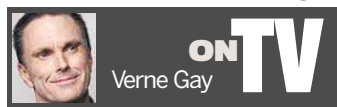


What's your next plan, man?



verne.gay@newsday.com

WHAT IT'S ABOUT Pittsburgh contractor Adam Burns (Matt LeBlanc) decides to spend more time at home with the three kids so wife Andi (Liza Snyder) can go back to work after 13 years as a stay-at-home mom. The stay-at-home dad immediately has second thoughts because the kiddies — Kate (Grace Kaufman), Teddy (Matthew McCann) and Emme (Hala Finley) — are more work than he bargained for. (Veteran TV actress Diana Maria Riva stars as bossy kindergarten teacher Mrs. Rodriguez, and Kevin Nealon is Adam's brother, Don.)

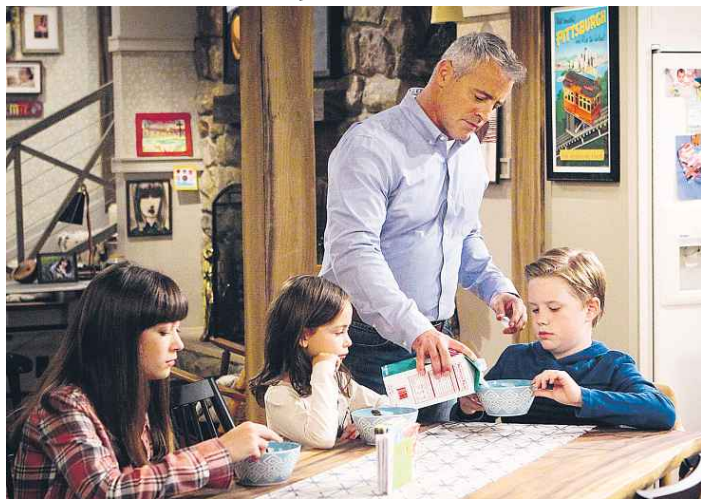
MY SAY Joey, Joey, Joey. Matt, Matt, Matt.

You're killing me. You're killing us. Both of you.

First there was Joey Tribbiani, the almost willfully witless wonderboy of "Friends" and one of the most popular characters in TV history. Then there was Matt LeBlanc of "Episodes" who flipped the Joey facade to reveal a callow and mordantly funny reprobate — who may or may not have been a distant reflection of the real Matt LeBlanc but at least was a more interesting version, and Golden Globe-winning one, too.

Now, Adam Burns. Enough said about him.

Back to square one for Matt, or whatever comes before "square one."



Matt LeBlanc is the "Man With a Plan." ■ Video: newsday.com/tv

THE SHOW "Man With a Plan" **WHEN | WHERE** Premieres tonight at 8:30 on CBS/2 **GRADE** C-

"Man With a Plan" is hardly a reversal for the family sitcom — a genre marvelously engineered to withstand reversals, no matter how base the hackwork or flavorless the "com" — but it sure feels like a reversal for LeBlanc. In fact, "Man With a Plan" is such a generic family sitcom that it's impossible to determine if there was an original inspiration for this or just a simple calculus — at which CBS excels, coincidentally.

Cable and broadcast networks have pretty much abandoned traditional family sitcoms — or at least their most prehistoric elements — be-

cause they're not particularly appealing to young viewers who watch stuff on the internet days or even weeks later. But CBS' audience (average age 59) still tends to watch the old-fashioned way, or when a show actually airs. Moreover, "Man" will follow — or in network-speak "flow out of" — the newly minted hit "Kevin Can Wait." The transition will be so seamless that viewers may not even be able to tell they're watching a different show. That's part of the calculus, too.

So, don't be surprised if this isn't a modest hit and don't fight the urge to fondly recall the LeBlanc glory days while watching (if you do, even after this warning). He's still got the old charm — just not much of a showcase for it.

BOTTOM LINE A wan, weary network-sitcom-by-committee — oh, and Matt LeBlanc, too.

TV ON DVD

'Norman Lear' and other pop docs

NORMAN LEAR: JUST ANOTHER VERSION OF YOU Same-day release of "American Masters" on trailblazing producer of "All in the Family"; list price \$25 DVD/\$29 Blu-ray, out today from PBS. (Read Verne Gay's review tomorrow.)

BEING CANADIAN Northern neighbors explain their essential "eh" — actors (Michael J. Fox, William Shatner, Seth Rogen), funny folk (Mike Myers, Dan Aykroyd, Will Arnett), music names (Rush, Alanis Morissette, Paul Shaffer),

others (Alex Trebek, Morley Safer); \$18, Candy Factory. **RAIDERS!** "The Story of the Greatest Fan Film Ever Made" lovingly tracks teens-turned-40somethings who spent years on their own shot-by-shot remake of Harrison Ford hit, with deleted scenes, premiere Q&A, commentary; \$35 Blu+DVD+digital, Drafthouse Films. **ALL THINGS MUST PASS** Colin Hanks charts the rise and fall of once-beloved media chain Tower Records (Huntington / Massapequa / Carle Place), with deleted scenes,

interviews; \$20 DVD/\$30 Blu, MVD.

ZYDECO CROSSROADS Buckwheat Zydeco's recent death adds weight to Robert Mugge's 2015 portrait of Louisiana music, with bonus hour "Rosie's in the House Tonight" (accordion queen Rosie Ledet); \$20 Blu, MVD. **FOYLE'S WAR REVISITED** Guest star John Mahoney ("Frasier") hosts hourlong backstage peek at World War II-set British mystery fave; \$15, Acorn.

— DIANE WERTS

today's picks

THE VOICE (8 p.m., NBC/4) — Singers Tim McGraw and Faith Hill serve as key advisers as the artists prepare for the Knockout Rounds; contestants will be paired against teammates and select a song to perform for the coaches.



Faith Hill and Tim McGraw could be one "Voice" as advisers.

KEVIN CAN WAIT (8 p.m., CBS/2) — When Kevin (Kevin James) and Donna (Erinn Hayes) meet the arrogant and pushy parents of their son's new friend from school, they set out to sabotage the boys' friendship. Ray Romano guests as the friend's dad.

POV: THANK YOU FOR PLAYING (10 p.m., WNET/13) — Video game programmer Ryan Green and his wife, Amy, document their son's cancer battle with a poetic video game.

offthewall

BUFFY VS. BUFFY

While Sarah Michelle Gellar stars in another run of WB series "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" (Monday-Thursday 1-4 p.m., Pop), we can also catch Kristy Swanson in the 1992 movie "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" (Wednesday at 9 and 11 p.m., Logo).

— DIANE WERTS



Kristy Swanson was the original "Buffy the Vampire Slayer."

tv talk

DAYTIME

CBS THIS MORNING (7 a.m., CBS/2) — Phil Collins

TODAY (7 a.m., NBC/4) — Tom Hanks

KELLY (9 a.m., WABC/7) — Tom Hanks

RACHAEL RAY (10 a.m., WABC/7) — Halloween treats

THE VIEW (11 a.m., ABC/7) — Hot topics

STEVE HARVEY (2 p.m., WNBC/4) — Keesha Sharp

DR. PHIL (3 p.m., WCBS/2; 8 p.m., WLNY/10/55) — All my ex

cares about is acting and singing for the Lord, not our daughter

ELLEN DEGENERES (3 p.m., WNBC/4) — Zoey Deschanel

HARRY CONNICK JR. (4 p.m., WNYW/5) — Michael Chiklis, Dakota Fanning

NIGHT

CARSON (11 p.m., Antenna TV) — Bob Hope (Jan. 16, 1981)

CONAN (11 p.m., TBS) — Bryce Dallas Howard

COLBERT (11:35 p.m., CBS/2) — Tom Hanks

FALLON (11:35 p.m., NBC/4) — Ricky Gervais

MEYERS (12:35 a.m., NBC/4) — Elijah Wood

CORDEN (12:35 a.m., CBS/2) — Nick Offerman

Dakota Fanning visits Harry.



GETTY IMAGES / MIKE COPPOLA