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WORLDFFEST 2006

Doing their best with *You Did What?*

Over-familiar romantic comedy manages to shine

By **LOUIS B. PARKS**

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For two years, 35-year-old Charlie has managed to avoid discussing marriage with Ashley, his girlfriend. But when his weirdo loser brother gets engaged to a giggly former porn queen he's known only one day, Ashley decides it's time Charlie makes a commitment.

Charlie proves a tough nut to crack, but finally Ashley manipulates him into a live-in arrangement. Now the pressure is really on because Ashley's drill-sergeant dad lets Charlie know he expects marriage and lots of babies.

Can Charlie, who thinks mainly about hockey and the bar he's about to open, deal with stuffed animals on his bed and a giant, full Mass Catholic wedding? What do you think?

You Did What? is tried-and-true material (a nice way to say over-familiar) but with a likable approach. A fast pace makes it lightly amusing, and there are a couple of good laugh out loud moments. TV veteran Kathy Wagner is nicely desperate as the frustrated would-be bride, and as Charlie, Edward Kerr (*SeaQuest*, *What I Like About You*) is especially appealing. A few of the support performances are so-so. Madison Mason plays it large as Ashley's militant dad.

Romantic comedy is one of the toughest fields for indie films — especially without big-name stars that the audience already likes. Jeff Morris takes a respectable shot that should at least satisfy fans of the genre.

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RESOURCES

You Did What?

- **Director and screenwriter:** Jeff Morris
- **Cast:** Ed Kerr, Kathy Wagner, A.J. Buckley, Kelly Overton.
- **Romantic comedy:** 82 mins. Brief language.
- **When:** 7:15 p.m. April 29

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