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Friday, September 17, 2004

THE BATTALITHE B.

AGGIELI NEWS

"Garage Days" DVD Starring Kick Gurry Fox Searchlight



It's fitting that a movie about a would-be rock band would have all the depth and profundity of a music video. "Garage Days" is a pretty film to look at, featuring a kaleidoscope of visual effects and unusual editing techniques, but the plot lacks the substance it needs to elevate itself beyond the cute flick it becomes. It may be a shallow film with more emphasis on visuals than story, but it is for that exact reason it becomes highly entertaining and thus, like most music videos, highly re-watchable.

Freddy (Kick Gurry) has dreams of grandeur for his band. He fantasizes of the day that his band will make it big and play to sold-out crowds of screaming girls all craving his body. The problem is, the band lives in a Sydney suburb with virtually no way to get discovered, a problem magnified by the manager's ineptitude. Desperate for a gig, a chance encounter brings Freddy and his band a little closer to his dream when he meets the manager of Australia's most popular band.

On the verge of a possible breakout for the band, Freddy must struggle to prevent his band from breaking up due to internal conflict. Infidelity and midnight kisses lead to a battle of bed mates as emotions clash and relationships are

Perhaps the most shocking thing about the film is its director. Alexander Proyas has left behind the dark and brooding Gothic style of previous films "The Crow" and "Dark City" to bring to life the most vibrant and colorful film of his career. There are more colors in the first five minutes of "Garage Days" than in both of his previous works combined.

Proyas has shown a real knack for creating memorable images that, once inserted into your mind, do not leave.

'Garage Days" is filled with many similar images, in fact, that with each subsequent viewing, more will be discovered. From a bizarre and wickedly funny drug trip scene featuring

a pair of snake-headed parents dancing late Rick James' "Superfreak," to a des plea from a baby substitute melon, the file tains amazing visuals that, when combine a great mix of pop hits, will be sure to nate with an MTV generation. The use of ferent film speeds, unusual angles and b neck-speed jump cut editing all work tog to craft a fast-paced experience that will k

The actors are all easily likeable, but u tunately, their characters never evolve a an inoffensive cliché. There's the tough bass player, the perpetually high wild and groupie lead guitarist, and a stumbling, bling mess of a manager.

Despite the characters' predictability, chemistry and charisma of the cast make hard to do anything but enjoy watching jab and verbally stab each other while gling to move beyond the emotional dram stolen lovers and infidelity. (Plus, it's a fun to watch a film featuring a cast with

The DVD features a slapped-together en ble of extras that won't offer too much in to the casual fan. There is a running com tary by Proyas, a collection of deleted s that offer no question as to why they wer a "backstage pass" that is basically a we ited piece of promotional fluff, a collection interviews from the cast and crew that off real insight beyond the usual self-congr a never-ending montage of outtakes feature collection of minor goofs that cause the a to crack up.

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he Office of Honors Programs and Academic Scholarships proudly recognizes the following students who graduated with its honors distinctions during ceremonies held in May and August of this year.

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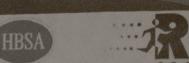


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