



Lopez stole the spotlight at Denzel's April 18 gala.

**DRAMA QUEEN** It's not easy to upstage a star like **Denzel Washington** at his own premiere, but **Jennifer Lopez** instantly became the focus of fans and photographers when she hit the red carpet at the April 18 opening of the Oscar winner's thriller *Man on Fire*. As Washington observed the mania surrounding Lopez, who does not appear in the film but came to support beau **Marc Anthony**, he quipped, "She's real good in this picture. Phenomenal. She was much skinnier in the picture." Then he quickly backtracked. "I'm sorry, that was mean."

**FOREVER YOUR GIRL?** Finding Mr. Right is never easy, even if you're rich and famous. So **Paula Abdul** has enlisted some help. After her relationship with Smith & Wesson CEO **Colton Melby** ended this year, I hear the 41-year-old *American Idol* judge recruited Kelleher & Associates, the L.A.-based matchmaking service that introduced her to Melby in the first place. (By the way, the reason for Abdul's sling on the April 20 *Idol*? A painful manicure mishap.)



Paula Abdul is hoping there's a love match in her future.



Michael Vartan: A pink slip?

## FAST TAKES

Is *Alias* star **Michael Vartan** about to be out of a job? "I may not be back for season four," says the actor. "Some of the characters are not going to make it. I hope I'm not one of them." I'll bet **Jennifer Garner** hopes so too. . . . Speaking of Vartan's *Alias* costar, in her comedy *13 Going on 30*, Jennifer Garner's character works at a fashion magazine called *Poise*. "It was originally called *Sizzle*," director **Gary Winick** told me. "Until we found out it's the name of a porn magazine." . . . Reality-show king **Mark Burnett** has been touched by an angel: A rep for **Roma Downey** confirms that the Irish actress is dating the creator of *Survivor* and *The Apprentice*. Both are divorced. . . . **Kirsten Dunst** and **Jake Gyllenhaal** brought their dog Atticus, a German shepherd mix, to the Silver Spoon Dog and Baby Buffet, an event held for fun at the Fairbanks estate in Beverly Hills on April 17, so Atticus could avail himself of a doggie massage and a new bed.

Aniston throws her closest *Friend* a baby shower.

**A CRADLE THAT ROCKS** So far Monica hasn't had a baby shower on *Friends*, but **Jennifer Aniston** threw one for **Courteney Cox** April 17 at her Beverly Hills home. Designer Michael Stars sent over a basket of T-shirts for the actress, who's due in July, while all 50 guests, including **Lisa Kudrow** and **Megan Mullally**, received sheer tank tops. From poshtots.com, an online baby boutique, Cox received an Egyptian-cotton baby blanket, a sterling silver rattle and the Dynasty cradle, an ornate iron-gold bed with custom Dupioni silk linens that retails for \$1,600. "Courteney absolutely loved it," says a source. "Although when it was brought in, she thought it was a decoration for the shower!"