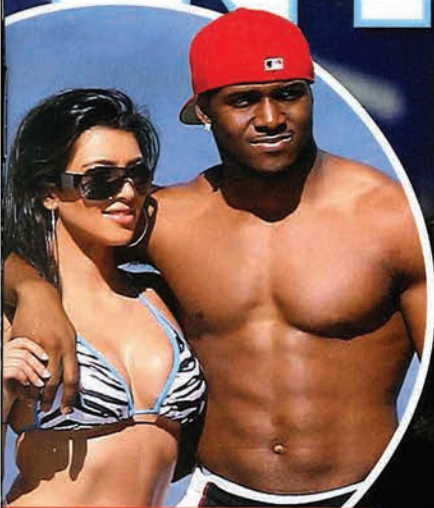


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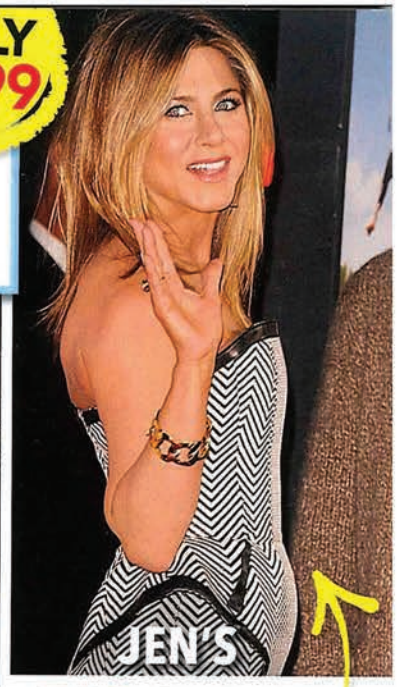
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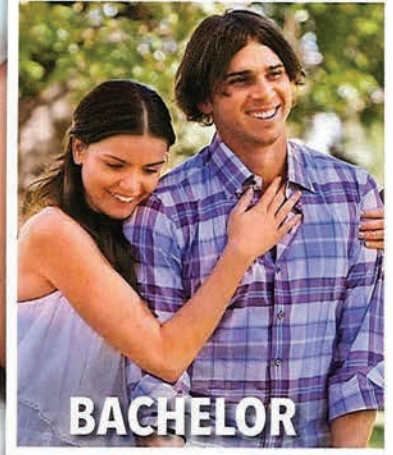
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Meatballs

makin' meatballs

Jersey Shore's **Snooki** and **Deena** had a ball cooking their favorite meal for *In Touch*. Mangia!

PHOTOGRAPHED FOR *IN TOUCH* BY ANDREW COPPAVIS VITAE



When Jersey Shore's Snooki and Deena

Polizzi and Deena Cortese were first labeled "meatballs" by their ex-nupte Komtze Ortiz-Margio, it wasn't exactly a compliment. "We were fighting, and he said, 'You guys look like meatballs,'" recalled the diminutive duo at an exclusive photo shoot with *In Touch* at The Meatball Shop in Brooklyn, N.Y. "We decided to turn it around and make it positive. Now girls with curves *want* to be called "meatballs!"

Not surprisingly, the renowned restaurant was the perfect setting for the party partners, who spiced up their cooking lesson from co-owners Daniel Holzman and Michael Chenoweth with their sassy sense of humor. "It feels like an old lady breast," said Snooki, 24, smashing (in the original sense of the word) the raw meat. "It's in my fingernails; I'll save some for later!" Joked Deena, 25. And they soon proved they *could* stand the heat in the kitchen. "I used to cook with my mom and grandma," bragged Snooki. After their work was done, they sat for a well-earned meal. As Deena rightly put it, "Who doesn't love meatballs?"

TUNE IN! Jersey Shore, Thursdays at 10 p.m. ET on MTV

