

WHAT'S WORTH WATCHING

Tonight's TV Best Bets

NBA Basketball **ESPN, beginning at** **7pm Live**

Paul George leads the Oklahoma City Thunder on the road against his former team, the Indiana Pacers, in the first game of ESPN's Wednesday night NBA doubleheader. The second game has the Charlotte Hornets at the Houston Rockets.

The Goldbergs **ABC, 8pm**

Pass the Manischewitz! While mom Beverly vies to take the title of Hanukkah hostess with the mostest, Pops helps Barry up his cool factor by convincing him to enter the school talent show

NHL Hockey: **Boston at Detroit** **NBCSN, 8pm Live**

Zdeno Chara and the Boston Bruins head to Detroit's new Little Caesars Arena for a Wednesday night matchup against Dylan Larkin and the Red Wings.

The Wolverine **FXX, 8pm**

Hugh Jackman takes his mutton-chopped, metal-clawed superhero to Japan in this 2013 action film, in

which Logan goes to say goodbye to a deathly ill friend, only to find a much more existential quandary — and tons of ninjas — awaiting him.

The Librarians: "And the Dark Secret" **TNT, 8pm**

Season Premiere!

Noah Wyle returns for seven of the 12 new episodes this season. The heroes embark on new, action-packed adventures, but their greatest challenge will come from within the Library itself. With Charlene no longer tethered to the Library, which keeps it grounded to humanity, one Librarian and one Guardian must step up and take the mantle. Confronted with a dark mystery, every Librarian must ask themselves some tough questions: Is the Library itself good or evil? Can a Librarian ever live a "normal" life filled with love, friends and family?

The Real Housewives of New Jersey **Bravo, 9pm**

We're only halfway through Season 8, and already *RHONJ* has given us so much — from the hilariously protracted



Vikings: "The Plan" **History, 9pm**

Guided by Bishop Heahmund's visions, the Saxons devise a battle plan. Ivar the Boneless strategizes on his own as the Vikings face increasing pressure. Bjorn Ironside finds himself in a new territory and must convince the local commander he is a trader and not a raider.

Cakegate to the return of nutty Danielle Staub to the feud between Siggy Flicker and newbie Margaret Josephs. And they're just gettin' warmed up: Tonight, the girls head to Italy's fashion capital. Chicken Milanese with a side of beef, anyone?

Lion Kingdom **Nat Geo Wild, 9pm**

Follow the dramatic story of three lion prides battling

each other for territory, food and power along the Mwangusi River in Tanzania. When destiny conspires to bring the prides together, it is all-out war. Why are these lions intent on destruction? This is the story of life, death and revenge.

Golden Globes 75th Anniversary Special **NBC, 9pm**

Eric McCormack and

Debra Messing host a look back at the awards show's best moments. This *better* include that time Christine Lahti was in the bathroom when her name was called. Legendary.

American Housewife **ABC, 9:30pm**

Doris (Ali Wong) goes into labor on Christmas Day — forcing Katie (Katy Mixon) to find a compromise between being there for the birth of her best friend's baby and spending the holiday with her family. Who does that kid think he/she is, Jesus?

Knightfall: "Find Us the Grail" **History, 10pm**

Landry and Parsifal search for a killer. The unexpected arrival of Pope Boniface in Paris threatens De Nogaret's carefully laid plans.

The A Word **SundanceTV, 10pm** **Season Finale!**

The whole family comes together to put on an end-of-year show at Joe's (Max Vento) former school. But tensions at home between Paul (Lee Ingleby) and Alison (Morven Christie) threaten to tear them apart.

Anything But A Disaster

By Paul Hall, Channel Guide Magazine

Bad movies can be fun. I've always had an affinity for both the best and the worst that hit the silver screen. Every time I sit down, I look forward to the journey that will unfold before my eyes. When I heard they were making a presumably good movie about the best bad movie ever, well, I was in for a chance to experience the new film *The Disaster Artist*.

Tommy Wiseau (James Franco) is a mystery. When he meets Greg (Dave Franco) during an acting class in San Francisco, they develop a friendship and soon decide to take their talents to Los Angeles, where Tommy coincidentally has another apartment. Together, they plan to take the movie business by storm.

Tommy's got a physique that works as a model, and oh boy does he have the hair. But he talks differently, walks differently and behaves differently than most in the business and struggles to find his place. Greg also has the looks and works through his issues to quickly land an agent.

Still, life in Hollywood isn't kind to them. Roles don't come for them, and the struggle is real. They both dream of becoming a star, and they come up with the best way to do it: Tommy will write, produce, direct and star in a movie that he will write for both of them.

As the project starts to develop, we begin to wonder, who really is Tommy Wiseau? Where does he get his money? And can Tommy and Greg finish their epic film *The Room*?

This is a film that begs to be seen in a theater with fans who have seen *The Room*. There are moments in the film within the film that use shot-for-shot remakes of the classic bad movie. Plus, so many references in the film are inside jokes to fans of *The Room*.

When the film opens, you may not know how to take things. My advice is this: Let

yourself go and live in the moment with the journey that is taking place onscreen. It is when you allow yourself to laugh at the funny sequences and be heartbroken at Tommy's internal strife that you will see the brilliance in the film.



James and Dave work well together as friends. They exhibit the care, love and frustration that goes into any relationship. The supporting cast from Seth Rogen to Alison Brie deliver characters that are both believable and unique.

The amazing thing about this movie is James Franco. He takes on the directing, producing and acting jobs and excels in each of them. While at times you may believe you are watching a parody of what went on, it always feels real, and when the credits roll, they include side-by-side comparisons to the film that is the basis for the entire movie. If you didn't believe this farce could possibly

have happened in real life, you will when you see the real Tommy, "Lisa" and Greg in their actual performances. Make sure to watch through the credits for one final sequence with James Franco in character alongside the real Tommy.

Everyone who makes films, good and bad, tries to connect with their audience. Not all films can be one of the best of the year, but all films can make a connection. *The Room* did (maybe not the connection Tommy envisioned), and *The Disaster Artist* definitely does.

Let yourself go and experience a film that is part weird, part heartbreaking and all quality. *The Disaster Artist* is anything but a disaster.

The Disaster Artist

Rated: R

Stars: James Franco, Dave Franco, Seth Rogen

Director: James Franco

Paul's Grade: B+

Brought to you by the publishers of TV Guide, the ultimate TV resource packed with celebrity news and commentary on what's new and what's good to watch. Get TV Guide at 88% off the cover price: call 800-866-1400 or visit tvguidemagazine.com. ©TV Guide 2017.