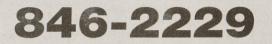
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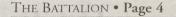
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True tale of terrible directorVict makes great film in 'Ed Wool Continu

By Timm Doolen SPECIAL TO THE BATTALION

"Ed Wood" Starring Johnny Depp and Martin Landau Directed by Tim Burton Rated R Playing at Hollywood 16 **** 1/2 (out of five)

Make a movie about the behind-the-scenes of the worst films ever made and what do you get? "Ed Wood," one of the best pictures of the year.

This movie covers the first four years of writer/producer/director Ed Wood's movie making career - starting with the writing of "Glen or Glenda" and ending with the premiere of "Plan 9 From Outer Space." "Plan 9" is considered by many the worst movie ever because of its not-sospecial special effects (painted paper plates serve as spaceships), and inane dialogue:

"There's been a murder here and someone is responsible," "Future events will affect you in the future.

In these four years, Ed Wood (played by Johnny Depp) managed to attract an entourage of

loyal friends and unabashed weirdos. Among his friends: Bunny Breckenridge (played by Bill Murray), a rich transvestite and showman, and of course, Bela Lugosi (played by Martin Landau), the acclaimed actor of such horror classics as "Dracula" and "White Zombie."

Actually this movie could have been titled "Ed and Bela." Most of the movie concerns the relationship that developed between the filmmaker and the fading, aging movie star in Lugosi's final few years of life.

Together, Wood and Lugosi were able to propel each other's careers. Wood was trying to break into movies and his only way in was getting a star name for a movie. At the same time, Lugosi literally couldn't get a job to save his life and Wood was one of the few people who would give him a chance and a means of support. Although on paper this

sounds like a recipe for a really depressing film, "Ed Wood" abounds with humor. The recreations of three of his most famous films (the two mentioned above and "Bride of the Monster"), are a riot. Wood directs a scene and the actors knock over

some fake graves, or an clumsily bumps into ad ing a take. "Cut! Perfer shouts. No second takes. time, no money.

Wood made his movie matter of days and only that were less than ash If he needed a spaceshi a hubcap or a paper pla Fedi string. If he needed and for a horror movie, hes from Republic studios.

Unfortunately, like lowdy cal or biographical film awar Ed Wood's life is left ou dau densed. His alcoholism alking mentioned, and the mon before it gets to his year pornographic movies and

a taxi to make a living. omen Unfortunately, his pa e defe movies never turned or "The nancially successful, ar Lugosi, Wood died a poor If." sh But maybe concentry Betty Wood's vibrant years was best. Wood has such ch

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From left Bill Murray, Sarah Jessica Parker and Johnny Depp star in "Ed Wood," a new film from Tim



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