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COUCH POTATOES

Coupling
Thursdays 8:30 p.m.
NBC
Starring Rena Sofer, Colin Ferguson, Sonya Walger, Jay Harrington & Lindsey Price

Hope & Faith
Fridays 8 p.m.
NBC
Starring Faith Ford & Kelly Ripa

"Coupling" features six attractive singles whose love and work lives are all intertwined. Sound familiar?

With NBC's hit "Friends" in its final season, it's hard not to think NBC is hoping "Coupling" will be the next Must See TV hit.

The six single characters either were involved with each other, are involved or most likely will get together by the end of the season.

First, there's Susan (Sofer), a beautiful, take-charge woman who knows what she wants and finds a way to get it. At one time, Susan dated Patrick (Ferguson), a good looking guy who's lacking in mental capacity.

Patrick has moved on from Susan and is now concentrating on Sally (Walger), who is Susan's best friend. Susan doesn't seem to mind and even lets Sally know that Patrick is quite skilled in the bedroom. Sally and Patrick are both so vain they seem like a perfect match.

Don't feel too bad for Susan, though. She's got a new guy of her own, Steve (Harrington), who's not one bit smooth but still adorable. In fact, Steve's ex-girlfriend Jane (Price) doesn't seem to be over him yet.

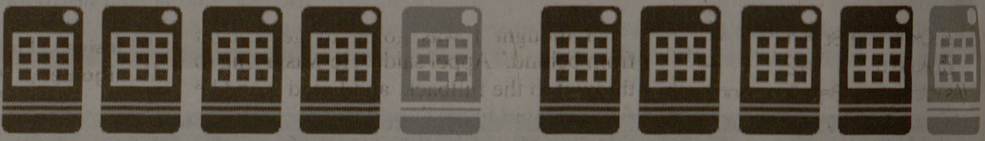
Jane, and only Jane, will decide when it's time to break up. She has a hard time accepting reality and doesn't believe any man would not agree to date her. She tries to win Steve back by constantly teasing him with her bisexual tendencies.

The last member of the sextet is Jeff (Moynihan), Steve's porn-watching buddy and Susan's perpetually nervous co-worker who blew his big chance with her a while ago.

"Coupling" relies on sex and relationships for most of its plot and humor. Lucky for the show, those are popular and entertaining topics in America today.

--Jessica Lenchner

--Jessica Lenchner



Better to watch paint dry
Keep on flippin'
Watch during "Friends" commercials
The next "Sopranos" ???
Tape it, study it, tell your friends

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Southerland talks of killing off his character in "24," but no plans are in motion

RADNOR, Pa. (AP) — Kiefer Sutherland thinks killing off his character in "24" wouldn't be a bad idea.

"I feel really strongly that if you want to jar the audience, take Jack out," Sutherland tells TV Guide for its Oct. 18 issue. "As much as it would break my heart not to do this show, I think it's important the audience believe that at any given moment, any cast member can go."

Sutherland reprises his role as Jack Bauer beginning Oct. 28 on Fox.

The show's executive producer, Howard Gordon, said there are no plans to kill the lead character, "at least not yet."

The show's creators, Robert Cochran and Joel Surnow, promise a big surprise early in the season — "It's not Jack dying, but it's big," Cochran said.

Surnow is certain Sutherland was joking: "I said, 'What, do you have a movie offer?'"

Ben Affleck and J Lo bond over baseball playoff games

BOSTON (AP) — Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck put their differences aside Saturday night for the Red Sox-Yankees playoff game.

Affleck, of Cambridge, is a rabid Red Sox fan. Lopez is a native New Yorker and prefers the Yankees.

The couple watched the game from the front row at Fenway Park, next to Boston's dugout. A plasma television installed in front of the seats allowed them good looks at replays — and of themselves, as the Fox cameras were trained on them repeatedly.

Affleck and Lopez also got a front-row view of Yankees bench coach Don Zimmer charging Boston pitcher Pedro Martinez, and Martinez subsequently tossing Zimmer to the ground.

Also in attendance Saturday night was NBC "Today" show host Katie Couric, whose boyfriend is Red Sox part-owner Tom Werner.

Couric, of course, was cheering for the Red Sox.

Princess Diana's mother speaks out against royal family in her new book

NEW YORK (AP) — The mother of Princess Diana claims in a new book that the royal family refused to let her hug her daughter's body after Diana was killed in a car crash in 1997.

Frances Shand Kydd also says Buckingham Palace did not allow her to travel to Paris to accompany Diana's body back to Britain.

For Kydd, the episode brought back painful memories of the birth of Diana's brother John, who died just hours after he was delivered.

"I did not see or touch or hold either of them when they were dead," she says. "I do ache about it."

In "Frances: The Remarkable Story of Princess Diana's Mother," Kydd tells authors Max Riddington and Gavan Naden that she was proud of her family on the day of Diana's funeral.

"Proud of her, proud of my other daughters who were rock-steady in their readings at the service, and proud of my son (Charles), who gave the ultimate tribute of brotherly love," she says.

Diana and her companion, Dodi Fayed, were killed in a crash in a Paris tunnel as their Mercedes was pursued by paparazzi.

Internship and Living Abroad Program, Summer 2004
Informationals:
October 14: 5:30 pm Koldus 111
October 16: 5:30 pm Rudder 302
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Australia
Spain
Dominican Republic
MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness
<http://ltjordan.tamu.edu/ilap>

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Monday Special
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FRIDAY: PICK YOUR SIDE LARGE 2-TOPPING AND 1 SIDE \$12.78
SATURDAY: FAMILY SPECIAL 1 LARGE SPECIALTY 2-TOPPING \$16.99
SUNDAY: ANY LARGE SPECIALTY \$11.99
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Sunday: 11 a.m. - midnight
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7:30 PM
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Six of Nashville's most accomplished musicians will assemble on the stage of Rudder Theatre for a concert packed with perfect pickin'! Known as the Nashville Mandolin Ensemble, these six guys will perform bluegrass, pop, country and more — all on mandolins. **Start strumming!**
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5. South Carolina
6. Washington
7. Florida
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11. Arkansas
12. Illinois
13. Purdue
14. Wisconsin
15. Michigan
16. TCU
17. Michigan State
18. Nebraska
19. Auburn
20. Texas
21. Tennessee
22. Oregon
23. Oklahoma State
24. Missouri
25. Minnesota

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 3. Virginia
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 5. USC
 6. Washington
 7. Florida State
 8. Ohio State
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 10. LSU
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 12. Wisconsin
 13. Minnesota
 14. Michigan
 15. N. Illinois
 16. Michigan State
 17. Minnesota
 18. Nebraska
 19. Oregon
 20. TCU
 21. Texas
 22. Texas Tech
 23. Tennessee
 24. Oklahoma
 25. Auburn
- (As voted on ers.)

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