

[TELEVISION]

See Food

For these chefs, it's knife or death

>> What's better than being crowned Top Chef? How about Master Chef? This month Bravo premieres Top Chef Masters, a spinoff of the network's popular reality show, this one starring A-list toques from across the country.

"We're competing for charity, but I still want to win!" says French chef Ludovic Lefebvre (Ludo Bites at Breadbar), one of four big-name Angelenos, including Suzanne Tracht (Jar), Michael Cimarusti (Providence), and Mark Peel (Campanile). Twenty-one others, including Wilo Benet, Cindy Pawlcyn, and Rick Bayless (pictured with Lefebvre, far right), will also vie for the title. Each week chefs compete in culinary challenges, and celebrity guests (Zooey Deschanel, Neil Patrick Harris) help judges decide the winner. "It's so different from running a restaurant," says Lefebvre. "You never know what they're going to ask you to do, and...all you have is your knife." If you noticed a shortage of boccarones at the Whole Foods in Glendale, here's one reason: Bloggers revealed that parts of the show were shot there. June 10.

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Farrah Fawcett's Long Fall

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BY ANKS TAYLOR PLEMING

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