

reel reviews

Sky Bandits

Royal Park

Approximately 200 major motion pictures with budgets of \$18 million or more are made every year. About 130 of those movies feature established stars, such as Paul Newman or Meryl Streep. Another 60 headline up-and-coming actors (eg. Jeff Daniels) who are just about to break into the big time. At best, 10 movies a year star virtual unknowns — actors we've never heard of and probably never will again.

It all boils down to this: A couple million hungry, extremely talented actors are scrambling

around in New York and Los Angeles, trying to break into the movies. Ninety percent of them are unemployed at all times, and most of the ones who do have a job were simply lucky enough to get a spot on a commercial.

The chances of any one individual actually appearing in a movie — any movie — aren't that good. And your chances of *starring* in a major film? Well, you might as well play the lottery.

I'm telling you this to try to explain why Scott McGinnis and Jeff Osterhage agreed to star in *Sky Bandits*, a pseudo-comedy about two guys who get bam-

boozled into joining a suicide squad of pilots during World War I.

Every aspect of this movie is so inept that you can't help feeling sorry for Scott and Jeff. Struggling actors simply can't afford to turn down a job, much less a starring role in a major motion picture.

Even Lawrence Olivier would look bad in this mess of a movie. And who knows? They actually may be a talented couple of guys. But you'd never know that from watching *Sky Bandits*.

by Michael Giltz