## Patti dull, not daring

Patti Rocks
Filmdallas pictures
Coming soon to Cineplex Odeon theatres

review by Elaine Ostro

att Rocks is a film that will not only offend you but bore you, and that's a pretty serious effect for a movie that describes itself in its press kit as "daring" and "controversial."

'Garing' and 'Controversial.'
The main character is about 37 years old and is still called Billy. Billy is an immature brat who connot see a woman as anything other than a way to get an orgasm. He is on his way to tell Patti, the girl whom he just got pregnant, that he is married and has two children. He wants to convince her to get an aboution.

abortion.

Billy is too much of a coward to do this all by himself, so he cajoles his friend Eddy to join him. Friend Eddy does, and most of the movie consists of their conversation during a long—too long—drive to see Patti.

Both of these characters are detestable, and their conversation so dirensive to women that it's hard to even listen. Every part of the female anatomy is discussed in vulgar detail — every part, that is, except the brain.

Oh ves. and during this long car ride, the

Oh yes, and during this long car ride, the audience is expected to laugh at drunk

Griving.

They finally reach Patti's place, and to the audience's surprise, she seems to be intelligent. Billy still can't bring himself to tell her, so Eddy has to do it for him. Eddy and Patti have a "deep" conversation, and before you know it, they're making love.

Billy walks in and screams, "saw her first!"
Patti stops their fighting and states that she's
her own woman and can sleep with whomever she wants. Oh yes, and she's going to
keep the baby too. To Billy's delight, she
claims to never ask him for child support.

All this, and yet I was bored.

First of all, the acting. Chris Mulkey was adequate in his portrayal of Billy, yet the tone

of his character was confusing. I got the feeling that the audience was supposed to like him, but this was impossible. When Billy makes a choking sound that is supposed to pass for crying, who could feel sorry for him? It's also hard to believe that such an unattractive person — both in body and beliefs—could seduce anyone. His character was not treated with an ironic tone that would have made the theme of the movie, that he led an empty life, come alive.

Fifty seems to, be a more intelligent.

Eddy seems to be a more intelligent person, so why does he hang around Billy? Why does he do everything Billy says? Eddy is obviously intended to be the profound one of the bunch, and he attempts at eloquence. of the bunch, and he attempts at eloquence. But John Jenkins is such an expressionless actor that Eddy seems to be a walking cadaver rather than a person. It's hard to believe that he can make love at all. Sure he's a tragic character, trying to get over his divorce, but who cares?

Finally, Patti, who is played by Karen Landry. It's not Landry's acting which mars the performance, it's the script which is inadequate. One is left with many questions. If she's so intelligent, why is she sleeping with these creeps? Why would she, a single woman, want a child by Billy? Surely carrying his child would reel like having a turmour. It seems that no one, including Patti, is thinking of the baby, But considering the repulsive characters, this isn't surprising.

The direction doesn't make the film

The direction doesn't make the film interesting. The conversations between Billy and Eddy are made even more boring than they are by being shot in a series of close-ups. It's like watching a tennis match. The directing is unimaginative, monotonous. It's a long drive to Patti's place.

a long drive to Patti's place.
It certainly is possible to make a good film
about people like this. An example is The
Decline of the American Empire. But Decline
had irony, wit, subtlety, and interesting
characters whom the audience could care
for and like. Patti Rocks has none of these



## Music FM's AM style falls flat

review by Mike Spindloe
has been around in one form or another since the mid-1920's, when they as a progressive band with a pop bent and technological prowess via a self-titled debut effort recorded in state of the art direct-to-disc, and the classic Black Noise LP.

Of the original group only Cameron Haw-kins remains, although Nash the Slash, present here, was a member of the band for Black Noise, replacing Bink Mink, who subse-quently returned, then left again, and of late has been seen fiddling about as a member of k.d. lang's Reclines.

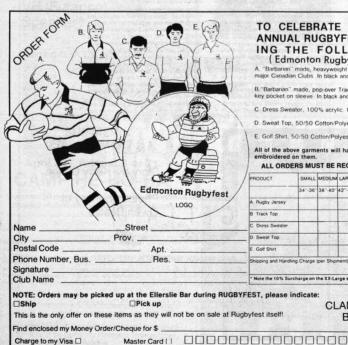
k.d. lang's Reclines.
Tonight is FM's sixth album then, and on it
they continue with the same AM radiofriendly style that they began to develop on
"Contest" is 1985. And while there are some
potent hooks powering these dities along,
the whole thing falls flat on its face when you
get to the lyrics, which are, for reasons
unknown to me, printed on the innersleeve

For some reason, the lyrics aren't specifically credited to anyone, but for awkward stanzas like "but there's no delusion/to know stanzas like "but there's no delusion/to know love from illusion/just take one look/and you can be sure." who would want the credit anyway? Forgive me for sounding terribly unromantic, but aren't mere looks the stuff that delusions are made of? On the other hand, delusions can be fun, but the main one that the FM songwriting team seems to be working under is that this kind of stuff can pass for respectable lyrics. Or maybe they do these days?

The melodies go a certain distance towards The melodies go a certain distance towards remedying this textual malaise, but probably not far enough, although you can count on hearing "Magic (In Your Eyes)," the source of the above quote, "Dream Girl," and possibly "Good Vibrations". FN's entry in the remake as chart fodder sweepstakes on the radio immediately if not sooner.

Immediately if not sooner.

I sincerely hate to keep having to say things like this, but if you would like to hear FM playing up to their real potential, you'd be best advised to track down a copy of Back Noise and let this one find its inevitable eventual home in the delete bins.



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