

Fall television falls short

By David Bauder
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW YORK — Two weeks into a new television season, and it's clear there are no must-see new programs.

CBS' Monday night remake of "Hawaii Five-0" was the only new program to crack the Nielsen Co.'s list of the 20 most popular programs last week. Its audience of 12.7 million viewers was down from the 14.2 million people who saw the premiere.

Already, two programs have been canceled — Fox's "Lone Star" and ABC's "My Generation." The latter had only 3.8 million viewers last week, dead for a Thursday night and no help to "Grey's Anatomy."

Other programs — NBC's Jimmy Smits vehicle "Outlaw," ABC's procedural "The Whole Truth" and the Fox comedy "Running Wilde" — need to start

Top 3 prime-time TV programs for Sept. 27-Oct. 3

While some new seasons lack popularity, the following television shows are leading in viewership.

1. "Dancing With the Stars," ABC, 21.34 million
2. NFL Football: Chicago vs. N.Y. Giants, 20.93 million
3. "NCIS," CBS, 19.15 million

Numbers compiled by the Nielsen Co.

showing progress soon.

As the most stable network, CBS has had the most success getting people to try out their shows. The comedy "Mike & Molly" is off to a solid start on Monday nights, and Tom Selleck's "Blue Bloods" has done well on Fridays, usually a tough night.

ABC's "No Ordinary Family" opened to a solid audience of 10.7 million viewers last week.

Last week's favorites were

familiar to viewers: dancing, football and "NCIS."

CBS averaged 11.9 million viewers in prime time and also won among the 18-to-49-year-old demographic sought by advertisers for the second straight week. ABC averaged 9.2 million, NBC had 8.1 million, Fox had 7.1 million, the CW had 2.3 million and ION Television had 1 million.

Among the Spanish-language networks, Univision led with a



Adam Larkey/Associated Press

Mike "The Situation" Sorrentino, right, and his partner Karina Smirnoff perform a dance on the show "Dancing with the Stars."

prime-time average of 4 million viewers, TeleFutura had 770,000 and Telemundo had 700,000.

NBC's "Nightly News" topped the evening newscasts with an

average of 7.8 million viewers. ABC's "World News" was second with 7.1 million and the "CBS Evening News" had 5.4 million viewers.

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By Jacqueline Bigar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2010. This year, you open up to the possibilities. Though you might spend a lot of time thinking and reflecting, you also come up with unusual answers. The quality of your daily life, health and work become an issue. You might decide on a major change that suits the "new" you. If you are single, you could meet someone in 2011. Take your time getting to know this person. Also, don't commit unless you are sure, as more than one suitor could head your way. If you are attached, you will want to keep in mind your partner. It will be unusually easy to become me-oriented. A fellow LIBRA might seem different but has similar core issues.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) *** Drive into work with a strong sense of what you must do. Sudden realizations come your way through others and/or some thoughts about a situation. Postpone any meetings until later today. Tonight: Defer to others.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** Your creativity surges when in a meeting. Others present options that might not be quite workable, but could be with some touches and adjustments. News from a distance forces a change in your schedule. Tonight: Working late.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) *** You might be slow to get started, despite others who prod and push to get a response. You could toss your hands in the air, saying "enough." Work through a situation, and watch it come out smiling. Tonight: Midweek break.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** Sorting through all the paper-work, calls and inquiries could easily have you a bit crazed. If you feel the need to find an expert, do. You will come out ahead only if you find the appropriate path. Tonight: Home is where the heart is.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) *** Be aware of the financial implications of a partnership. You could suddenly decide to veer in another direction. Make it OK to be somewhat erratic, though normally you behave in a steady-fast manner. A discussion could be quite animated and enlightening. Tonight: Hang with friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ***** Others put an inordinate amount of pressure on you. Examine what needs to be done and why. You don't have to do anything particular way, though others certainly think they have better ideas. Tonight: Treat a friend to munchies and a drink.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) *** Take your time. Do needed research, and don't back off a decision, even if it isn't popular. Associates could be quite challenging and full of themselves. Your diplomatic skills could be a necessity. Tonight: As you like it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Emphasize other opinions as well as your own. If you don't have the necessary support, you could have a problem. Know what you want and why. Your creativity finds a merging point where others can hop on the bandwagon.

Tonight: Much-needed private time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Like a lit match in clearing out errands or a project. Whether you are organizing an event or working, others trust you to do the right thing. A financial matter could show you down. Tonight: Where the fun is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ***** Getting a complete vision will take detachment or perhaps a conversation with someone you respect who has expertise. You could be overwhelmed by all the input you receive. Know when to pull back and rethink a decision. Tonight: Check in on an older friend.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** Others make it clear where they are coming from. You could be overwhelmed by what is happening. Investigate alternatives with greater care, yet with diplomacy. You could be struggling with how to tell someone you might have changed your mind. Tonight: Relax to good music or a movie.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***** Juggling the pros and cons of a situation could be difficult, especially as someone makes it clear that you are not the lead player. Say little, and watch what others propose. Tonight: Dinner with a close friend.

BORN TODAY
Actress Cate Blanchett (1968), actress Britt Ekland (1942), architect Le Corbusier (1887) *****

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.
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