

TV COMPILATION REVIEW

SPIN CITY: The Complete First Season

A review of the four disc set by

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The four disc DVD set of *SPIN CITY: The Complete First Season* will make a welcome addition to any home DVD library. Slide it in there next to *Friends* and *Angel* and you'll have enough fuel to keep any rainy day entertaining and gloom free.

SPIN CITY features a fantastic cast and the re-partnering of actor/executive producer Michael J. Fox and creator/executive producer Gary Goldberg. The FoxGoldberg relationship, originally formed on the set of *Family Ties* (NBC, 1982-1989), was instrumental in making *SPIN CITY* the show that fans (and critics) came to love.

This four disc first season set features the original twenty-four episodes, cast and crew commentaries and two interview-style featurettes, *Prime-Time Partners* and *THE SPIN*. You'll find commentaries scattered throughout each of the four discs along with episode voice-overs from alternating pairs of cast members.

Prime-Time Partners features the highlights from an interview with Michael J. Fox and Gary Goldberg at The Paley Center for Media and *THE SPIN* is a collection of interviews from the cast, creators and crew that truly offers a backstage pass to the creation and legacy of the show. *Prime-Time Partners* and *THE SPIN* are accessed on discs one and four respectively.

The cast commentaries are loose and fun and I especially enjoyed the mystery theater-esque comedy that Fox brought to this feature. The interview with Goldberg and Fox at The Paley Center was dry, tedious and painful to finish - but I blame the interviewer and a stiff audience. We can't all be James Lipton.

The only truly entertaining special features in this set are the out-takes and clip scenes (integrated and looped into each of the four discs main menus) and the featurette: *THE SPIN* on disc four.

SPIN CITY: The Complete First Season is a solid six on the 10 point scale for DVD special features but only because of Fox's inclusive manner and comedic warmth.

Without a doubt, Michael J. Fox is the soul of *SPIN CITY*. You won't purchase this DVD set for the special features, you'll buy it because you love the show and you love the feeling that Michael J. Fox leaves you with long after the credits have rolled.