

MUSIC

Ben Folds returns to the suburbs

By STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
After seven years with Ben Folds Five, the pianist left his namesake band in pursuit of a solo career.

cast of characters - they look like you're friends, neighbors and family. From the hilarious title track that laments a "white boy's pain" to songs about saying goodbye to a lifelong career (Fred Fingers part II), being stood up (Annie Weiler), the impending death of rock and birth of electronic (Zak and Sara) and even the chronicles of a hippie growing up (The Ascent of Stan), this is pure Folds - setting the scenes of suburban America as you know it.

when I was 9. I lay awake all night thinking 'I could do this and I could play that.' When I sat down to play, I couldn't do any of it."
Years later, he's known for taking a brny grand piano on the road with him. Not much has changed since the break up last year with fellow Fivers Darren Jessee and Robert Slivers, he said. "Nothing against the guys, but it's a nice change of pace. The guys in the band are all really positive right now."

he's really good," said Folds of the collaboration. "I think he's kind of a perfectionist. I always thought I was."
Grosse wasn't the only one interested in working with Folds. Weird Al Yankovic stepped on to direct the video for the title track, Rockin' The Suburbs. "He's the least weird person I've ever met in the music business," said Folds who counts Weird Al videos like Fat and Amish Paradise among his favorites. "He is just a very straight up, nice guy."



Ben Folds

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

Table listing movie listings for various theaters including National Amusements, Showcase, Star Theatres, and others. Columns include theater name, showtimes, and movie titles.

MOVIES

'Joy Ride' exploding in theaters now

By SHARON DARGAY
White knuckle terror. Edge of your seat suspense.
Don't believe those trailers for Joy Ride, which opens Friday.

The cat-and-mouse game ends in a chilling finale of explosions, squealing brakes, gun shots and more.
Lewis, a college freshman, is heading home for summer vacation with plans to pick up his friend, Venna, (Leelee Sobieski) and win her heart along the way.

he'll do anything to get it.
As in Duel, the 1971 Steven Spielberg-directed thriller about a truck intent on mowing down a hapless motorist, Joy Ride's Godzillazilla-sized big rig takes on a life of its own. Rusty Nail is a disembodied voice - more maniac than Duel's unseen driver that threatens violence along isolated roads and cornfield. Even truck stops and restaurants offer little refuge along the way. Rusty Nail always seems to find and frighten the bug-eyed travelers.

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