

INT. TED'S OFFICE - DAY

We find ourselves looking at a wall of TV screens, each showing a different unusual, offbeat sport. On one screen, we see a seemingly peaceful round of PGA golf, with Tom Kite preparing to tee off. He raises his club to swing and... is brutally TACKLED and CRUSHED by huge men in full football-style gear.

JOHN MADDEN (v.o.)

This week on TSN: Don't miss the skull-shanking, bone-crushing action of Men's Full-Contact Golf! That's gonna leave a divot!

A bloody Kite staggers to his feet, swinging his club like a weapon and runs.

TED (v.o.)

A single man learns to appreciate other things, too - like his work. I run an all-sports cable channel, TSN. We broadcast sports from 70 countries worldwide.

Sportscasters call the action from the various monitors on the wall.

MARV ALBERT (v.o.)

Yes!

GERMAN SPORTSCASTER (v.o.)

Da!

FRENCH SPORTSCASTER (v.o.)

Oui!

RUSSIAN SPORTSCASTER (v.o.)

Ya!

The continue in Marv Albert-like fashion as we PAN to Ted, who uses a remote control to lower the sound. He sits behind a large desk, speaking to MEG THOMPSON. About the same age as Ted, she's tall, slender and attractive, dressed in a conservative business suit. She grins at him skeptically.

TED LEARNS THAT HEATHER IS A PHONE SEX OPERATOR, AND THAT THE CONSTANT SOUNDS OF SEX NEXT DOOR ARE JUST HER TAKING CALLS:

TED

I've got to tell you, it's a big relief to know you don't sleep with fifty guys a week.

Heather laughs sheepishly.

HEATHER

Sorry if I'm a little loud. A lot of my clients are hard of hearing. I'm Heather Newman, by the way.

TED

(they shake hands)

Ted Davis. How long have you been doing this?

HEATHER

About a year. I was a secretary before that, but I got bored. Not that this is all that exciting, but it's kind of like being your own boss. Pay's good, the syndicate pretty much leaves me alone, so for now...

She shrugs. Ted nods, trying to be casual.

TED

How does your boyfriend handle this?

HEATHER

I don't have one.

Ted's eyes light up.

INSERT - FANTASY SEQUENCE

Ted stands on a mountaintop, where with a stab of triumphant music he rips open his shirt to reveal his BachelorMan superhero outfit. Arms outstretched, he flies joyfully into the air.

INT. HEATHER'S TOWNHOUSE

Encouraged, Ted gives Heather his most charming grin.

TED

Listen, I've got an extra ticket to see Michael Bolton this weekend. Would you like to go?

HEATHER

TED HAS THE STAFF AT THE SPORTS NETWORK PITCH HIM IDEAS TO WIN OVER HEATHER:

INT. TED'S OFFICE - DAY

Ted sits behind his desk, watching JOHN MADDEN graph a play on a telestrator. The converging lines on the chart track the amount of money spent with the occurrence of sex on the average date.

JOHN MADDEN

... and it's at this amount of money spent that actual penetration will occur...

CUT TO:

EXT. HEATHER'S TOWNHOUSE - NIGHT

Heather opens the door to find Ted wearing a lavish tuxedo, complete with diamond pins, a gold Rolex, designer sunglasses and hundred dollar bills falling out of his pockets. He hands her a bouquet of roses.

TED

Pardon me, but did you order a sugar daddy?

HEATHER

(as she swings door shut)

No.

CUT TO:

INT. TED'S OFFICE - DAY

PAT RILEY pitches Ted while doing fancy show-off tricks with a basketball.

PAT RILEY

Sell her on the product. You need name recognition, pizzazz! SHOWTIME! You need to sell the sizzle, pound that message home...

CUT TO:

EXT. HEATHER'S TOWNHOUSE - NIGHT

Heather opens the door to find Ted grinning at her, a sparkler in each hand, with a Mariachi Band playing behind him. He wears a 'DATE TED NOW - ASK ME HOW' t-shirt. A marching band plays in the street as a huge fireworks display goes off behind him reading 'DINNER TONIGHT?'.

HEATHER

(closing door)
No.

CUT TO:

INT. TED'S OFFICE - DAY

DICK VITALE is pitching Ted, sweating and coming out of his tie.

DICK VITALE

Big Ted Davis, baby! Mr. Bachelor superstar! Tell her your hopes and fears, tell her your secret desires - then you're in there, baby!

CUT TO:

INT. HEATHER'S TOWNHOUSE - NIGHT

Heather's business phone rings. She answers it, using her sensual, work voice.

HEATHER

Hi, you've reached the 'Reach Out and Touch Yourself' hotline. Can I help you?

INT. TED'S TOWNHOUSE

Ted is on the phone, disguising his voice by holding his nose.

TED

Yes, I was wondering if you offer...

HEATHER (v.o.)

(recognizes his voice)

No.

TED

But I... you see...

She hangs up, the DIAL TONE buzzing in Ted's ear. He hangs up, frustrated.

TED IS GIVEN BREAK-UP STRATEGY BY THE SPORTS NETWORK STAFF:

INT. TED'S OFFICE - DAY

Ted sits at his desk while John Madden telestrates a graphic bearing the title 'RELATIONSHIP ENDING STRATEGY'.

JOHN MADDEN

You want out, you gotta telegraph it. Billboards. Print media. I see a possible infomercial. You explain the benefits of her being an unattached woman again – breaking free and running free to daylight – BOOM! She wins!!!

CUT TO:

INT. TED'S OFFICE - DAY

Later. Pat Riley stands before a huge storyboard depicting Ted and Heather's happy breakup.

PAT RILEY

... then you move the job to New York and you don't have to see Jerry Buss again... I mean, Heather...

CUT TO:

INT. TED'S OFFICE - DAY

Later. Meg sits on Ted's desk, a concerned look on her face.

MEG

You've got to tell her the truth. It may hurt now, but not nearly as much as it will if you drag it out with a bunch of lame stories and unreturned phone calls...

(sneers, crushing coffee cup in her hands)

... like that sonofabitching rat bastard Doug...

She calms herself.

MEG (cont.)

Women tend to take that badly.

CUT TO:

INT. TED'S OFFICE - DAY

A little later. A sweating, impassioned and exhilarated Dick Vitale speaks at Ted.

DICK VITALE

Big Ted Davis - show her the real you. Be sincere, tell her you made a mistake. Show her you're a man. Be up front, honest, genuine, compassionate...

TED

What if that doesn't work?

DICK VITALE

Tell her you're a homo - then you're out of there, baby!

CUT TO: