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Friday, November 30, 2001

The Behrend Beacon

Make a 'date' to catch these shows

'Rendez-View' - let's meet at 6 p.m. on WB

by Jennie Ellison staff writer

A first date with someone is never easy. Imagine a date being aired on television with a panel of four people evaluating your every move.

On "Rendez-View," two total strangers go on a date with the hopes of finding true love. The panel of experts includes two people from the entertainment world and the hosts, Greg Proops and Ellen Ladowsky.

Proops is known from his appearances on ABC's "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" and was an announcer in "Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace." Ladowsky is best known for her journalism career, with articles published in The New York Times and The Washington Post.

Proops is the more humorous of the two due to his comedic background, while Ladowsky provides the more professional-sounding opinions of the dates. Although they seem like an unlikely pair, the two come together perfectly to criticize and comment on the dates.

After watching two episodes of "Rendez-View," it is easy to see how other people can actually evaluate a date for what it really is. I was not sure that the people evaluating the date would be fair and not judgmental, but some of the things they said were valid. In fact, I felt bad for the people having to watch the dates because I would not have given that task to my worst enemy.

In the first episode, the lab-rat



PHOTO COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT TELEVISION

Greg Proops and Ellen Ladowsky host the new dating TV show, "Rendez-View," which airs weeknights on the WB at 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

couple, Darren and Dorene, were complete opposites. Darren was hypocritical throughout the entire date and Dorene was just too critical of Darren. They were both former strippers and it seemed like someone stripped the personalities off them before the date.

"When there's nothing else to hold on to, at least there's something to look at," said Dorene. This coming from a woman whose best feature was her smile with a fetish for men's butts.

Darren's highlight came after he took Dorene surfing. Dorene told him that she was upset that he hit someone when he was surfing, which to Darren was the most selfish comment of the day. He was very offended that she cared more about other people's safety than the person she was on a date with.

"She [Dorene] is everything I don't want," Darren told the camera after the show. At the end of the date, they both agreed that they would not go out with each other again.

The commentators during this date were right on target when discussing the couple. One of the celebrity guests was Tamala Jones from the movies "Two Can Play That Game" and "On the Line."

Jones felt that Dorene's personality screamed, "I will eat my own young." After the date, she said they both needed Jesus and thought that Darren was a wimp.

The next show had a slightly happier ending. Jason and Julie went go-carting for the first part of their date, where they both agreed that long-distance relationships are not good because both had bad past experiences with them. At that point, Ladowsky said that it was good that they both gave thought to what will make relationships work. Proops, on the other hand, commented that he thought Julie needed make-up.

The two seemed to hit it off well, considering that Jason always falls in and out of love and Julie has never been unfaithful to any of her boyfriends. Julie did admit it is hard for her to be friends with her ex-boyfriends, so when it's over, it's over. Their date was not as confrontational as Darren and Dorene's. It was a bit on the dry side, but dry was good considering that they both agreed that they would go out with each other again.

The celebrity guests Aries Spears from "Mad TV" and actress Krista Allen took it easy on the couple. Spears thought the couple seemed to get along okay during the date and on their second date it would be easier for them to be themselves.

Allen seemed to be somewhere else during the date. Proops asked her what she thought the hardest part of a relationship was.

"Hopefully, the man," Allen joked.

The show is beneficial because it tries to help people find a soul mate. Although some of the comments made by the panel lost the focus of the actual date, they seemed appropriate because at some points the couples lost the focus of the date. They can only comment on what they have to go by.

If for some reason you do not have a lot of studying to do during the weeknights, you can find "Rendez-View" on the WB channel weeknights at 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. But be warned, you never know what you are going to hear or see, so watch the show with an open mind and also keep in mind the last time you were on a first date.

WB should eliminate stupid 'Elimi-Date'

by J. Benjamin Herwatic staff writer

If you like stupid shows where a stupid guy has the choice to go out with any stupid girl of his choice, then "Elimi-Date" is the stupid show for you.

"Elimi-Date" is a show on the WB network that places a contestant, guy or girl, on a dream date with four other (for the most part) lovely people of the opposite sex. The contestant then goes down the list, eliminating dates until he or she finds the perfect match. The point of the dates is to outflirt and be as outgoing as possible to increase the chance of winning.

The show is put together so well that it even shows side interviews with the contestant and the dates. They tell their thoughts of the competition and how they plan to seduce the main goal. Dates often talk as much trash on the other dates; you would be likely to hear such words as airhead, selfish, and pretty. Think along the lines of "Real World" meets "Perfect Love."

Settings have included restaurants, amusement parks and swimming pools. Cities across the country are used such as Las Vegas, Dallas and Miami. Exotic locations like Cancun and Hawaii are also great spots for "Elimi-Date" action. Chances are also good that a pool and bikinis will become an intricate plot point.

For the most part, contestants are often dim-witted, but don't think that takes away from the enjoyment of the show. In fact, it adds to it. I can even go so far to say that the show's stupidity makes it what it is. Other times they will say something so stupid you will have no choice but to laugh and therefore be entertained. Viewers can even throw in their own opinions at TheWB.com. There you can also see contestants and even have a stupid online argument with other viewers who may or may not share the same views as you.

As I have noticed, the WB network provides the kind of stupid, quality programming I am seeking to cheer me up when I am feeling down. "Elimi-Date" is just one of the shows that helps me do that. Whether it's watching the joy come across a contestant's face when he chooses the perfect match, or hearing one date call another "a worthless airhead." I have found that happiness does lie in odd places and "Elimi-Date" is one of those.

If you like laughing at other people's stupidity and don't mind wasting a half hour of your life, then watch "Elimi-Date" at 6:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. on the WB. It may just be what you are looking for to bring cheer into your life.

Don't change the channel on 'Change of Heart'

by Alec Styborski staff writer

"Change of Heart," which airs on WFXP Fox, presents itself with vicious vulgarity and raunchiness towards the human, contemporary condition of the male versus female relationship. The show may depict itself in a more than unreasonable manner, and you may find yourself wanting to change the channel. But hold it...don't touch the channel, not yet anyway, because no matter how ridiculous and crude this show becomes, it will "change your heart" and mind about modern-day society.

After all, we find ourselves at the closing stages of the year 2001, suffering from some of the most catastrophic months in American history. And on television we see nothing but males and females, who conduct themselves in a relentless fashion towards one another (as they swarm the channels of cable television) in order to determine whether or not they should remain together.

The couples come to difficult conclusions (in regards to their current love affairs) by experiencing the single life once again. The conflicting couples, who equally and willingly break away from one another for one night, indulge themselves in a date with another hot, sexy, and single individual, who tries with all their heart to break apart the conflicting relationship. If the male or female likes their assigned date more than their present partner, they have a "Change of Heart." If the male or female objects to their assigned blind date, they will more than likely decide to remain with their current boyfriend or girlfriend. On this foul show, this is how incompatible relationships are solved.

The premise of this extremely distasteful show is somewhat appalling, because the couples come to realize the true inner-self of their partners. For example, last Friday, Ross and Vicki, a troubled couple, appeared on the show to resolve their problems. Ross claimed that Vicki flirted too much with other guys, and that his cat was more willing to fulfill his sexual desires than she is. Yes, that was what he stated on this sex-driven show. Of course, Vicki also had some qualms

about Ross. She stated that Ross needs to become more aware of his personal hygiene, and that he chews on his toenails.

So, the disagreeing couples embark on their blind date, and they test their love for one another. Well, Ross' date went more than well. Let me just simply state that Ross received oral pleasure by his sexually promiscuous blind date in the back of a cab. On this show, anything goes, and there are no boundaries for the well being of another individual. As a result, Vicki had a "Change of Heart" about her boyfriend of nine months.

This is a crude and obnoxious show, but is it necessarily a bad thing to be exposed to at a time such as this?

"What is more obscene - sex or war?" is what Woody Harrelsen stated.

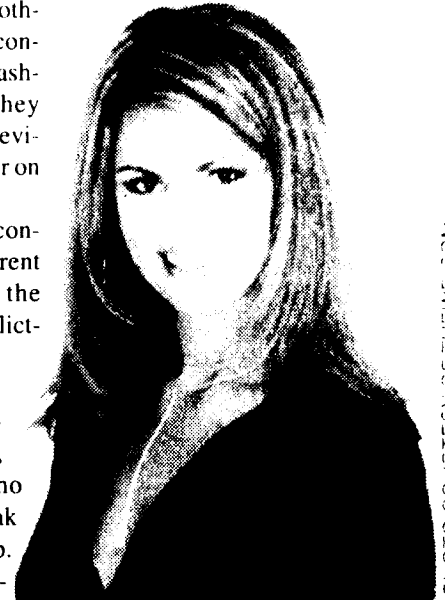


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WB

Lynne Koplitz hosts "Change of Heart" at 12:30 a.m. on Fox

as Larry Flynt, in the film "The People Vs. Larry Flynt." Good question. As we find ourselves at this particularly warring time, raunchy sex shows should not be considered as objectionable or even inappropriate. The show is despicable, but it will make you laugh at the bitterness and misunderstanding between the male and female relationship.

Just remember two things: sex is not war, and do not change the channel just because male/female relationships are portrayed disgracefully. The show's portrayal of bitter relationships is quite accurate.

'Dismissed'— don't miss it

by Heather Fleming staff writer

I'm sure you've all heard of those crazy dating shows on late night TV. I'm sure you've even had those "late night dating show parties" in your dorm room and used it as a sorry excuse to order a pizza. The MTV dating show "Dismissed" is a favorite among many teenagers today. It airs almost daily on MTV at 11 p.m.

This half-hour, fun-filled dating adventure usually begins with an introduction of the "dismissible." Then it moves to the two dating contenders. A short introduction includes their ages and occupations written on the bottom of the screen. The show usually consists of one male and two females or one female and two males fighting for the right to date him/her. This show appeals to all audiences no matter your age or sex. I have seen episodes with three men, or three women, battling for the date.

I have never seen people be so competitively vicious when it comes to dating a guy or girl. You would think that it would be only the girls that got into the cat fights, but the

guys are just as heartless to each other.

The date starts off with one of the contenders choosing where to go for the first half of the date. The second half of the date depends on the second contender. Each contestant is allowed one "time out" card to hand out whenever they please. This card allows one person to be alone with the sought-after "hottie" for 20 minutes. A lot can go on in these 20 minutes, since this can be the determining factor in the "dismissal".

A date can consist of a variety of activities. Anything goes. I have seen episodes where the threesome has gone bar hopping, boating, horseback riding, archery shooting and out to eat. And of course, the night is not complete without a visit to the nearest hot tub.

The man or lady of the night has to "dismiss" one of the competitors by the end of the date. The "dismissed" person gets to say what they thought about the whole situation at the end of the show to the audience. And the two who remain ride into the sunset together and finish the date themselves.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MTV.COM

Toe-licking is involved on MTV's new dating show "Dismissed."

Comedy is seen on 'Blind Date'

by Jacob Boring staff writer

I saw part of an episode where the girl on the date had been a nude model in "Hustler" magazine.

The show keeps a comic tone by adding funny commentaries and sound effects. The comments are written or drawn on the screen. An example: a drawing of a dotted line connects a guy's line of vision with his date's breasts or butt. Some times the show puts a thought bubble above a person's head and writes something funny or sarcastic.

Often the show picks on the personality flaws of the daters. I find that the written and drawn comments add flavor to the show and make it much more entertaining than it would be without the commentary.

I can also say that the show is on a level where it can be appreciated by adults, as well. People end up naked sometimes, though it is always blurred, as we don't live in Canada. The added commentary is sometimes crude and this could be one downfall of the show. Some of the dates end up with people getting lucky, though they never show the dates in bedrooms. If you want to check out how the daters interact beyond their blind date, you can go online to blinddatetv.com.

There are guys with real game on the show, and they demonstrate their "player skills;" some of the guys seem like dorks. Rarely are there cool women on the show, but rather there are a lot of extremely irritating ones.

Watch the new dating show "5th Wheel" at 10:30 p.m. or 12:30 a.m. on the WB