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'Age of Love' rages on with twisted battle

Mekeisha Madden Toby / Detroit News Television Writer

The look of repulsion on Mark Philippoussis' face said everything.

If his name doesn't ring a bell, you probably weren't one of the 7 million viewers who watched Philippoussis, 30, as the bachelor on NBC's new summer series "Age of Love."

When the reality show debuted last Monday, the Peacock network purposely failed to tell the Aussie tennis star the premise, but he quickly learned that half his dating pool on "Age of Love" is made up of women 10 to 18 years older than him.

Each time one of these beautiful and youthful-looking hot mommas marched up, introduced herself and revealed her age, Philippoussis looked like he'd vomited in his mouth. But as the show went on, Philippoussis changed his tune and started to really dig his older suitors -- one of which, Jennifer, has a son his age.

To further complicate things, the producers waited until Philippoussis bonded with the women before revealing the other half of his dating pool on the show -- a set of hotties in their 20s -- for a catty battle of young vs. old. Lest we forget, NBC is the network who brought us "Average Joe" four summers ago. The latter pitted nerds against pretty boys for the love of a human Barbie.

And the legacy continues. In tonight's installment of "Age of Love," the women will literally fight for Philippoussis' love, in a swimming pool, no less.

"This is a new twist on the old 'Dating Game,' " says Mike Bernacchi, a marketing professor at the University of Detroit Mercy. Bernacchi doesn't want to watch, but will tune in for no other reason than to find out who the

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NBC

Mark Philippoussis See full image

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'Age of Love'

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