

The  
H & E  
Review

## What a Girl Wants is Colin Firth in leather pants

The  
H & E  
Review

JULIE  
HOLLEMAN &  
ELIZABETH  
EVANS  
Movie Critics

Sixteen-year-old Daphne Reynolds is a typical teenager with a loving mother, but she always dreams about her father. Every birthday she wishes her father would come and find her; all she ever wanted growing up was to know him.

*What a Girl Wants* is the touching story of a girl who sets off alone, traveling to an unknown country in search of a man who never even knew he had a daughter. Daphne (Amanda Bynes, *Big Fat Liar*) soon finds out she does not quite

fit into the aristocratic English society in which her father lives. Her father, Henry Dashwood (Colin Firth, *Bridget Jones' Diary*), is a politician running for re-election and is torn between his proper lifestyle and his newfound daughter's wild behavior.

Daphne is forced into behaving properly after many mishaps, and is constantly expected to fail by her future stepmother and stepsister, who plot against her. Along with meeting a handsome "prince," going to fancy balls, wearing beautiful gowns, and even meeting the queen, *What a Girl Wants* is reminiscent of *Cinderella* and *The Princess Diaries*.

Although Bynes may be best known for her television roles on Nickelodeon and in some WB shows, her performance in this film is above average compared to other teenage actresses. Her character is cute, but has no real depth, owing to the fact that the film has been marketed towards "teenyboppers." Bynes' acting is touching, and she gets audiences rooting for her to find a place in her father's heart.

Firth is perfect for aristocratic roles, and this character is no different. He fits the role of Henry well because of his exceptional acting talents that let him be flabbergasted, excited and handsome all at the

same time. However, this role lets him expand his talent by having him ride a motorcycle and dance in leather pants. Firth's input in this film raises it from a typical, dry chick-flick to an entertaining, funny movie.

Before seeing *What a Girl Wants*, the trailers and posters make the film seem like a corny teen-oriented movie. After its release, the film received several not-so-good reviews. However, we disagree with most who say the film is unoriginal and lacks good acting. Although Bynes is young, she fits her role, and Firth will always be one of our favorites. What the movie lacks in good writing, it

gains in humor.

If you are thinking about seeing *What a Girl Wants*, don't expect a riveting plot with mind-blowing scenes, and don't drag along a boyfriend who only loves action flicks. We recommend the film for a fun Saturday afternoon (matinee film) with friends who just want to relax and laugh a little.

### Our Ratings:

**H:\*\* because of Colin Firth's hilarious dance scene in front of the mirror**

**E:\*\* because it was a cute family movie that was better than I thought possible**

## Faceless a great new album for lovers of Godsmack and hard rock

KASEY  
OVERTON  
Music Reporter

Godsmack isn't just another solid hard rock band from Boston. This foursome has proven time and time again that they know how to put together an awesome head-banging album. With the release of *Faceless*, Godsmack is getting even more attention from the new-metal world.

Their success doesn't come from lead singer Sully Erna's good looks or their resemblance in sound to Alice in Chains. Godsmack is more hard and tough on its third album. *Faceless* has more melody in the vocals and the music than the group's previous albums. And it has something I always enjoy: amazing guitar solos by Tony Rombola.

The first track, "Straight Out of Line," is getting far more airplay on the radio

and TV than the guys from Godsmack expected. And just like all the other songs on *Faceless*, "Straight Out of Line" provides hateful yet understanding lyrics. It is just as simple as saying, "I'll confess this: you're my tragedy." The members of Godsmack are straightforward in their lyrics, but that is the best thing about them. You can interpret their lyrics however you want to make the song more personal to you.

Other tracks, like "Make Me Believe" and "Realign," are some of the best hard rock sounds on the album. Erna growls out the lyrics with dark passion.

Each song on this album has something new about it. Perhaps that can be attributed to new drummer Shannon Larkin. Larkin tears up the beats and adds something more to *Faceless*.

But not all the songs are

ear-splitting heavy guitar riffs. "The Awakening" is an instrumental piece that traces the roots of tribal drumming. And the last track, "Serenity," is possibly the most "sincere" song on *Faceless*. However, "Serenity" does sound a lot like their hit "Voodoo," but with different lyrics, like, "It's serenity/In a place where I can hide/I need serenity/Nothing changes, days go by." Godsmack just might be thoughtful on these lyrics.

If you are a fan of Godsmack, you will be impressed with this release. It is a serious, solid combination of heavy guitars, vocals and lyrics. But if you want to catch them live this time around, you're going to have to go all the way to Jacksonville, Fla., on April 29 for the closest show. And believe me, this is not a show you want to miss if you love hard rock.

## Community Calendar

The N.C. Museum of Art will host "Kite-Flying Capers," a family festival, on April 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Museum Park. Admission is free, and the first 500 participants will receive a free sled kite. The Museum will also host Military Appreciation day on April 26. Free admission to *Augustus Saint-Gaudens: American Sculptor of the Gilded Age* will be offered to all families with a military ID.

The Carolina Ballet is performing *Messiah* through April 20 at the BTI Center's Fletcher Opera Theater. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster or the ballet box office.

Def Leppard will perform Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the RBC Center. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.



The  
Choice is Yours:  
Choose Wisely



April 22-23  
Cate Center Lobby  
9am-5pm



Come and experience how alcohol affects your life and those around you! For more information: Contact The Office of Commuter Life and Special Services.

