

I ROCK

STARTS MONDAY MAY 3RD AT 9.00PM ON ABC2



This eight-part, half-hour dramatic comedy series charts the path of struggling indie rock outfit, Boy Crazy Stacey, a band trying to take over the world...one disaster at a time.

Featuring guest appearances by Tim Rogers, Scott Dooley, Laura Imbruglia, Maz Compton, Rob Carlton, The Lovetones, Cassette Kids and Snob Scilla.

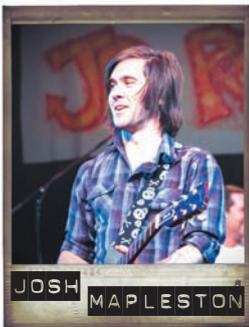
www.abc.net.au/tv/irock

I ROCK



This eight-part, half-hour dramatic comedy series charts the path of struggling indie rock outfit, *Boy Crazy Stacey*, a band trying to take over the world...one disaster at a time.

THE CAST



NASH TAYLOR.
The Frontman

The lead singer of Boy Crazy Stacey is an engaging mix of swagger and arrogance trying to hide his inner nerd as he attempts to claw his way to the top of the rock 'n' roll heap.



JASPER TAYLOR.
Nash's Baby Brother.
Band Manager.

He's popular, relentlessly cheery and has a well-paid corporate job. All good reasons for Nash to hate him.



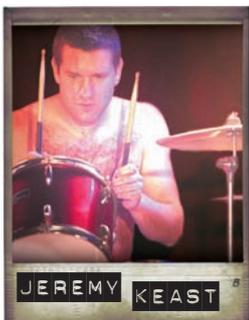
COMET.
Bass-Player. Enigma.

This mischievous, bewitching creature is a disarming mix of street-smarts and innocence. And she's about to turn Nash's world upside down.



VAL DRACAR.
Brilliant Axeman.
Complete Poseur.

Fancying himself a renaissance man, he's musician, visual artist, sexual deviant. Having collaborated with Nash for several years, theirs is a troubled collision of egos.



LUKE MILLER.
Drummer. Pisshead.

A laid-back, couch-surfing party animal, this guy will consume just about anything for the sake of a good time. But does Nash's best mate really believe in the band?



JANE HUMPHRIES.
Rock Blogger.
Nash's Ex.

If they're worth knowing, this intelligent, well-connected rock aficionado knows them. Her achilles' heel? Her penchant for hedonistic rock boys.



CARA KILLJOY.
Singer. Local Legend.

Brash, opinionated and in-your-face, Cara regularly tears it up with her all-girl electro-pop outfit The Little Ponies. This is one woman you don't want to cross. Of course, this won't stop Nash.

PRODUCTION COMPANY: Mum's Spaghetti & ABC TV
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Miranda Dear
& Amanda Higgs
PRODUCERS: David Fedirchuk & Rob Macdonald
DIRECTOR: Rob Macdonald
WRITTEN BY: Josh Mapleston in association with
David Fedirchuk & Rob Macdonald

I ROCK

SERIES OVERVIEW [8 X 30"]

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**Never were truer words uttered than when Bon Scott screamed
"It's a long way to the top if you wanna rock 'n' roll..."**

For the huge majority who try to make rock music for a living, that living is a struggle. Near poverty, dead-end jobs on the side and half-empty venues are the norm as they battle for a success achieved by so few of them as to be almost negligible.

What keeps them plugging away day after day isn't just the whiff of the prize, but the lifestyle, the feeling of belonging and self-worth that comes from being part of a community of cool. Fellow musicians, industry hipsters, groupies with a variety of deep-seated parental issues – these are the people who provide the sex, the drugs, the comfort after a shit gig. And

they're the same people you leave behind in a second when fame and fortune arrive on the doorstep of your filthy share house and try to ring the broken door bell.

Nash Taylor is a proud member of this community. As the lead singer of snarling post-punk outfit Boy Crazy Stacey, he's successfully reached a number of necessary rock milestones: cutting an EP, ditching his long-term girlfriend and finally deciding on a hairstyle.

He's also acquired his fair share of problems. Apart from his massive ego and deep-seated insecurities, his relentlessly

cheery little brother (and band manager) is a permanent thorn in his side, his drunken drummer has serious commitment issues and his jealous ex-girlfriend still lives in his share house.

Most of all though, Nash is sick of playing support to the next big thing. It's time to get serious, which means playing that major festival, shooting that inspired film clip, flirting with some hip label wankers and sending Boy Crazy Stacey into the rock stratosphere.

Assuming he can sort out his band issues, only one thing stands in the way of his grand scheme – Nash Taylor is about to fall in love.



BOY CRAZY STACEY

I ROCK

EPISODE 1: MONDAY MAY 3RD AT 9.00PM ON ABC2

"Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band"

GUEST STAR:
Tim Rogers

When Nash develops a big crush on super-cute bass player, Comet, he asks her to join his band. Problem is, he's already got a bass player – his little brother Jasper.

For Boy Crazy Stacey (BCS) it's a support gig like any other at the Annandale Hotel on a Friday night. That is, until lead singer Nash gets a look at the new bass player for the other support band, The Little Ponies.

Her name's Comet, and Nash develops an instant crush. Needing an excuse to spend time with her, he invites her to join his band but neglects to tell the current bass player – his younger brother Jasper – the bad news that he's fired.

Meanwhile, Nash's ex, Jane – spurned by him during the night – writes a less than flattering review of the gig on her music blog: premenstrualasanything.com.

Compounding Nash's angst, his lead guitarist, Val, sleeps with Jane – a move Nash sees as close to mutiny. There are bigger fish to fry, however, with the launch of Boy Crazy Stacey's new EP coming up. When Nash's drummer and best mate Luke finds out Nash has ejected Jasper from the band for a girl, he's incensed, demanding Jasper be told the truth.

Nash does eventually get around to telling his brother the devastating truth, at the worst possible time... the night of the big launch.



NASH COMET TIM

I ROCK

EPISODE 2: MONDAY MAY 10TH AT 9.00PM ON ABC2
"The Clash"

GUEST STARS:
Laura Imbruglia, Scott Dooley

Nash enters Boy Crazy Stacey in a local band competition, with a spot at the Splendour in the Grass festival up for grabs, only to find his ex-girlfriend and ex-guitarist are his rivals.

Nash enters Boy Crazy Stacey (BCS) in a local band competition, with a gig at the Splendour in the Grass festival up for grabs. Also entered are The Little Ponies and Val and Jane, who have decided to form a folk duo, Akimbo.

Everyone is annoyed with Nash – BCS entered the comp unsuccessfully two years ago and he should really be giving the newer bands a chance. But with Val and Jane in a relationship and Comet falling for Cara, Nash isn't listening to anyone.

After Jane uses her contacts to get BCS disqualified for submitting an old song, Nash is forced to come up with a new track.

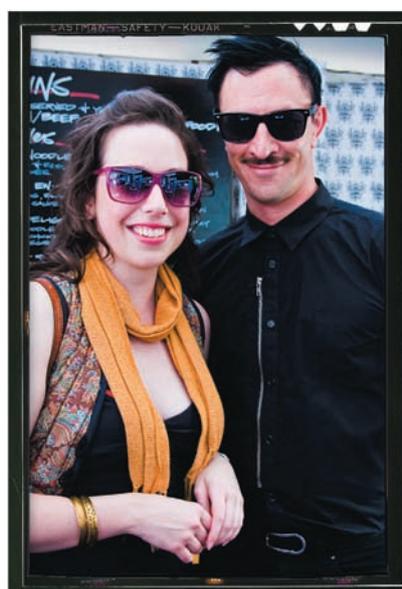
His severe case of writer's block is only cured when he drunkenly overhears Jasper playing a song, then rips it off, though he's convinced it's his own work.

Not wanting to humiliate his big brother, Jasper stays quiet about the theft.

When all three bands get through to the final performance round, Jasper is forced to admit that the new song was stolen not once but twice – he ripped it off a Laura Imbruglia track – and Laura's there as a judge!



NASH COMET



JANE VAL

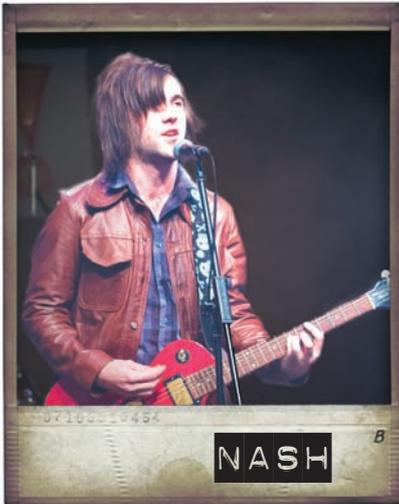


CARA COMET

I ROCK

THE PLAYERS

NASH TAYLOR



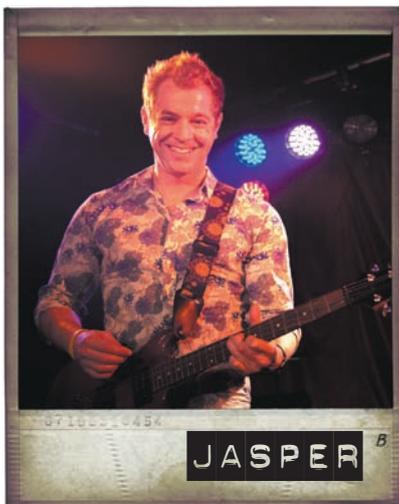
The lead singer of indie outfit Boy Crazy Stacey has huge ambitions and an ego to match, but needs some serious work on his people skills.

For years now he's worked hard at emulating his rock heroes – he learned the licks, developed a swagger and pulled on the ridiculously tight jeans. But for all his attempts to look like someone who just doesn't give a damn, he's self-conscious, anxious and a raging control freak. In short, he's a nerd with a cool haircut.

When things are going well, he can be funny and charming, but when things are going badly, which is often, he tends to lash out, especially at those closest to him, like his little brother Jasper.

For Nash, nothing is ever his fault, especially not the total obscurity that plagues his band. He's not sure what the problem is – is it his bandmates? The booking agents? The idiots at the radio stations? What he doesn't realise is that it's not really any of those things. Nash's biggest problem is himself.

JASPER TAYLOR



Straight-laced Jasper is in many ways the polar opposite of his older brother. He's popular, unfailingly generous and perhaps the nicest guy currently working in the insurance industry. He's also a keen student of Capoeira. As far as Nash is concerned, he couldn't be more uncool.

But there's no hiding the fact that Jasper's pay packet has come in very handy, particularly during the recording of Boy Crazy Stacey's first EP, 'Dressed to the Tens'. Not that Nash has shown anything resembling gratitude.

Given the constant criticism and abuse Jasper suffers, one could be forgiven for wondering why he sees Nash as a personal hero. The answer is simple: Jasper loves music. Which is why he somehow finds the time to play fill-in bass and manage the band as well. It's a tough job when you're being constantly trampled by bigger personalities. But the time is coming when for the good of the band, Jasper will finally have to stand up for himself.

COMET



In a community as small as the indie music scene, the arrival of this bewitching bombshell was always going to have a big impact. Her looks alone would be enough to get her invited to any after-party in the city, but she's charming too, able to poke fun at anything from her lack of musical talent to her troubled childhood. She seems very comfortable in her own skin for someone so young.

Only digging beneath the surface does a more complex character appear. For someone who passes herself off as worldly, who has seen it all, she has moments of breathtaking naivety. It's also hard to work out whether she's aware of her sexual power, which is more than a little formidable.

Nothing seems to get to her, to faze her. To the needy, emotionally erratic musicians she's starting to hang out with, this can be infuriating. The fact is, Comet is searching for something. And until she knows what that is, perhaps no-one else will get close enough to find out what really makes her tick.

I ROCK

THE PLAYERS

LUKE MILLER



An inveterate party animal, Luke's always the first one backstage to drink the rider, get naked, start the dancefloor, throw up, trash the place and somehow remain standing at the end of the night, leaving everyone in awe of his stamina. He lives by the code of work hard, play hard, except he never has a job.

He's completely immature and an unapologetic misogynist, but he's one of those guys who get away with it. Girls love him, but he couldn't think of anything worse than a serious relationship. He shirks anything remotely resembling responsibility.

He's been Nash's drummer and best mate for years. He usually finds Nash's neuroses hilarious but he's also the first one to pull him up for his regular acts of utter selfishness.

He loves being part of the scene, but he's never been ambitious, a trait that will surely clash with Nash's grand scheme to take the band to the very top.

JANE HUMPHRIES



A lover of rock 'n' roll from early on in life, Jane is now a well-known mover and shaker in the indie music scene thanks to her music/life/everything blog: premenstrualasanything.com.

She's liberal, forthright and highly sensitive to the plight of the underdog; she recently organised the extremely successful 'Sneakers for Asylum Seekers' benefit gig, which was a huge success. There's hardly a worthy cause in the city she hasn't campaigned for or at least had passionate discussions about over a beer. She's no hippy though, she has little time for new age nonsense and possesses a sense of style all her own.

With her weekly planner full to bursting, Jane needs a lot of energy to keep all her ducks in a row. The flipside of that energy is that she's highly strung and every now and again she needs a huge night out and maybe a little public meltdown to blow off some steam.

For all her independence, she also has a real Achilles' heel - a penchant for self-obsessed rock boys who usually aren't worthy of this striking, intelligent woman.

VAL DRACAR



Boy Crazy Stacey's lead guitarist is a stylish bohemian musician who's in love with the idea of being a stylish bohemian musician. And he plays the part with great conviction. Ice cool and unflappable, Val oozes self confidence from every pore.

He's also a very odd unit. He sees himself as a man living a life of the mind, one uncluttered by the drunken antics and mundane lefty concerns of his peers. When he's not quoting Wordsworth, he's instructing others on the joys of tantric sex. In fact, Val often seems like a guitar-wielding, jacket-wearing alien from outer space, even to his friends.

He and Nash have been collaborating for several years and it's a troubled collision of egos. What annoys Nash the most is that Val, classically trained in music, often acts as though he's slumming it in the band scene, as though one day he will leave it all behind for an illustrious solo career.

But for all his posturing, it's possible that Val needs the band as much as it needs him.

THE PLAYERS

CARA KILLJOY



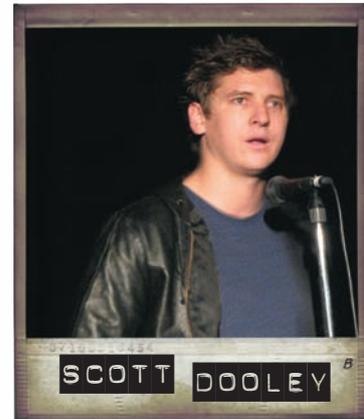
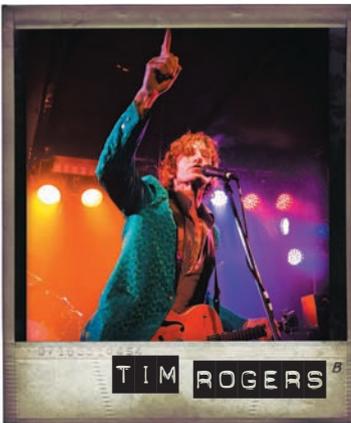
Crazy Cara Killjoy is a minor local legend. Loud, opinionated and in your face, she's a natural exhibitionist and performer, perfectly suited to the world of rock.

She likes being the centre of attention and tends to hold court in any group, captivating her audience with stories from her unpredictable life, embellishing wildly along the way. She's fiercely loyal to her friends but doesn't tolerate fools.

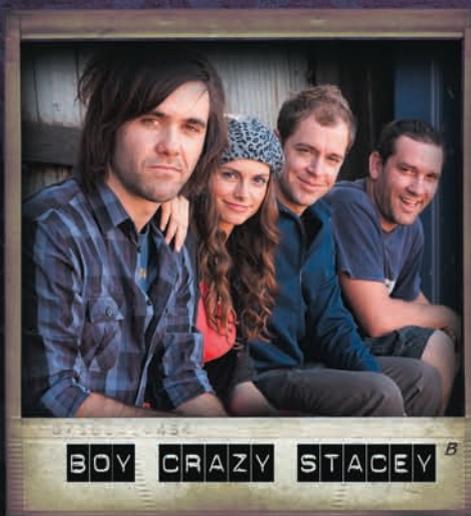
If you stay in her good books she'll stick by you but incur her wrath and you might want to leave town for a while.

All of this sounds intimidating and Cara can certainly be that, but underneath the tough, tattooed exterior is a warm, fun-loving girl with a strong sense of right and wrong.

GUEST APPEARANCES INCLUDE...



JOSH MAPLESTON [WRITER/ACTOR]



Since reaching the NSW finals of the National Air-Guitar championships a few years back, Josh has been working on his rock sneer and considering radical hip surgery to fit into tighter jeans.

He has also been working as a stand-up comic in less than salubrious venues since 2003. He went to the 2004 Melbourne Comedy Festival for the RAW National Finals and to Canberra for the 2005 Green Faces' Grand Final. He was also featured on the Sydney Underground Comedy DVD and was a state Air Guitar finalist!

His screenwriting resume features some genuine comedy and quite a few programs that fall more into the category of 'unintentionally funny'. In 2001 he received development funding from the PFTC for his first feature script, the probably-never-to-be-produced *Sledge*.

Since then he has researched the lives of cows for *McLeod's Daughters*, storylined for the university drama *Headland* and the kiwi serial *Shortland Street*, and written for *Home and Away*.

Josh wrote *I ROCK* and performs the lead role of Nash Taylor.

For more information and interviews please contact:

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Images available at www.abc.net.au/tvpublicity