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Mads Mikkelsen
Constance Zimmer
Todd Chrisley
Jennifer Finnigan
Don Wildman

WHAT'S FOR DINNER

Featuring: Adam Richman

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THE STORY

'ROOKIE BLUE' back on beat

Missy Peregrym returns in "Rookie Blue" Thursday on ABC.

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Pictured:
A classic photo of George Clooney arriving on a vintage train.



ABC returns ‘Rookie Blue’ to summer patrol

BY JAY BOBBIN

Pictured: Missy Peregrym and Ben Bass

Six television seasons into being a police officer, it’s debatable whether you’re a rookie anymore.

With that said, the cops of “Rookie Blue” always are discovering something new – personally as well as professionally – and that’s destined to remain the case as the sixth season of the Canadian-made drama starts its ABC run Thursday, June 25. As they were in 2014, the new episodes are being shown a month earlier in their native country, but spoilers for U.S. audiences were remarkably sparse last summer.

“We were pretty careful about that,” recalls Missy Peregrym, alias the series’ Officer Andy McNally. “It was a little weird doing press, because I didn’t want to say anything that would spoil it for America, either. We didn’t really respond to a lot of stuff or put things out there, just so all the fans could enjoy it at the time they were able to see it.”

Having emerged from an explosion at the 15 Division precinct shaken but relatively unscathed, Andy now faces a fresh emotional crisis. After reuniting romantically with Detective Sam Swarek (Ben Bass) following his near-fatal shooting, she learns he’s expecting a baby with fellow officer Marlo Cruz (Rachael Ancheril), who was Sam’s flame while he and Andy had broken off their relationship.

“It is obviously very difficult,” confirms Peregrym. “Things are starting to look up (for Andy and Sam), so we’ve gotta smack it down with something.” The actress had input into how that went down: “I love our team so much, because I have the freedom to go and talk to somebody and say, ‘I’m sorry, but this is how I feel like this would really go down. Can we work this out?’ They’re so open to that.”

Another major new “Rookie Blue” plot suggests last season’s police-station bombing may have been, at least partially, an inside job. “You don’t know who to trust anymore,” Peregrym reflects. “Last season, the dynamic between Andy and Matt Gordon’s character (Staff Sergeant Oliver Shaw) got roughed up; he was like the father figure to her, but their positions are changing, so what does that mean for their working together? Matt’s such a great actor. He always brings so much to the table, and that extends into this season as well.”

With co-star Gregory Smith (the series’ Officer Dov Epstein) again directing two episodes, Season 6 of “Rookie Blue” actually is the back half of a “super-season” the cast and crew filmed through much of last year, beginning with the stories that comprised Season 5. Traditionally, it’s taken only a few weeks into a new season to learn if ABC will give the show another one, and Peregrym hopes that’ll be the case again. Even if it does return, a key behind-the-scenes player will be absent, since executive producer and co-creator Tassie Cameron is moving on.

“It’d be easier for us if we knew a little bit sooner, but at the end of the day, I can’t believe we’ve even gone this long,” Peregrym says. “It’s such a blessing that we’ve been able to work together for so long, and honestly, I think Season 6 is even stronger than Season 5. The characters go through a lot of really great things, but who knows? We’ll see what happens next.”

Click or tap here for more!

JAY BOBBIN'S Q&A

MADSMIKKELSEN



of 'Hannibal' on NBC

As you continue "Hannibal," are there still surprises for you in playing Dr. Hannibal Lecter?
Hannibal can do a lot of different things, but having said that, I've spent three years with him now. His base is always there, and he can divert from that, but there's always that base of a refined and intellectual man. It's not as tricky anymore, but I do get challenges. Having to speak Italian will always be one.

Your visibility as villain Le Chiffre in "Casino Royale" made you globally bankable, but you've also continued to pursue smaller films. Was that your aim?
Most people are capable of doing anything. I guess it's up to themselves whether they are only listening to the money or doing a little of everything. I've been fortunate enough to get offers from Europe as well as America ... and this will sound very pretentious, but what I find interesting, I will go with. Sometimes that's in America, sometimes that's in France – and if it's China next time, I will be in China. I'm in the very fortunate position now where I can do what I like to do. And if I don't like to do anything, I can sit down and have a beer.

Did you feel the pressure of making a James Bond movie while you were doing it?
It is a big deal. I'd heard about the pressure, especially from my agents and the people around me ... but to tell you the truth, at that point when I got the job, I had never seen a Bond film, so I didn't really understand what we were up against.
I read the script, though, and I could see they were going for a different style. A Bond film was in there, but it was also just an interesting film.

Click or tap here for more!

JAY BOBBIN'S Q&A

CONSTANCE ZIMMER

of 'UnREAL' on Lifetime



You're reprising the role of Dana in the "Entourage" movie at the same time you're introducing Quinn in "UnREAL" ... both tough women in the entertainment world. While you've become known for such characters, do you seek them out?
It's funny, because I see a little bit of Dana in Quinn, but Dana is almost the nicer one. That was kind of fun to me. These powerful women are making such an incredible resurgence on television, and everyone is embracing them – and that's very exciting when people used to be a little standoffish about them.
Even shooting the show ("UnREAL"), though, I was afraid that I was too mean. I would always go and talk to the producers and say, "Are you sure I can do that? I feel really bad." And they said, "You've gotta do it. It's what you do." And then I watched the show, and I can say that I feel I could go even darker.

How is it to be in a series cast that's so female-driven, by necessity?
I don't know if there's another show out there that embodies so many strong female characters, and it's exciting for me to walk onto the set of the show, having mostly been on shows that were very male-driven.
Everybody was so committed to her character, whatever they were labeled as on the show, and I think it's a real commentary on how women are portrayed on these (reality dating) shows. And nobody talks about it.

Are there other sorts of characters that you hope to play?
I've tried to put this style of character to bed in my repertoire, because I feel I can do so much more. When I got the call to do "House of Cards" and work with (producer-director) David Fincher, though, I thought, "OK. I'll do it one more time." They're all different versions of these strong, powerful women.

Click or tap here for more!

Lifetime

BY JAY BOBBIN'S Q&A

TODDCHRISLEY

of 'Chrisley Knows Best' on USA Network



What sort of anticipation do you have for the second half of the new season of "Chrisley Knows Best," which will be filmed in London?

I've tried to say to our show runner, as delicately as possible, "What is the food going to be like?" Food's not a huge thing for me – I eat to live, I don't live to eat – but I don't want to be surprised. I'm already picky as it is, so I said, "Is there a place to get French fries and stuff like that?" And they just laughed and said, "You're gonna be fine." Well, I have learned with this crew that when they tell me it's going to be fine, they have something up their sleeve.

We go to the Caymans, and that's as far as I go. It's a two-hour flight; I can go to sleep and by the time I'm waking up, we're landing. Well, this is roughly a 10-hour flight, and I'm going to have to take something. It's going to drive me crazy to be on a plane for 10 hours.

What can you say about the two other Chrisley shows USA Network has ordered, a talk show for you and a direct "Chrisley Knows Best" spinoff?

They truly feel there is more that we have to give, collectively and also independently at times, and we are very blessed and cautiously optimistic that these shows will do as well ... with the understanding that our number-one focus is "Chrisley Knows Best," because that is our mandate.

The talk show is going to be much different than what you've seen, and the spinoff will focus on our daughter Savannah leaving for college and the things she'll have to deal with on her own. This is a child who has never been away from her parents a night in her life.

Click or tap here for more!

GEORGE DICKIE'S WHAT'S FOR DINNER

ADAMRICHMAN

Richman finds out-of-the-way gems on 'Man Finds Food'


Chef Giuseppe Fanelli (left) and Adam Richman

For this week's first season finale of Travel Channel's "Man Finds Food," host Adam Richman returns to his hometown of New York City and visits, among other stops, what is known as a "steak easy."

"We went to Tre Dici steakhouse (run by Chef Giuseppe Fanelli), which is sort of in the Chelsea area, which is a steak easy, like a big speakeasy," the 41-year-old Brooklyn native explains. "I mean, even within this hidden place there is a veal chop that they only make four of a day, which was extraordinary."

"It's just very labor intensive ...," he continues. "It's the demigloss and all the other elements that go on it that are quite time consuming, and quite frankly it's a little bit of that notion of feeding the guy in the know, how we only make these for our select few customers. But it's a thick-cut veal chop so it takes time to cook and it's really about using the time wisely and really making it completely delicious."

The series, which takes viewers to places around the country that even the locals don't know about, spends the rest of the Wednesday, June 24, finale in Manhattan, where Richman samples root beer-braised short-ribs sliders at an Upper West Side eatery and Cuban fare on the Lower East Side. He also visits a small Latin restaurant in the Fashion District that's so popular that people will eat standing up or on card tables set up on a loading dock.

"Some of (these eateries) I personally have heard about from fellow chefs or from friends of mine who have gone to these restaurants," Richman says of how he finds these under-the-radar establishments. "Sometimes the food blogosphere, you find stuff there. ... Sometimes I'll call a meat purveyor or I'll call a produce dealer that I'm friends with and say, 'Hey, who are you selling to that's doing interesting, cool, hidden stuff?' And I'll get some suggestions there. From college message boards, from food message boards, I found some pretty remarkable stuff. But that's mainly my M.O."

Q&A

What book are you currently reading?
"I'm always reading two or three at once. Right now, I'm reading 'Drop Dead Healthy.' I think it's by A.J. Jacobs. ... I'm reading a graphic novel called 'The DMZ' a decent amount. And I've been working on an adaptation of Chekhov's 'Three Sisters,' so I'm reading a lot of different translations of 'Three Sisters' by Anton Chekhov."

What did you have for dinner last night?
"It was weird because I didn't really eat dinner per se. I was in Providence and I had the grilled pizza from Bob & Timmy's ... And then I had some sushi with a contest winner. But I guess the closest thing I ate that would have been akin to a dinner, I had done a (book) signing at a market and they were pretty proud of their fresh chicken salad, so I had a bunch of that."

What is your next project?
"I have a brand new show in the U.K. that I just sold ... called 'Food Fighters.' ... Barbecue is flying in England right now. It is a huge industry ... . And so we're getting the U.K.' s best barbecuers to compete against one another for the title of barbecue champ."

When was the last vacation you took, where and why?
"The only travel I've done that's specifically nonwork-related in recent memory, I went to Asia. I went to Japan, Thailand and Hong Kong."

Click or tap here for more!

GEORGE DICKIE'S CELEBRITY SCOOP

JENNIFER FINNIGAN

For much of the first season of FX's Tuesday political thriller "Tyrant," Jennifer Finnigan had to content herself with playing the dutiful wife of a would-be Middle Eastern despot, tending to her husband's needs while he kept her in the dark on just about everything. For the actress, it was a frustrating experience.



Then in the season finale, the protective mother in Finnigan's character Molly emerged when the coup failed and her kids were left stranded in the American embassy. Viewers got to see a more three-dimensional character.

Now in Season 2, Finnigan gets to stretch her acting muscles a little more as the drama shifts to her being holed up in the U.S. embassy at Abbudin, separated from her incarcerated husband Bassam "Barry" Al-Fayeed (Adam Rayner).

"I was so desperate to do that last year," the 35-year-old Montreal native says with a chuckle, "and I was patient, and when things came to a head at the end of the season it was such a relief to see that.

"And now ... because of the separation between them you get to see her spread her wings and you see there's a more three-dimensional, fully realized woman and mother and she has a personality and she's not just about asking her husband, 'How are you? Are you OK?' There's so much more to her than that. And I was over the moon to see how she was written in the first four episodes in particular."

If there is one thing Finnigan has in common with her character, it is they both have famous husbands. Finnigan married fellow actor Jonathan Silverman ("Weekend at Bernie's") on the Greek island of Mykonos in 2007 and the couple currently lives in Los Angeles.

She's been a fixture on the small screen over the past 15 years with roles in the CBS daytime drama "The Bold and the Beautiful," NBC's "Crossing Jordan" and "Committed," The WB Network's "Close to Home," ABC's "Better With You" and TNT's "Monday Mornings."

These days, Finnigan spends much of her time in the Hungarian capital of Budapest filming "Tyrant," an assignment she's not complaining about.

"Budapest is beautiful," she says, "especially this time of year now that it's warming up. It's really great, actually. ... It's gorgeous and it's just a kind of fun, affordable city. So not a bad place to spend half the year."



Full name: Jennifer Christina Finnigan

Date of birth: Aug. 22, 1979

Birthplace: Montreal

Height: 5 feet 7 inches

Famous family: Husband Jonathan Silverman; father Jack Finnigan, a popular Montreal radio personality

TV credits: "Student Bodies" (1999-2000), "The Bold and the Beautiful" (2000-04), "Crossing Jordan" (2004), "Committed" (2005), "Close to Home" (2005-07), "Better With You" (2010-11), "Monday Mornings" (2013), "Tyrant" (2014-present)

Click or tap here for more!

CELEBRITY PROFILE

DONWILDMAN

of 'Mysteries at the Museum'

- The youngest child of a big family, he was born in Philadelphia and raised in Pitman, NJ.

- Attended Earlham College in Richmond, Ind.

- Loves travel and history.

- His father was a professor and three out of his four sisters are teachers.

- Trained as an actor at The Drama Studio in London.

- Lived in New York City at the beginning of his career working in theater and doing commercials.

- Has appeared in hundreds of commercials, including several for Oreos, Sprint and Land Rover.

- Acting credits include two episodes of the daytime soap opera "Passions" and a role in the movie "New York Waiting."

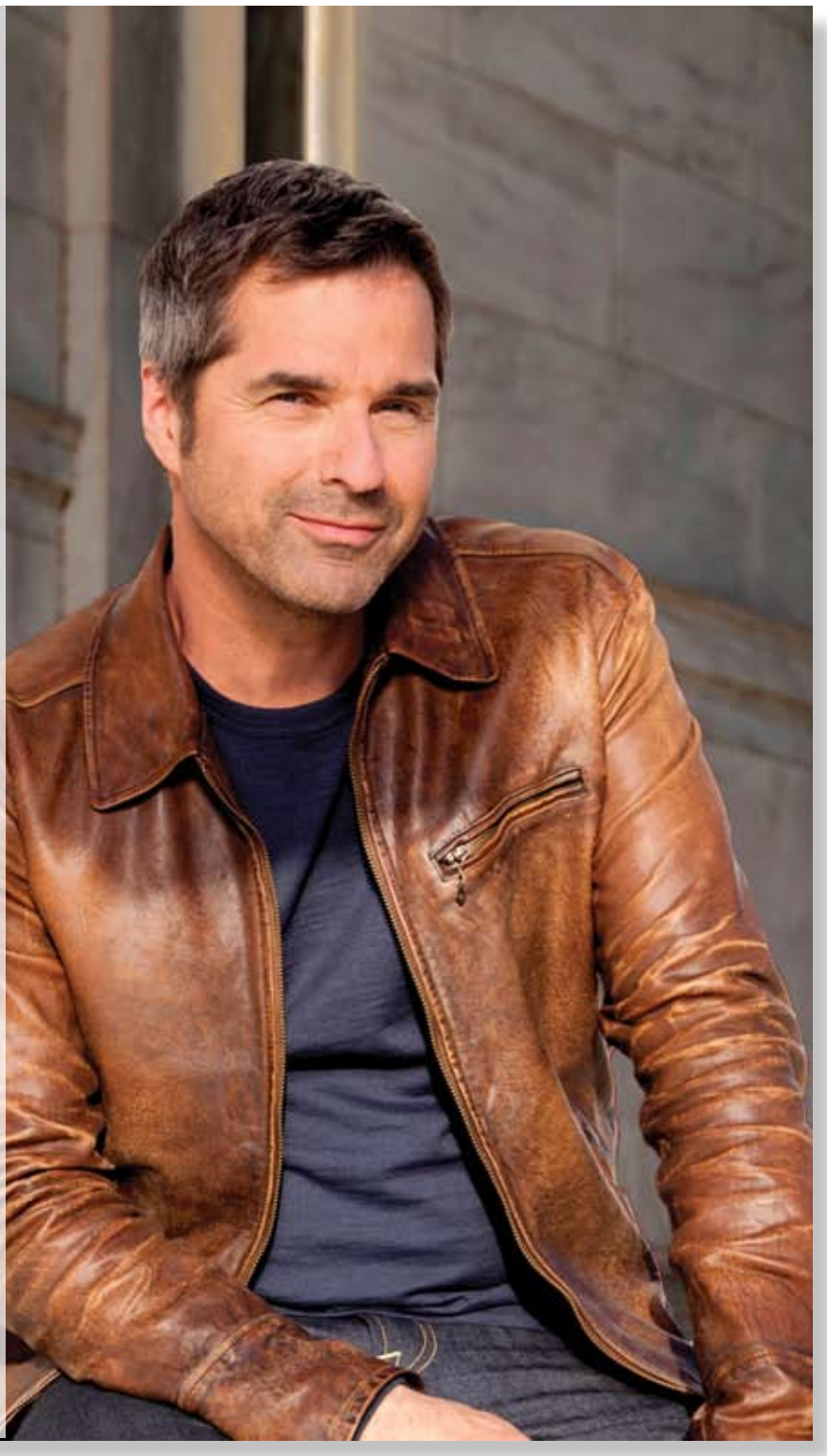
- First started hosting TV shows in 1997 when he hosted "Men's Journal" on ESPN.

- Became the host of the Travel Channel show "Weird Travels" in 2003.

- In 2007 hosted the History Channel adventure series "Cities of the Underworld."

- Hosted and executive produced "Off Limits" from 2011-2013 on the Travel Channel, where he explored the "forbidden, hidden and unseen spaces across America."

- Currently the host of "Mysteries at the Museum" and "Monumental Mysteries" on the Travel Channel.



CELEBS' FAVORITE SHOWS


Shiri Appleby


Jennifer Finnigan


Brian Unger



Jennifer Beals

Set the DVR

Shiri Appleby of "UnREAL" on Lifetime
"I watch a lot of 'Project Runway,' I just finished watching the past season of 'Girls,' and I randomly TiVo-ed the Kobe Bryant documentary on Showtime."

Jennifer Finnigan of "Tyrant" on FX
" I mostly deal with Netflix at this point, so I ... just finished 'The Killing,' 'The Fall.' I'm watching 'Bloodline.' I'm just starting that up, which is fantastic. I binge-watched 'Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt' because I needed to laugh and I'm obsessed with Tina Fey. I guess those are kind of the top-liners right now."

Brian Unger of "Time Traveling With Brian Unger" on Travel Channel
"On the topical side, I record 'Last Week Tonight' on HBO. I record Bill Maher's show on HBO. ... Right now, I'm watching 'The Fall,' a show out of Ireland ... . And maybe an awards show here or there."

Jennifer Beals of "Proof" on TNT
"I am a big fan of 'Orphan Black,' and 'Inside Amy Schumer' ... and 'Once Upon a Time.' It's all over the place."

'POLDARK' fights and loves anew in 'Masterpiece' remake

BY JAY BOBBIN



Pictured: Aidan Turner

It hasn't happened often, but "Masterpiece" is updating its past again.

The venerable PBS anthology series has revisited such classic dramas as "Upstairs, Downstairs" and "The Forsyte Saga," and it puts a fresh sheen on "Poldark" as a remake of the romantic adventure based on Winston Graham's series of novels begins Sunday, June 21 (check local listings). The role of Englishman and Revolutionary War veteran Ross Poldark goes to Aidan Turner, of the "Hobbit" movie trilogy, but original star Robin Ellis also appears as the clergyman in the Cornish town Poldark returns to.

Already shown by England's BBC, the new "Poldark on Masterpiece" retains such elements as the hero finding his love (Heida Reed) engaged to his cousin (Kyle Soller) and discovering a new interest in Demelza (Eleanor Tomlinson), a servant he saves from a desperate home life.

"It was a very popular show," Turner says of "Poldark's" first television incarnation, "but I just felt like it might not serve me in the way that I wanted it to. You can't un-know something when you've seen a series like that, and I wanted to find Ross myself. And he's a character that I really related to immediately, and I just wanted to see what I could come up with. So I steered clear of watching the (original) series."

"Masterpiece" executive producer Rebecca Eaton notes "Poldark" is eyed as a revival that could last several seasons; in fact, the BBC already has ordered a Season 2. She reasons the saga encompasses "a love story, a love triangle, and a hero ... and there just aren't that many heroes around in drama, in American television.

"Everybody is quite compromised, ambivalent as a hero, maybe a guy you love to hate. To have sort of a good old-fashioned, red blooded, do-the-right-thing, handsome dude would be a really good idea for 'Masterpiece,' so that's why we went back."

Turner believes "Poldark's" endurance, 70 years after the first book's publication and almost 40 years after the first drama's U.S. television debut, is a "testament to Winston Graham's novels. The theme and the characters are so strong and so independent and so unique, I think it's a story that needed to be told again. It's hard to know sometimes why things are remade. I'm just glad I'm part of it, because I think we've done a really good job, and I'm really proud of it, and I think we've done Winston proud. I hope so, anyway."

Click or tap here for more!


On 'THE BRINK' of funny
Premiering Sunday on HBO
Story on next page
TIMROBBINS



HBO gets laughs from global doom in 'The Brink'

BY GEORGE DICKIE

Pictured: Jack Black

The thought of mining World War III and the threat of global annihilation for laughs might seem strange to some, but that's just what "The Brink," HBO's dark new political satire, aims to do.

Premiering Sunday, June 21, the 10-episode series from executive producer Jerry Weintraub ("Ocean's Eleven," "The Karate Kid," "Oh, God!") and co-creators Roberto and Kim Benabib looks at a world that goes into crisis mode when a rogue general seizes control of Pakistan and its nuclear arsenal.

As tensions rise and protests rage across the Middle East, the fate of the world rests with three disparate – and desperate – Americans: besotted, womanizing Secretary of State Walter Larson (Tim Robbins, "The Shawshank Redemption"), lowly foreign service officer Alex Talbot (Jack Black, "The School of Rock") and ace Navy fighter pilot Zeke Tilson (Pablo Schreiber, "Orange Is the New Black"). Also in the large and talented cast are Aasif Mandvi ("The Daily Show With Jon Stewart"), Maribeth Monroe ("Workaholics"), Esai Morales ("NYPD Blue"), Eric Ladin ("The Killing") and Geoff Pierson ("Dexter").

At a recent gathering of TV critics in Pasadena, Calif., comparisons were made to "Dr. Strangelove," and Roberto Benabib explains that he and brother Kim took inspiration from Stanley Kubrick's classic 1964 political satire in creating "The Brink."

"We went to go see the Kubrick exhibit that was in town," he says, "and we found ourselves in the 'Dr. Strangelove' part of the exhibit. And it was interesting because, as much as we loved that film, we realized there wasn't a lot like it at the present moment in the world of comedy. Clearly, dramas were dealing with what was going on in the world, but comedies were more intimate and smaller and more about the lives we lead during our daily existence.

"And when I was growing up, it was in the '70s, and comedies were 'Catch 22' and 'M*A*S*H' and 'Getting Straight' and 'Dr. Strangelove,' and we just felt here's something you're not seeing a lot of, and this is a real opportunity. So we started to think what would a film in this genre be, a TV show, and we just started to come up with it."

And Black says it was that uniqueness that drew him in, as well as "the fact that it dealt with, you know, Middle Eastern politics and was a comedy, was just very fresh and exciting, and I wanted to party with these guys.

"And yet we had a lot of different directors," he continues. "When you say, 'Does the director let me do whatever I want?' You know, the first director ... Jay Roach, I've always wanted to work with him. And he had very clear, cool ideas of what he was expecting from me. And Tim Robbins ... directed the second episode. ... And we've got a great history. I was in 'Bob Roberts' (Robbins' directorial debut), which was a political comedy and it was ... a cool thing to be working with (him) again, and, yeah, I had a great time even when I was like being waterboarded."

Adds Robbins, laughing, "Somehow we made that fun."

Click or tap here for more! HBO



‘The Dome’ tells all

“Under the Dome” returns for its third season Thursday on CBS.

Story on next page

MIKEVOGEL



CBS series proves there's no place like 'DOME'

BY GEORGE DICKIE

CBS promises that much will be resolved in Season 3 of the sci-fi drama "Under the Dome," including what the dome is, what its purpose is, and what it wants.

But ask cast members of the series that returns Thursday, June 25, with a two-hour season premiere, what any of that might mean and they struggle in formulating their replies.

"Sorry, I'm still adjusting to being on a show that has spoilers," says Eddie Cahill, who begins his second season as troubled EMT Sam Verdreaux, "so every time I want to say something I feel like I come up against a roadblock."

"So much is revealed in the two-hour premiere," adds Mike Vogel, who plays Dale "Barbie" Barbara, the visitor-turned-prisoner of the dome and Chester's Mill, Maine, "but it's so different from anything we've done that if I were to talk about it, it completely blows the cover on it. And I wish we were talking after the premiere because there's so much more I could say."

What is known is that much of the main cast is back, including Vogel, Cahill, Rachelle Lefevre as investigative reporter Julia Shumway, Dean Norris as Big Jim Rennie and Colin Ford as Joe McAlister, a teenager separated from his parents by the dome.

New to the cast is Marg Helgenberger ("CSI: Crime Scene Investigation") as Christine Price, an anthropologist studying the dome; Eriq La Salle ("ER") as Hektor Martin, a ruthless CEO of an energy company run by Barbie's father; and Kylie Bunbury as Eva, a woman who comes to Chester's Mill looking for the all-powerful egg.

"Barbie and Julia's relationship gets tested big time by the addition of Kylie Bunbury to the cast," Vogel offers, "and the way that we get into it is very organic. It's not a forced love triangle. It's really, really interesting.

"Everything that's happening this year, it sort of splits up and pits two forces against one another. And the force, which Marg Helgenberger's character is bringing ... we find out she may or may not be who she says and that all of us are here for a reason and that this ordeal we go through is bringing out the worst things in people ... . And some people are affected by that and some are resistant to that, and it sets up these two interesting, opposing forces."

Some people are still living outside the dome as the season opens – or so they think – and both men say the storylines will be more character-driven and that the overarching theme will be the enemy within.

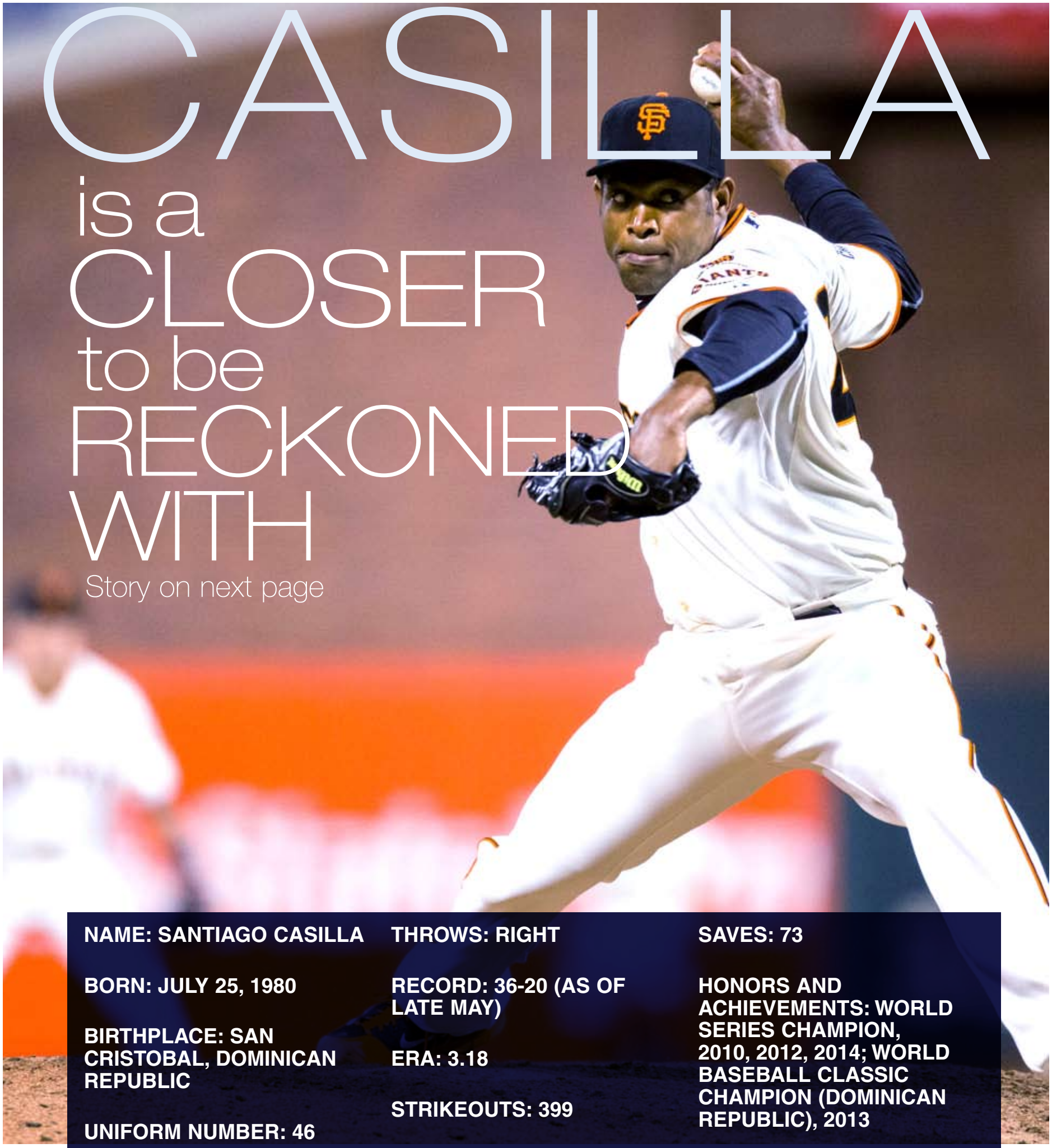
"I guess the essential drama is it's the difference between the good of the individual versus the good of the group, and just people's take on that," Cahill says.

"What if the worst thing that could happen is stuck inside this dome with you that you can't get out of, and we spend so much time trying to get out of it?" Vogel says. "So yeah, there's a lot of fun stuff to play with."

Click or tap here for more! CBS

CASILLA is a CLOSER to be RECKONED WITH

Story on next page



NAME: SANTIAGO CASILLA

BORN: JULY 25, 1980

BIRTHPLACE: SAN CRISTOBAL, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

UNIFORM NUMBER: 46

THROWS: RIGHT

RECORD: 36-20 (AS OF LATE MAY)

ERA: 3.18

STRIKEOUTS: 399

SAVES: 73

HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS: WORLD SERIES CHAMPION, 2010, 2012, 2014; WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC CHAMPION (DOMINICAN REPUBLIC), 2013



BY DAN LADD

When the San Francisco Giants won the first of their three recent World Series titles in 2010, a lot of the attention was on their closer, Brian Wilson. Wilson, however, was eventually plagued by injuries and last pitched for the Giants in 2012. One of the key flame throwers in their bullpen who stepped in and contributed to titles in 2012 and 2014 is Santiago Casilla.

Casilla has pretty much been the closer in 'Frisco since Wilson's departure. If the game is close near the end, he'll likely take the mound when the Giants visit their divisional arch rival, the Los Angeles Dodgers, Sunday, June 21, on ESPN.

At this writing, Casilla was in top form with 15 saves, four wins and a 2.82 ERA as the Giants and Dodgers were both once again the top teams in the National League West Division. On May 17, he became only the third Giants pitcher to throw an "immaculate inning" when he struck out three batters on nine pitches against the Cincinnati Reds.

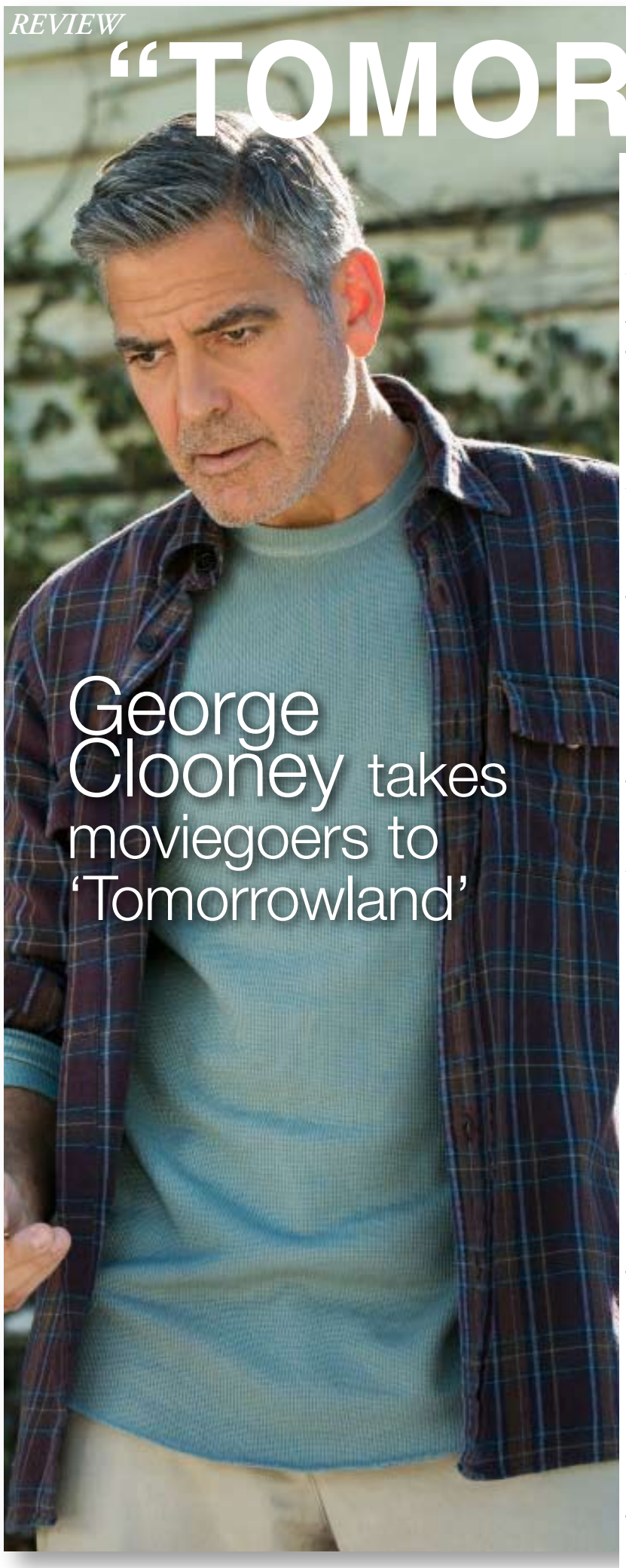
Casilla has enjoyed a solid career. The Dominican-born right-hander began his career across the Bay with the Oakland A's in 2004. By 2007 he was a big part of their bullpen before leaving via free agency after the 2009 season and signing a minor league contract with the Giants.

Things have gone well for him ever since as the Giants gave him a three-year, $15-million deal after the 2012 season, in which he was the winning pitcher in the World Series clinching Game 4 against the Detroit Tigers.

JAY BOBBIN'S THEATRICAL MOVIE REVIEW

REVIEW

"TOMORROWLAND"



George Clooney takes moviegoers to 'Tomorrowland'

Never let it be said that the folks at Disney aren't aware of ways to extend their known brands and act upon them.

As a Disneyland attraction, the name Tomorrowland has been part of the pop-culture lexicon for a good, long time. It's taken a while for the company to transform it unto a movie concept, but that finally happens with – what else? – "Tomorrowland," which has to be admired for its long reach, even if the final result doesn't jell completely.

After a substantial stretch of overseeing (and, in a number of cases, even directing) his own acting projects, George Clooney puts himself in the hands of others, and has his usual charisma a bit shackled, in playing an inventor who's turned pessimistic about the future. Britt Robertson, of CBS' "Under the Dome," plays a young counterpart who gets inventive to try to save her dad's (country-music star Tim McGraw) space-engineer job.

Eventually, the two of them are drawn together by their ties to the literal Tomorrowland of the movie, a place that only can be reached through a special ''ticket," a pin that transports the holder there. The site is a haven for forward-thinkers whose aim is to make the world of tomorrow better ... but that doesn't mean scary-robot enemies won't try to invade that creative utopia, giving the film its action element.

Clearly, there's a lot to "Tomorrowland." In an age where the plots of many movies can be written on a gum wrapper with the gum still in it, it deserves credit for trying to pack in as many aspects as it can, merging the past and the present and the intellectual and the emotional.

Ultimately, though, it's just too big a plate to fit comfortably into a bit under two hours. Animation-veteran director Brad Bird is a solid choice to bring the tale to life visually, and screenwriters including Bird and "Lost" alum Damon Lindelof clearly have some towering thoughts they want to put forth.

For all its largesse, though, "Tomorrowland" may be destined to be remembered as the movie that did the most to launch Raffey Cassidy – the young actress who plays Athena, who provides the pins that take the lead characters to the title location. She's every bit as ethereal as the role requires, and she's terrific.

Tomorrow may be kinder to "Tomorrowland," but today, it's a good idea that falls short in trying to do too much.

JAY BOBBIN'S MOVIE REVIEW
MOVIES TO WATCH



DVD Top Pick

"WORKAHOLICS: SEASON FIVE"

The Comedy Central series yields another set of misadventures for Adam, Blake and Anders (Adam DeVine, Blake Anderson, Anders Holm), who have a hard time getting past the lure of college-age activities while they work as telemarketers. The show can be an acquired taste for some, but those who were with it for the first four seasons likely will embrace the home-video release of this latest round, televised earlier this year. ★★★ (Not rated: AS, P) (Also on Blu-ray)


Al Pacino

UPCOMING DVD RELEASES

Coming Soon on DVD...

"DANNY COLLINS" (June 30): Al Pacino plays a literal rock star who reassesses his life after receiving a special letter. (R: AS, N, P)

"GET HARD" (June 30): Headed for prison, a financial manager (Will Ferrell) seeks advice from a man (Kevin Hart) he presumes to be an ex-con. (R: AS, N, P, V)

"HOUSE OF CARDS: VOLUME THREE" (July 7): Now the U.S. president, Francis Underwood (Kevin Spacey) takes his scheming to an entirely different level. (Not rated: AS, P, V)

"THE JINX: THE LIFE AND DEATHS OF ROBERT DURST" (July 7): The recent HBO documentary miniseries that ended quite controversially comes to DVD and Blu-ray. (Not rated: AS, P)

"THE LONGEST RIDE" (July 14): Rebounding from an injury, a rodeo rider (Scott Eastwood) falls for an art student (Britt Robertson) in this Nicholas Sparks story. (PG-13: AS, N, P, V)

"THE SECOND BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL" (July 14): Richard Gere joins returnees Judi Dench, Maggie Smith and Bill Nighy in the seriocomic sequel. (PG: AS, P)


Chris Rose calls the action in “BattleBots”


Bear Grylls hosts “The Island”


Jeff Foxworthy hosts “Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?


Godfrey co-hosts “Bullseye”

SUNDAY
8 p.m. on ABC

Celebrity Family Feud
Just as the weekday series has regenerated its popularity, this spinoff tries for fresh success as a new primetime version premieres. Steve Harvey continues his current daytime duties as host, and the game remains the same, but with celebrities leading their own families in competitions to guess the most-given answers that a “survey says.” Each clan’s winnings will go to a charity of their choice. **Series Premiere New**

9 p.m. on ABC
BattleBots
Yes, it’s just what the title indicates: Once again, robots square off as this updated version of the series premieres. Like humans, only the strong survive as various machines compete and are eliminated — and there are no weight-class restrictions this time around, meaning that robots of all sizes go up against each other. Molly McGrath is the host, with Chris Rose and UFC veteran Kenny Florian handling play-by play. Allison Haislip reports from the sidelines. **Series Premiere New**

MONDAY
10:01 p.m. on NBC
The Island
“Anything Can Happen” is an appropriate subtitle for this new episode, which divides the men on whether to build an active community for themselves, or simply let the clock run out on the time they have left on the island. Two members of the group clearly take the latter option, staying away from the main camp as a sign of their discontent. Outdoor-challenge master Bear Grylls is the host. **New**

TUESDAY
8 p.m. on FOX

Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?
A bank teller ... a spin instructor ... which might fare better at answering grade-school-level questions? Viewers will find out in the new episode “Michelle/Ryan,” as the adults don their thinking caps for queries normally posed to kids. Fortunately for them, several kids happen to be on hand if they need help along the way. And if they do, rest assured that host Jeff Foxworthy will rub it in — the least they can expect for a shot at the $1 million grand prize. **New**

continued on next page

WEDNESDAY
9:01 p.m. on FOX
Bullseye

With the nature of the competition on this series, an episode titled "Corkscrewed" doesn't sound particularly pleasant for the entrants vying for the $50,000 grand prize. That's the name of one of the challenges here, along with the Bullseye Car Roll — indeed, fasten your seat belts — and the Semi Spin. Host Kellan Lutz ("Twilight") and co-host Godfrey, who stay relatively safe during the hour, offer comments on the proceedings. **New**

9:30 p.m. on A&E
Duck Dynasty

In the season premiere, "Grooming the Groom," the Robertson family throws a high-spirited engagement party for John Luke, Willie and Korie's son, and his fiancee, Mary Kate, with her family also in attendance. First, though, the guys take John Luke golfing and use the opportunity to dispense some of their inimitable marital advice. Meanwhile, Kay and Si tag along when Korie shops for engagement presents. **Season Premiere New**

THURSDAY
8 p.m. on FOX
BOOM!

Know those suspense stories in which an amateur has to defuse a ticking bomb? Think you could do it? Contestants have to — though all they'll get is "slimed" if they fail — in this new competition series hosted by Tom Papa ("The Marriage Ref"). The wires are attached to possible answers to questions, and each wrong one given potentially will leave some people very messy ... as indicated by the title of the premiere episode, "It's the Maple Syrup Bomb!" **Series Premiere New**

FRIDAY
9 p.m. on SHOWTIME

Movie: Dennis Rodman's Big Bang in Pyongyang

Buoyed by his improbable and widely criticized friendship with North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un, retired professional basketball player Dennis Rodman takes a team of former NBA stars to North Korea, hoping to improve international relations, As this 2015 documentary reveals, however, Rodman faces opposition from the NBA, the White House and the international press. **Premiere**

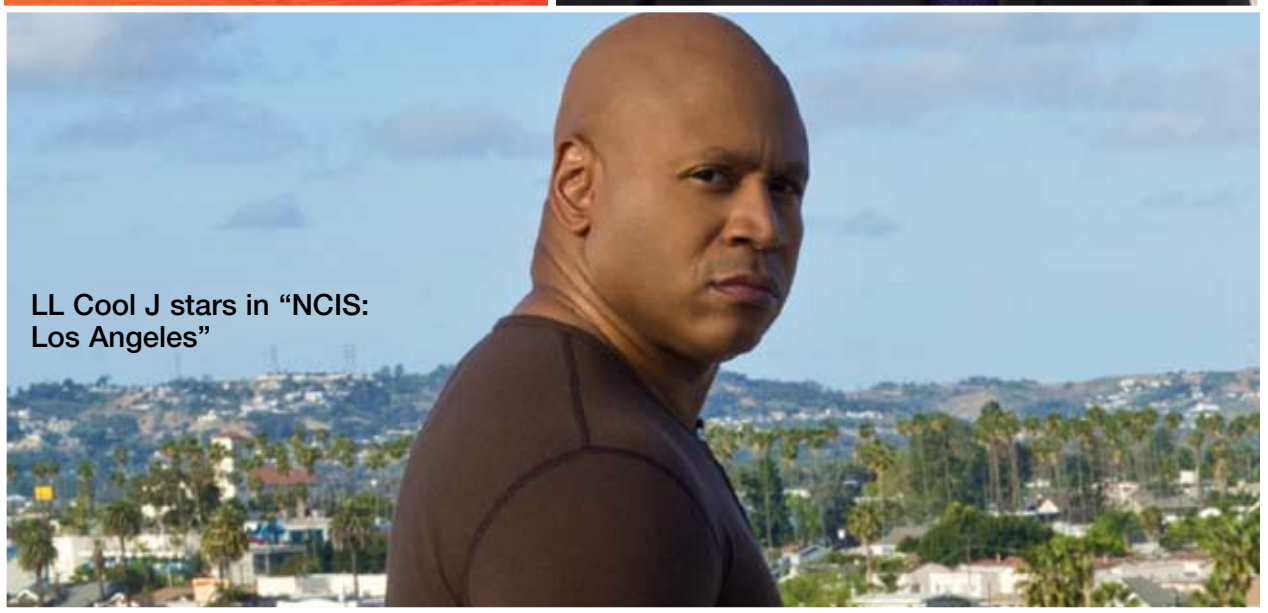
SATURDAY
9 p.m. on CBS

NCIS: Los Angeles

After they complete a successful sting operation, three FBI agents are killed in an explosion, sending Callen, Sam (Chris O'Donnell, LL Cool J) and their colleagues on a chase to find who's behind that attack. Meanwhile, Kensi and Deeks (Daniela Ruah, Eric Christian Olsen) realize the cat's out of the bag about their "secret" relationship when Hetty (Linda Hunt) pairs her with Sam and him with Callen in "Fighting Shadows."


Dennis Rodman's Big Bang in Pyongyang


Tom Papa hosts "BOOM!


LL Cool J stars in "NCIS: Los Angeles"