

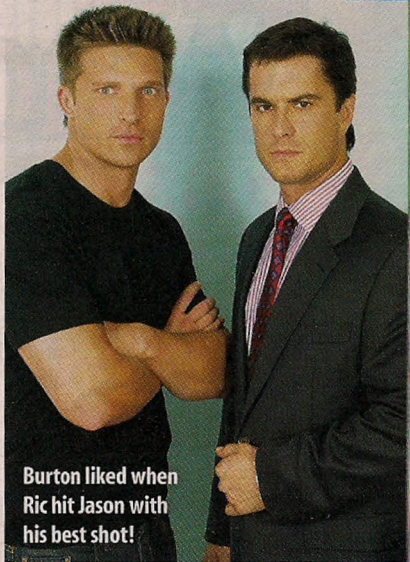
## FRIEND And Foe

■ Although his alter ego hated Ric with a fiery passion, Steve Burton (Jason) admits he was sorry to see the character — and his portrayer — go. “I’m sad about Rick Hearst (ex-Ric; *THE BOLD & THE BEAUTIFUL*’s Whip) leaving. I think everybody is,” Burton admits. “It’s always sad to lose somebody that talented. Hopefully, he’ll make his way back, and we can one day close out an excellent story between us. Rival-wise, he’s been Jason’s only match. Those two guys were going head to head for a long time. We had such a vested interest in what our points of views were. Their personal dimension was huge. I mean, Anthony Zacchara is a great villain. But with Ric, there was always something underlying there.

### THAT’S A FACT

Steven Spielberg became a Burton fan after seeing him in *Semper Fi*.

We loved going head to head... and I loved when he’d win! That’s the only way it was good, when he got one on me.”



Burton liked when Ric hit Jason with his best shot!