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THE SMART LIST

'Real Housewives of New Jersey,' 'Management,' Seth MacFarlane and more

May 10, 2009

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Can't wait to talk about: "The Real Housewives of New Jersey"

It's difficult to imagine a group more mesmerizing than the housewives of Atlanta -- Nene to Kim: "Close your legs to married men! Close your legs to married men!" -- but the new gang may come close. Among the early standouts: Teresa, who's in the market for new "boobies" and says Jersey women are all about "big hair, fake nails and airbrushing," and Danielle, who claims to be first Jersey girl to have a Black American Express card. (Tuesday)

Will anyone talk about "Management"?

Jennifer Aniston and Steve Zahn star in this small romantic comedy about a traveling saleswoman who bewitches an assistant motel manager. She's uptight and organized. He's an aimless dreamer who is, well, not all there. After one enchanted evening, he begins following her around the country because he's in love. Unhinged stalker or well-meaning guy who's going to teach our wound-up heroine how to live out loud? You decide. (Friday)

Many will talk about: "Seth MacFarlane's Cavalcade of Cartoon Comedy"

Remember, more than 7 million people watch "Family Guy" every week. "Cavalcade," based on the MacFarlane's YouTube channel of the same name, is, according to the box description, a series of "pop culture parodies, skewered stories and fabulously filthy fun nuggets." In other words, it's only the cutaway gags on "Family Guy." In the complete

DVD collection, 50 of them. In a row. (Tuesday)

We should all talk about: "Next to Normal"

The recently opened Broadway show about a suburban family whose mom, played by Alice Ripley, suffers from bi-polar disorder, wreaking havoc on her husband, daughter and son. Psychotherapy set to song. The original cast recording is out this week, and be assured, it's searing even without having seen the show. And it sure as heck beats Broadway reviving yet another pop song catalog. (Tuesday)

Why not talk about: "The Brothers Bloom"?

There've got to be some people in this world who won't be lining up for "Angels & Demons," right? The "Brothers" cast -- Mark Ruffalo, Adrien Brody and Rachel Weisz -- is simply sublime, and the film is a fast-paced romp with "the best con men in the world" as they attempt to take on a final heist escorting an heiress around the world while they snatch priceless artifacts along the way. (Friday)

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-- Denise Martin

Hollywood week in review



Kiefer gave a head butt, Ryan got a spinoff and Paula was Paula. [Photos](#)

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