

# Seinfeld And The Man Of Steel

Here's a fun game for the holidays, providing you like Superman and the show Seinfeld, for that matter. I read an interesting little blurb in the paper the other day about how Jerry Seinfeld is a huge fan of Superman. So much so that there is a reference or an image of the "Man of Steel" in every episode of Seinfeld. So this holiday season, while your turkey is cooking, digesting, or being cleaned up for you by your guests (how do you think I found the time to write this post on Thanksgiving Day?), pop in a few old episodes of Seinfeld and try to pinpoint the Superman allusion.

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## The Office – Great As Ever

Well, we've now gotten a taste of two new episodes for this season, and I think I can safely say that the Office is back on track and as funny as ever! It's always been funny; it's just that the few episodes that aired after the writer's strike weren't the best ones. But I'm happy to see that so far, this season is a riot and will keep me looking forward to Thursday nights.

Entitled, 'Business Ethics', the 2nd Office episode of the season saw Michael and Holly in a major disagreement. But no need to fret, it was resolved by the end of the show, thank goodness. Sorry if I spoiled something for you, but you wouldn't want to be left hanging about that, now would you? I think I'll copy n paste the [tvguide.com](#) episode synopsis and comment on it. That's an easy way to write a review of the show and share the [tvguide.com](#) summary which I always enjoy. [Tvguide.com](#) is in *italics*, my comments are in **BOLD CAPS**.

*With the exemplary premiere behind us, in which we were treated to Jim and Pam's engagement, Dwight and Angela's torrid and super-secret affair, Michael and Holly's evolving 'friendship' and Ryan's return as Pam's temporary replacement, does the second episode of the Office continue the momentum? The answer, my friends, is ...*

*Definitely. Maybe. Ummm ... Not so much.*

*It's hard to follow up near-perfection. WHILE I AGREE WITH THAT COMMENT, I WILL DISAGREE WITH THIS WRITER TO SAY THAT I THINK THE 2ND EPISODE WAS ALMOST AS GOOD AS THE FIRST – THERE'S JUST NO COMPETING BETWEEN AN HOUR OF THE OFFICE AND A HALF-HOUR OF THE OFFICE. "Weight Loss" was a one-hour gem, while "Business Ethics" had some nice moments, particularly during the beginning of the show, but it had some disappointments for me as well. I'll list out my quibbles with this episode first, and then I'll get to the funny:*

#### *1) The Absence of Pam*

*After their shocking engagement, Pam is relegated to a disembodied voice on the telephone at the beginning of the show. No doubt there will be plenty of opportunities for her to take center stage as the season develops, and I understand that sending her to school makes it difficult to include her in the office's day-to-day, but it was jarring to all but ignore the Jim and Pam relationship right after their shocking engagement. **AGREED – I MISSED PAM TOO, BUT IT WAS ONLY ONE EPISODE, AFTER ALL. IF SHE ISN'T THERE NEXT WEEK, I WILL HAVE A BEEF.***

#### *2) Ryan's ethics*

*Reflecting back on an episode entitled "Business Ethics" I guess I was surprised that it focused primarily on Michael, Holly and Meredith, and only tangentially referred to the busted and now-humbled Ryan. I was expecting the episode to center more on Ryan somehow (don't ask me how, I'm just a*

recapper). **RYAN CAN BE ANNOYING IN LARGE DOSES, SO I'M GLAD HE WAS ONLY ON THIS EPISODE FOR A LITTLE BIT.**

3) *Holding back the crazy*

Creed didn't say or do anything [Creed-like](#); Andy didn't sing a capella or punch a wall; even Michael and Holly's "Let's Get Ethical" intro was a schtick we've seen before. So even in an episode with Dwight peeing into a soda bottle, the usual absurdities of the Office family felt somehow muzzled or restrained. **CREED DID SAY AT LEAST ONE REALLY FUNNY THING – SEE BELOW.**

*But enough with the criticisms. Let's get to the kudos. I thought the "personal time" subplot was the highlight of the show, and led to the episode's two best scenes:*

1) Battlestar Galactica.

This scene was so pitch-perfect, especially for a sci-fi nerd like me, that the only way to do it justice was to transcribe it:

Jim: Hey Andy

Andy: Yo

Jim: By any chance did you see Battlestar Galactica last night?

Andy: No I did not. Is that any good?

Jim: Actually not, it's really so-so.

Jim: I don't like all the crazy monsters and stuff, like Klingons and Wookies and all that.

Jim (looking at Dwight): Sorry, is there something you wanted to add Dwight?

Andy: Is that like the original Battlestar Galactica?

Jim: You know what's weird, it's practically a shot-for-shot remake

*(Dwight crumbles paper in frustration)*

Jim: *The story is kinda bland, it's about this guy called "Dumbledore Calrissian" who needs to return the ring to back*

to Mordor

Andy: *That doesn't sound right ...*

2) 19:48

It's easy for Jim to push Dwight's buttons, and it's easy for us to laugh at it. Jim's pranks on Dwight have been the stuff of legend, but this was the first time that Dwight had it over on Jim – and Jim didn't even know it.

*The smugness on Jim's face when he got Dwight to admit that he took "personal time" paled in comparison to the sidelong glance Dwight gave the camera when he admitted that "Yes, maybe I'm not" ethical. The camera panned over to Angela buttoning up her shirt, and we understood how Dwight spent that 19:48. I loved that the writers gave Dwight this moment over Jim – unexpectedly turning the tables and making Jim's prank just seem irrelevant. **THAT WAS A NICE MOMENT.***

*And finally, here are my favorite one-off lines:*

*"The tall guy got engaged" – Creed **CLASSIC CREED, HILARIOUS!***

*"I've listened to Cookie Monster Sings Chocolate Rain 5,000 times" – Michael. (By the way, I tried like heck to find this video on You Tube, but no luck. [But here's the consolation prize](#))*

*"You've been cuckolded by a stronger, smarter male" – Dwight*

*So, what did you guys think? **LOVED IT.** Am I right that this episode – while good – did not live up to the season premiere's lofty heights? **I THINK YOU'RE WRONG. IT WASN'T AS GOOD AS THE PREMIERE, BUT PROBABLY ONLY BECAUSE IT WAS ONLY HALF AS LONG AND FOR THE PREMIERE EPISODE, WE WERE SO HAPPY TO HAVE THIS AWESOME SHOW BACK AFTER SUMMER HIATUS!***

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# The Office – Season Premiere!

**WARNING – SPOILERS AHEAD! THIS POST DETAILS THE HAPPENINGS DURING THE OFFICE PREMIERE – YOU’VE BEEN WARNED!**

I can’t believe I didn’t get around to writing about the Office season premiere until now! For goodness sakes, it aired almost two weeks ago! It all began when our kids were acting up so much that we didn’t catch the premiere episode when it aired on tv the Thursday night before last Thursday night. Still with me? Doesn’t really matter... just skip to the part of the post you like. Thinking we had set our computer to tape The Office premiere or that we could find it online, we didn’t fret too much until it was time for bed and we still hadn’t found it. Finally got ahold of it late Friday night after some corn maze fun, stayed up way too late to watch it, followed by a busy weekend, a chaotic week, and another bustling weekend before I got a chance to write about it! So anyway, here is my take on The Office’s premiere episode. I always like what tvguide.com has to say in their tv show blogs, so I copied and pasted their tv show blog synopsis of the premiere and that’s in italics. I will interject my own comments throughout the article, and those are in **BOLD CAPS**. A brief break for the Vice Presidential debate last Thursday, and then some more funny new Office episodes begin this Thursday!!!

*Last season ended with cliff-hangers galore: Andy proposed to Angela, Jim was thwarted from proposing to Pam, Michael committed to playing babydaddy to Jan’s mystery spawn, and – this really killed me because my DVR cut off early and I only found out about this the next day – the cameras, those ubiquitous Office cameras, caught Dwight and Angela boinking*

minutes after she accepted Andy's proposal. The writers developed great storylines last season, and this premiere episode did a great job picking up those threads and setting up some great arcs for this season. **(AGREED! AT THE RISK OF ALIENATING POTENTIAL VIEWERS, I WILL SAY THAT THIS SHOW IS A COMEDY WITH SOAPY CHARACTERISTICS GIVEN ITS CONTINUING STORYLINES AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT. BUT IF YOU'VE NEVER WATCHED THE OFFICE, DON'T LET THIS OBSERVATION DISCOURAGE YOU! MOST TV SIT-COMS HAVE CONTINUING STORYLINES – YOU JUST DON'T ALWAYS REALIZE IT!)**

**\*\*\*SPOILER ALERT\*\*\***

Thursday's premiere was chock-full of big shockers: Jim's proposal to Pam at a rest stop, Ryan's return as a receptionist bent on revenge **(IT'S GREAT FUN TO SEE RYAN AT THE BOTTOM ONCE AGAIN – EVEN MORE FUN TO SEE HIM AT THE BOTTOM NOW AFTER HIS SMARMY ATTITUDE ALIENATING HIS CO-WORKERS)**, and Dwight and Angela's secret affair – consummated in an out-of-the-way warehouse closet. Lots to talk about, so let's get started.

The episode begins with the announcement of a corporate weight-loss contest, a still-unengaged Pam leaving for Pratt Design in New York ("what up, 2-1-2?") and Angela beeping Dwight for some Office lovin', right after Andy serenades her with a personalized version of Rihanna's "Umbrella" ("Angela-ela-ela"). Honestly, I would page Dwight for a booty call if somebody did that to me, so I'm definitely not going to moralize.

Meanwhile, Michael is in the "friend zone" with Holly, and, according to Jim, "killing it" because "she's kind of a dork." Cut to the "wicka-wicka-wicka" bebop (I think that's what the kids call it), and you appreciate that there's a special chemistry there. (I also loved the "Acting!" and Yoda impersonations in last season's finale.) Clearly, Jan and the baby are going to complicate matters, but since Michael may

have found in Holly the only woman with whom he could possibly have a healthy relationship, I'm rooting for them. The writers, though, seem hell-bent on making his journey with Jan and the baby as difficult as possible. I'm looking forward to the ride. **(I SO WANT MICHAEL AND HOLLY TO END UP TOGETHER – THEY'RE PERFECT FOR EACH OTHER AND SHE SEEMS TO ACTUALLY LIKE HIM. HE KEEPS BEING SO CLUELESS ABOUT IT THOUGH, ITS FRUSTRATINGLY FUN TO WATCH!)**

As for Jim and Pam: The writers really have it in for them, don't they? First, unrequited love. Then, Jim leaves and returns with a girlfriend. When he comes back, Jim is almost killed by Roy – thank God for Deputy Dwight and his can of mace! – and now, a long-distance relationship? Really? The Office has been great at avoiding clichés, and I hope it continues to do so by not sucking Pam into a complicating “friendship” with some college dude. **(I WAS NOT HAPPY TO SEE THE FRIENDSHIP WITH THE COLLEGE DUDE. PAM HAD BETTER NOT PULL A “ROSS” (REMEMBER THE TV SHOW FRIENDS?) AND CHEAT ON HER SOULMATE – SHE AND JIM ARE MADE FOR EACH OTHER, AND I THINK THE SHOW WOULD BE JUST AS ENTERTAINING IF THEY GO AHEAD AND LET THESE TWO GET MARRIED. IF THEY WANT TO FOLLOW IN CHEESY SITCOM FOOTSTEPS, THEN ADD A BABY OR TWO DOWN THE ROAD, BUT DON'T BREAK THEM UP!)**

*And now on to my favorite scenes:*

*The return of Ryan*

*I found myself clapping out loud, it was that awesome that a humbled, court-ordered-community-service-oriented Ryan returns as Pam's temp fill-in. Ryan's out for some weird revenge angle, as evidenced by his menacing goatee, his black attire and his anti-Earl list, which includes Jim and – strangely enough – Kevin. I'm sure Michael will figure out a way to keep him around longer, but I wonder if the once-humble intern truly has turned irrevocably to the dark side. **(I THINK SO – RYAN WAS NEVER A NICE PERSON. SURE, THEY MADE YOU FEEL SORRY FOR HIM WHEN HE WAS A TEMP THE FIRST TIME, BUT HE WAS STILL A***

**JERK.)**

*"So you think it's a choice?"*

*The patented Office awkwardness of Oscar and Holly having the "I'm a lesbian... No, I'm actually not" exchange was fantastic. It certainly didn't reach the cringeworthy heights of last year's classic dinner-party episode, but it still managed to make me laugh and squirm like no other show on TV does. For some reason, that appeals to me. (THIS SCENE WAS HILARIOUS AND ONE OF MY FAVORITES – NUFF SAID!)*

*"That wasn't a tapeworm."*

*I would like to proclaim, in this, my initial Office blog, that Creed is my hero. He may be my favorite sitcom character of all time. Kelly says she swallowed a tapeworm to lose weight... that Creed sold her. Cut to Creed: "That wasn't a tapeworm." The only question that remains, and I'm afraid of the answer: What was it? (I AM A BIG FAN OF CREED ALSO – HE IS AN AWESOME CHARACTER, SOOO FUNNY. MY FAVORITE CREED LINE IS WHEN HE SAYS "YEP, IT'S CRAZY. IT'S CRAZY." IN THE EPISODE WHERE DWIGHT WANTS TO COOK A GOOSE IN THE OFFICE. IT DOESN'T LOOK NEARLY AS FUNNY IN TYPE; YOU HAVE TO SEE THE EPISODE. AND THEN THERE'S THE EPISODE WHERE CREED DYES HIS HAIR AND STARTS USING SLANG TO APPEAR YOUNGER – CLASSIC!)*

*"I've replaced Angela as head of the party-planning committee."*

*Phyllis reveals her Machiavellian side with this power play. As she caught Angela and Dwight doing their illicit dirty deed, her little upward smile indicated at the very moment she caught them that the party-planning committee chairmanship was all hers. You go, girl!*

*The big shocker: Jim and Pam get engaged!*

*On exit 17 off of what I can only assume is the New Jersey Turnpike, Jim drops on one knee and pops the question. I'm really glad they didn't drag it out and save the engagement for some sweeps or finale ploy. The unexpectedness of the*



*proposal, and how unassuming it was, really kept true to the nature of their relationship. For me, this is one the main reasons why this show is so great: The writers don't betray their characters. (AGREED!)*

*So, what did you guys think? Was the Season 5 premiere worth the wait? (IT WAS GREAT, BUT NEVER WORTH THE WAIT CUZ THAT MEANS THAT WE HAVE TO GO WITHOUT THE SHOW!) What did you think of the engagement? (VERY HAPPY ABOUT IT – CALMS MY FEARS ABOUT THAT RANDOM COLLEGE DUDE A LITTLE BIT – I WAS FEELING JEALOUS FOR JIM!) Did you see it coming or were you, like me, totally shocked? (I WAS SHOCKED, DIDN'T SEE IT COMING AT ALL, BUT IT WAS SOMETHING I WAS REALLY HAPPY ABOUT. I'M GLAD THEY DIDN'T SHOW IT TO US IN A PREVIEW!) Finally, what were your favorite scenes? (THE OSCAR / HOLLY EXCHANGE AND THE CREED / KELLY TAPEWORM INCIDENT WERE MY FAVORITES – KELLY LOOKING SO SICK AND PASSING OUT WERE PRICELESS! OVERALL, AS SO OFTEN HAPPENS WITH TV SHOWS, THE SEASON PREMIERE DID NOT DISAPPOINT IN THE SLIGHTEST! CAN'T WAIT UNTIL THURSDAY!!!!!!)*

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## **Psychic or Fraud?**

I don't really believe in psychics. I believe that some people may have a gift where they are psychologically in tune with others and / or nature; leading them to be able to predict happenings or events with some accuracy. For instance, I used to be able to tell who was calling when our phone was ringing (in the days before caller ID). It's not that people called us at regular times or intervals, but I could just "feel" who was on the other end of the line. Not that I think I'm psychic or anything; I think I just learned the behavior patterns of the people who called our house. So

I believe that people can have what could be called psychic abilities, especially if they practice and hone their skills, but I don't believe anyone can see the future or anything like that. And I don't believe the self-proclaimed psychic Sylvia Browne possesses any special skills other than the abilities to defraud and manipulate people, if you want to call those things abilities.

While flipping channels and feeding the baby the other day, I came across the Montel Williams show. Apparently Montel is on his way out after 17 years of being on the air. During the episode the other day, he got teary-eyed as he bid his weekly guest Sylvia Browne good-bye. It got me to thinking; does Montel believe that Sylvia is psychic, or did he just like his audience's reception of her? After a few internet searches on wikipedia.com and youtube.com, I was armed with evidence that Sylvia Browne is a fraud (not that I really needed any, but I found plenty anyway). Here is the first example where Sylvia tries to tell a grieving woman that her missing boyfriend is in water. The woman is confused because her boyfriend was a fireman killed in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, and no trace of him was ever found. Watch as Sylvia tries to cover her tracks, backed up by Montel, I might add, with some lame excuse about how the boyfriend might have drowned when they were extinguishing the fire at the World Trade Center. What?!? That doesn't even make sense!

Not only that, but she was on Larry King Live a mere 8 days before the September 11 attacks and didn't say a word about the impending doom. After the attacks, she claimed that she had dreams full of fire in the weeks before the attacks – yet she failed to mention such premonitions on her September 3, 2001 appearance on Larry King!

One more example is the case of Shawn Hornbeck, a preteen who went missing in 2002. Sylvia Browne told Shawn's devastated parents that he was abducted by a dark man with dreadlocks and murdered, and she also provided details about where they could find his body. Four and a half years after his abduction, Shawn was found with Michael Devlin, a white man who had abducted Shawn – a far cry from the so-called "dark man with dreadlocks" who "murdered" him. In this case, it's a very good thing she was wrong – those parents got their son back alive, but one can only imagine the pain they felt when this so-called psychic told them that their son was dead.

There are plenty more examples of this woman's fraudulent behavior – I'm just not going to waste my time writing them nor your time reading them. If you want to see more, go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and do a search for "Sylvia Browne". For fun, you can add words like, "wrong", "fraud", or "lie" to your search and see what you come up with. There is also an interesting site called [stopsylviabrowne.com](http://stopsylviabrowne.com) that's maintained by one of her biggest opponents. He talks about his experience encountering Sylvia, how she hired a private detective to research him, and his experience at one of her live shows.

Well, enough of that, like I said, I consider the woman a fraud, therefore she's not worth any more of our time to go through the hundreds of instances that prove she is full of BS. I don't know how she can live with herself when she toys with the emotions of the grief-stricken. I suppose she could tell herself that she is helping to give them closure, but if that's the case, I would say to her, "Stop fooling yourself lady, you're causing more harm than good!"

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# Unforseen Side Effect Of Hurricanes

With all the storm activity in the Atlantic Ocean lately, I've been especially interested in hurricanes. I've lived a lot of places, but since I've only resided in the midwest, I've never witnessed a hurricane firsthand. Well, that's not entirely true. There was a hurricane a couple of years ago (I forgot its name unfortunately) that ventured up to our corner of Ohio. By the time it got here, it had been over land for quite some time which had reduced it to nothing but rain, lots of rain. It was really no different than any other rain we've gotten, except that I had been watching the radar, and I knew that it had been a hurricane in a past life – that made it special to me; I really enjoyed it.

Anyway, last night, the baby decided to wake up right as we were going to bed, so I was stuck watching tv while I fed him. And it's strange, because I really used to enjoy tv, but that's changed for me recently. Maybe it's because we are so busy all the time so I got used to not watching tv... I don't know what it is. All I know is that I used to be the kind of person who could be happy watching anything on tv – I could find something that would entertain me at any time of the day or night. Not so much anymore. I still like tv, and I love watching my favorite shows (like The Office – almost time for new episodes!!!), but “junk tv” as I call it (reality shows, documentaries, etc.) isn't so appealing anymore. My point in detailing all of this is to explain how interesting I found some random documentary I caught last night on the History Channel while I was feeding my son.

The documentary was about giant snakes, specifically pythons,

and how they are starting to become a threat to people in Florida. What I found most fascinating about this is the fact that these snakes are not indigenous to the United States, but in 1992, when Hurricane Andrew hit Florida, many pet stores and homes that had kept these animals as pets were destroyed. Baby pythons were released into the wild and because of Florida's tropical climate, especially in the Everglades, these animals now have a wild population that is thriving. On the show, they had pictures of one snake that had swallowed an adult human whole. They weren't sure if the pictures were real or a hoax, and unfortunately I never found out because my son let me go to bed before the show was over. They also had pictures of a snake that had swallowed a 6-foot-long alligator whole, but it had ruptured the snake, causing his death. In the words of a snake expert on the show, "snakes can digest anything" – it's just that the alligator probably clawed the snake open. But you could see the outline of the alligator in the snake – it looked like an alligator colored like a snake – it was bizarre.

I may have to find this documentary again so I can watch it when I'm not half asleep. But it's really interesting to me that because of a hurricane, Florida now has another fearsome reptile lurking in the Everglades. I'm sure that was the last thing on people's minds after Hurricane Andrew wreaked its havoc 16 years ago – I bet this scenario didn't cross anyone's mind. Who knows what unforeseen side effects we'll see from Hurricane Katrina in a couple of decades? One can only imagine...

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# The Mole – FINALE!!!

**SPOILER ALERT!!!** *The following blog post contains a synopsis of the final episode of the ABC reality show, The Mole. Do not read if you don't want to know what happened!*

Last night's Mole finale did not disappoint. Well, maybe for those of us who got 0 points in the tangents.org mole poll... But as far as dragging out the results episode like most reality shows do, the Mole was not guilty of this. The episode was only an hour long, they still had one elimination to reveal, and they revealed the winner of the game without dramatizing things by adding a commercial break. Turns out, good guy Mark took home the cash, all so his wife can stay home with the kids and not work anymore (be careful what you wish for; sometimes I wish *I* could go back to work and get away from the daily chaos of the chorus of crying kids!). Then, it was time to reveal the mole... but first a dramatic commercial break, of course! We returned from commercial, and they milked it even further with some more dramatic pausing... and then we learned – CRAIG is the MOLE!

At least I don't have to go back and count up points for our tangents.org mole poll – I believe Jamiahsh is the only one who ever guessed Craig, therefore, with 1 point, he is the winner of our tangents mole poll!

After the big reveal, which happened quite early in the hour I might add, compared to the way they've done things in past mole seasons, time was spent recapping episodes with the knowledge of the mole's identity. It was fun to see the different contestants' reactions to Craig being the mole, and it was even more fun to watch the clips that were recorded during the playing of the game of them suspecting Craig. I always like when they explain the hidden clues from every episode that (supposedly) pointed to the mole. I say supposedly pointed to the mole because a few of the clues were

far-fetched; for example the business about the latitude and longitude. One of the clues I liked is the one where they altered the background where Craig was giving an interview. There were two “i” statues, and they altered them so there were 4 “i” statues when Craig was doing his interview. Get it? 4 “i”‘s = four eyes – Craig is the only player to wear glasses.

Anyway, it was a great season like always. Even though I lost the tangents.org mole poll, I’m actually glad I did because if Nicole (she was my guess) was the mole, I would have felt it was so obvious it actually would have dampened my enthusiasm for another season. But since I was SO taken by surprise, as far as another mole season goes, I say, bring it on, and soon!

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## The Mole – Week #9

*SPOILER ALERT: No one was eliminated and we didn’t find out who the mole was this week, so since there is nothing to spoil, go ahead and read my post!*

I don’t have much to say about this week’s episode... probably cuz I missed most of it. But no matter, it’s not like we learned anything about the mole’s identity – that big reveal will be next week. Chris thought Mark getting the mole’s dossier was mole-y, so that is his guess this week now that Paul is out. Mark struck me from the very beginning as NOT being the mole; I don’t know why, so I am sticking with my Nicole guess... any thoughts jamiahsh?

Chris – Mark

Lisa – Nicole

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# The Mole – Week #8

*DISCLAIMER – Do not read this if you don't want to know about what happened on the ABC reality show, The Mole, yada, yada, yada...*

WOW – mole-y behavior abound last night... but not too much from Paul, who was shockingly executed. So, my friends who've been going with Paul for weeks now, it seems you have to pick a new guess... But fear not, at least not yet, because if Nicole isn't the mole, then I am right there with you with 0 points because I don't think I've ever guessed Craig or Mark. But what am I saying, Nicole is SO the mole – let's take a look at last night's episode to find out why...

First, it seemed odd to me that Paul was making excuses about the camera in the very beginning of the camera-block game, though it's not like it was mole-y behavior since Paul is obviously NOT the mole. Then, during the same game, Nicole states that she is a laproscopic surgeon, which caught me by surprise because during the entire run of the show, she's been labeled (and said she was) an OB-GYN. Suspicious yes, but even if she is the mole, I cannot figure out why they would change her profession. And if they were going to change her profession for some reason, why would they keep her as a doctor and just change the type of practice? I am convinced she is the mole, but this I do not get... hopefully it will be explained.

Next up, players used the same camera contraption (one player holds the camera and the other player wears glasses that display what the camera is recording) to play soccer, and Paul did act a little suspicious because he didn't seem to be giving his entire effort. He didn't seem to be trying to kick the ball hard or straight enough to get it in the net... but



again, it doesn't matter how he was acting since we know he is not the mole. Nicole on the other hand, would not stop shaking the camera. The camera was extra jiggly during the chalkboard portion of the game, and it's not like she even needed to mess with poor Craig all that much anyway given his problem with vertigo. But why would a lapriscopic surgeon (or anyone for that matter, really) feel the need to shake the camera so much? Very mole-y indeed. When she and Craig lost the chalkboard challenge, she broke into a big grin and then quickly bit her lip to keep from smiling! Did anyone else see that? Nicole hopes not, but I sure did! And lastly, a few things on the cell-paintball challenge. She made sure she choose her cell first – if she is the mole then the producers could have told her what cell to pick so she didn't get the exemption to let a legitimate player win it (much to Paul's dismay – nice little tantrum there). Also, a player noted (think it was Mark) how small and fast she is, yet she still got shot with a paintball... that seems mole-y also. I really enjoyed this episode; I liked the camera games a lot. But when it's all said and done, Nicole is still my top guess for the mole!

Chris has changed his guess to Nicole. I haven't yet received an official guess from Jamiahsh yet... either he's lost since he can't guess Paul or he doesn't want to submit his guess yet until he's sure we've seen the episode to avoid the teasing for spoiling the execution quizzes outcome ☐  
Either way, let me know as soon as you have one!

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## **The Mole – Week #7**

*The following is a synopsis of the Mole episode that aired Monday, July 21, 2008. It contains spoilers – do not read*

*ahead if you don't want to know who was executed!*

My daughter is away this week and didn't get to see this episode, so we won't have her guess. Darn, she was really getting into the show too, and it was fun to see an 8-year-old's perspective on it. But anyway, I thought Craig and Nicole both seemed very mole-y during the challenge; there were times when it seemed that they both tried to sabotage the numbers they were collecting. I didn't notice any suspicious behavior from anyone else. Then there was a game where the contestants answered questions about their loved ones, and another contestant was re-quizzed about their answers. The loved ones appeared in a train, and if they got enough answers correct, the doors would open for a reunion. So of course whoever the mole is didn't have the heart to sabotage this one – which means it's NOT Nicole. Just kidding. Anyway, the train doors opened for everyone, thank goodness, and the anticipation was pure agony to watch; especially Mark's wife (in 19 years of marriage we've never been apart this long) and Paul's wife and especially his little girl. I knew there was absolutely no way they would disappoint a little girl like that, and I wonder what they would have done if enough questions were not answered correctly?

I'd have to say Nicole's mom is a bad influence on her – she really wanted Nicole to quit and even justified her reasons for doing so (it's not really quitting, it's not like this is your job). It's clear that Nicole really cares a lot about what Mommy thinks because she lied and said she was going to throw the quiz, and she also apologized for disappointing her mom by not quitting. So I'm guessing that she can just explain it away to Mommy later by saying, "I disobeyed you because I was the Mole so I couldn't quit the game." And, if she can lie that easily about throwing the quiz, it will be no surprise that she was lying the whole game about being the Mole.

So, the guesses remain:

Taylhis – Nicole

Chris – Paul

Jamiahsh – Paul

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## The Mole – Week #6

*The following contains information and possible spoilers about the Mole episode that aired on July 14. Do not keep reading if you haven't seen it – consider yourself warned!*

We're getting down to the nitty gritty – there is only one woman left for one thing, who would have thought that it would be Nicole. It was a rarity, but my 8-year-old daughter was the last one standing last night, so she was invited to watch the Mole with us. I know it's rated TV-14, but it's just for language, and she knows better than to repeat some things they say... it did bring it to my attention though; I would otherwise ignore it, but why can't they just leave it out? Do they really need to say words like (fill in the blanks) a\*\* and c\*ap on tv? I don't see why they can't just edit them out. But anyway, she really liked the show, and she said that everyone acts suspicious. Her final guess for the most mole-y behavior is Nicole though, so I will add her to our poll at the end of this post.

Since we have a new baby in the house, I am SO tired, and it seems like the more tired I am, the worse my short-term memory is. So I don't remember too many details about the Mole, even though it was just on last night. I was not surprised to see Alex booted, and if I had had one eye on the clock, I would have known that the first person's quiz results they showed would be red this time. They do that at least once a season –

eliminate the first person whose results were given. I figured Alex wasn't the Mole, so it was no surprise when he was booted. It was fun to watch how scared everyone got before they dove backwards off the plank. I didn't get much out of the brainteaser game because I would normally like to play along with something like that, but my brain is so fried lately and they didn't give us enough time to think about the answers, so I just spent the challenge answered my daughter's questions about the show instead. But I'd have to say, aside from the language, it's a good family show since it kept my 8-year-old's attention, and I think my 4-year-old would like it too.

Mole Guesses for this week:

Taylor – Nicole

Chris – staying with Paul

Taylhis – staying with Nicole

Jamiahsh – staying with Paul

Hmmm... interesting. The two people with the strongest personalities have the most guesses. I guess we think they could be exaggerating their attitudes. At least that's how I feel with Nicole. I've begun to wonder, could anyone REALLY be that much of a total b\*tch?