THIS WEEK'S BEST BETS AND SOAPS

THE NEW
SPICY CHEF
IN TOWN

AlL Simmons is proud to be a judge on the tasty, new show "Top Chef Duels," on which former "Top Chef" contestants battle it out for the coveted title once again.

She sat down with The National ENQUIRER to talk food, celebs and the program's amazing recipe for success.

Exciting head-to-head challenges are the main ingredient, and the chefs themselves choose two of the three challenges each opisode, "so you know they are cooking to their own strengths or to each other's weaknesses!" onthuses Gail.

"Going into each episode, we are all already invested in the personalities and have incredibly high expectations as to how the food will be. This definitely raises the stakes!"

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Adding spice to the show are its guest judges. Gail says she was "by far most excited to have P!nk on as a guest.

"I've always been a huge fan of her music, her energy and her confidence. I knew she watched 'Top Chef' but didn't realize what a fan she was until she came to our set. We spent hours talking about food, new motherhood and more."

As for her fellow judges, Gail dishes out compliments. She's worked with Wolfgang

Puck before and credits his "vast knowledge" for the success of the new show, but she also learned "what a hilarious sense of humor he has."

Hugh Acheson is "adorable. I love his perspective on food. He doesn't take himself too seriously but has very particular standards about cooking that really help to push our chefs further."

Gail is surprised at the quality of the dishes, no matter how difficult the challenges. "I'm perpetually amazed at how talented the chefs are and how quickly they are able to think on their feet.

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"You just never know who will stumble and who will succeed – and you can't take any chef for granted."

Gail wants ENQUIRER readers to know that "Top Chef Duels" is the most fast-paced show she's ever done. "It feels so fresh and new, but is still set with the 'Top Chef' backdrop.

"So you know the food will be amazing, and the drama will be action-packed!"