

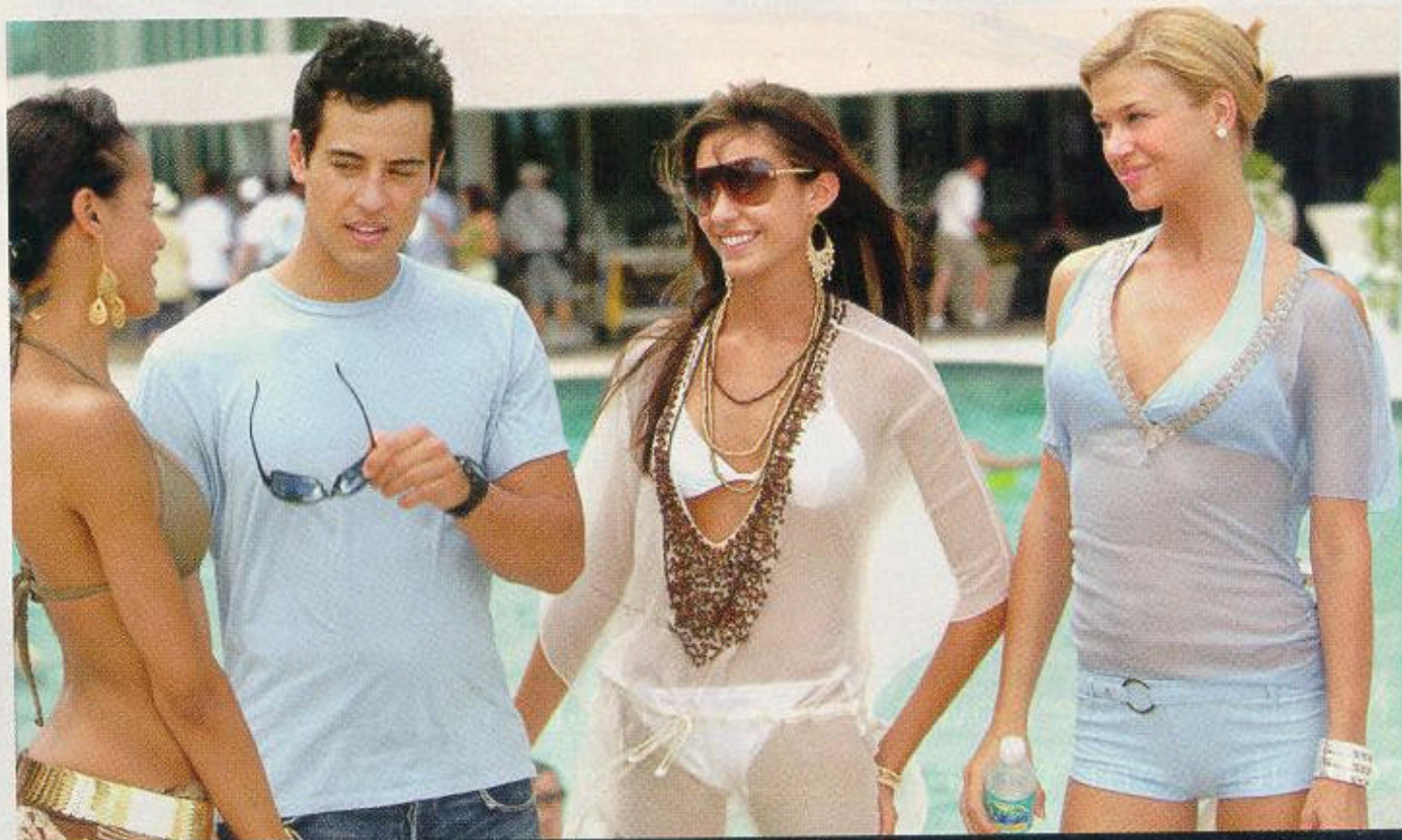
# South Beach

UPN (Wednesdays, 8 p.m. ET)

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**DRAMA** Oh, great lolling Atlantic, your waves sigh deep, as if knowing the vanity of the humans onshore. Especially the ones in Miami. *South Beach*, a pretty dopey show significant chiefly because Jennifer Lopez is an executive producer, follows a couple of guys down from Brooklyn and into some glamorous messiness. Matt (Marcus Coloma) becomes security head for a hot hotel and its nightclub, while Vincent (Chris

Johnson) becomes an oddball adjutant, something between a gofer and an enforcer, for a local criminal (Giancarlo Esposito), a snappy dresser who surrounds himself with mementos of Santeria mysticism. The hotel, on the other hand, is run by Vanessa Williams, still beautiful and, whether she knows it or not, inching toward *Falcon Crest* power-lady camp. The younger performers aren't cast in any way that makes their roles distinctive, although I did feel a twinge—call it empathy—when Odette Yustman, as an aspiring model, felt sad over a lack of bookings. ★☆☆☆



Pool for love: Coloma with Selita Ebanks (left), Yustman and Adrienne Palicki.