

CINEMASCOPE by Dave Wood

With I Never Promised You A Rose Garden, we have another movie on life in mental institutions, but this time we are spared the relentlessly didactic stance usually a part of such films. Rose Garden, directed by Anthony Page, starring Kathleen Quinlan as Deborah Blake, a schizophrenic teenager, cuts some new ground, and it does have a number of fine points.

Kathleen Quinlan is superb as Deborah Blake in Rose Garden. Her acting is perfectly suited to this role -- she is sensitive enough to pick up every subtle facet of the role and harmonize it all into an impressive and believable whole. Other roles are played well here too, and the various inmates are portrayed as real people, not as stock characters or disgusting caricatures.

The movie's prime beauty lies in its innocence. Deborah's madness is presented sympathetically, and life in the asylum is seen as a mixture of good and bad, even though the mix-

ture of the two is more than a little lopsided. Only one staff member is really evil, and Deborah's psychologist is revealed as a woman of considerable depth and compassion, yet who knows just what her patients really need. Nothing is portrayed as entirely bad or entirely good here, for the main focus is on Deborah's psyche.

Through dream sequences and various background effects, we are given a view of the interior of Deborah's mind, and it is this facet of the film that makes it most memorable. The surrealistic dream sequences, which develop a sort of sub-plot which parallels the development of the main storyline, occur with just enough frequency to leave us with an emotional impression of the workings of Deborah's mind, rather than a comprehensive understanding of a clinical case of schizophrenia. We see what makes her act as she does, but we can only understand her through the surrealist impressions

flashed at us now and then; logic would not work in a case like this, nor would graphic depictions of the main character's fantasies. The images themselves are striking; Deborah's dream world is inhabited by strange, vaguely archetypal desert people, all males, whom she refers to as gods. In the various fantastic scenes involving them, we enter a whole new world -- a terrifying world, yet beautiful.

As a psychological profile of a troubled mind undergoing a process of change, Rose Garden is a good movie.

It does not push any special brand of social message in our faces, nor does it make any sweeping value judgments. Deborah changes on her own initiative, despite the fact that she was committed involuntarily. In this important respect it far surpasses One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, and it shows how gripping such a film can be when it chooses to avoid a documentary stance. Not a perfect movie (I wish it had focussed more exclusively on Deborah), but worth spending \$3.00 on, just for its insight and its fresh approach.

NORTON'S JEWELLERS LTD.

117 Kent Street, Charlottetown
Phone 894-3922

JEWELLERY, WATCHES,
CHINA, GIFTS, CHARMS,
REPAIRS, ENGRAVING

the newly renovated

Granada
Disco
nightly

no cover charge

Largest Disco dance
floor in town

Student night
each Wednesday

special
prices

from 8-10

Queen st



AAA-TEN-TION

The New Look
On Campus
is military

army shirts

Long sleeve style with epaulets, two breast pockets, flaps and buttons. Features novelty stripes and badges. Available in white, black, khaki and green.
Sizes: S-M-L.

\$20.00

army pants

Co-ordinating pants to match the shirts above feature four patch pockets with flaps and buttons. Straight leg style.
Sizes: 26-34.

\$20.00

Available in
Our Men's Wear
Department

Holman's
of P.E.I.
DOWNTOWN
SUMMERSIDE & CHARLOTTETOWN