring their relationship later on in the season, as the show comes to the end of what looks like it will be its final season.

Although hundreds of actresses would have done just about anything to portray the woman who steals Magnum's heart, Selleck never considered anyone else after meeting Delaney last April.

The 29-year-old New York actress says, "I had received a tremendous reaction from casting agents in Hollywood after co-starring as Bruce Willis' sexy ex-girlfriend in an episode of 'Moonlighting' last winter.

"Bruce used to be a bartender at a place I used to go to in Manhattan. We were good friends and the chemistry between us showed."

"The wife of Charles Johnson, the supervising producer of 'Magnum,' saw that episode and told her husband that they must have me on their series. I met with Tom in April and we just hit it off. I didn't have to audition for the role. Tom just went with his instincts."

"We had a wonderful time working together. He takes his work seriously but makes it look easy. It was hard at first for us to do some of the romantic scenes, because you are just thrust together. But by the end of the shooting schedule we were real chummy. The chemistry is better than my..."