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Chasing the Green (DVD)

APPROX. 102 MINS. - PROD. YEAR: 2009 - MPA RATING: NR

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" ...golf is like life: a game that needs lots of practice, trial and error should you desire perfection or success.

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In the end, Ross and Adam settle with the Commission and go their separate ways, forever chasing the success they had in their recent past. Adam winds up with Lynn and seems happy, while Ross drives off in a shiny silver sports car and seems happy. To each his own, I suppose. They finish where they began, and I did just the same, wondering why I sort of liked and enjoyed this movie even though I couldn't put my finger on why.

Video:

The 1.33:1 video transfer is pretty decent. Colors are very vibrant, and even though a good chunk of this film takes place in basically three different settings (offices, golf courses and bars), you get a unique sense of realism from the picture. Things are crisp and vivid for a small studio film, which suggests great attention to detail, high quality video equipment, or a bit of both. The natural lighting helps a great deal in this film, and its emphasis on real sunlight and outdoor settings was beneficial to the picture's overall look.

Audio:

The Dolby Digital Stereo soundtrack is adequate for the film. Nothing extreme such as pounding music or explosions need be highlighted, just spoken words, ringing phones and golf clubs contacting golf balls. Some of the characters have naturally louder voice tones than others, meaning they are heard clearer than others. No subtitles are included, and no other language soundtracks are offered either. Conversations are audible enough, though there are a few moments where you might strain just a bit to understand a word or two. The music fits into the scenes

appropriately, and even though most of it is catchy, there was a point where I had heard enough.

Extras:

A pretty cookie cutter set of offerings comes with "Chasing the Green." The disc provides an audio commentary with actors and director Russ Emanuel, the theatrical trailer, a still gallery, short behind the scenes feature, video clips from the film's opening and closing nights (they were basically a week apart) and an essay by director Emanuel explaining his inspirations and passions behind the product. For a smaller market film, it is a decent selection, and the fact that the movie itself didn't make me hungry for more about its journey from production to completion makes this offering just fine. I don't think these extras provide any real revelations, but if you enjoy the film, you'll probably enjoy the extras.

A Final Word:

"Chasing the Green" isn't a spectacular cinematic achievement, but it is pretty good start for a small studio and young cast and crew. The characters are likeable enough, but not to the point that you feel horrible or sorry for their predicament when all is said and done. At one point, it seems to send the message that if you don't invest in your education and upbringing, yet maintain your focus on a goal, dream or aspiration, you can still get to a point where you're rich and successful. Even though I don't really agree with this approach to life, it's always fun to see someone battle and fight, taste success, struggle through some turbulence and then come out stronger in the end. Maybe we all could learn a thing or two.

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Video

5

Audio

5

Extras

5

Film value

6

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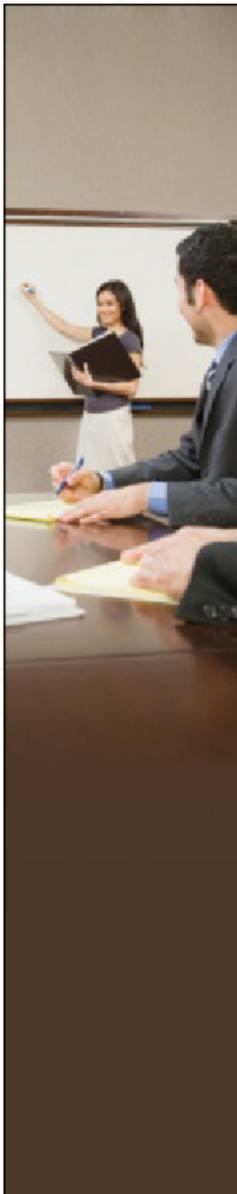
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