

# New On Video & DVD

**The Departed** The Departed is set in South Boston, where the state police force is waging war on organized crime. Young undercover cop Billy Costigan (Leonardo DiCaprio) is assigned to infiltrate the mob syndicate run by gangland chief Costello (Jack Nicholson). While Billy is quickly gaining Costello's confidence, Colin Sullivan (Matt Damon), a hardened young criminal who has infiltrated the police department as an informer for the syndicate, is rising to a position of power in the Special Investigation Unit. Each man becomes deeply consumed by his double life, gathering information about the plans and counter-plans of the operations he has penetrated. But when it becomes clear to both the gangsters and the police that there's a mole in their midst, Billy and Colin are suddenly in danger of being caught and exposed to the enemy and each must race to uncover the identity of the other man in time to save himself. *Warner*

**A Good Year** Ridley Scott (Blade Runner, Gladiator) directs this romantic comedy based on the book of the same name by Peter Mayle. London banker Max Skinner (Russell Crowe) is a cutthroat workaholic who cares only about winning and making money. During his rise to the top, Max has forgotten the important life lessons that his favorite uncle, Henry (Albert Finney), taught him during summers at his vineyard in Provence. Estranged from Henry for years, Max is surprised to learn that his uncle has passed away and as his closest living relative, he is set to inherit the estate, La Siroque. True to form, Max tools down to Provence for a quick visit in order to assess the value of the property with dollar signs in his eyes. Once immersed in Henry's world and the charm of La Siroque, Max begins to remember his visits and how much Henry and those summers meant to him. Other surprises--including a budding romance with fetching local café owner Fanny Chenal (Marion Cotillard) and a visit from a young American claiming to be Henry's illegitimate daughter (Abbie Cornish)--prolong Max's visit, making Provence more and more difficult to resist. Can Max be content leaving his fast-paced life in London for lazy days in a French vineyard? Or will he sell his estate to the highest bidder, memories and all, and return to his hectic lifestyle? Crowe shows his softer-side--and even throws in some physical comedy--as a man revisiting his past and considering his future. Finney is a charmer as Henry in flashback scenes (where Freddie Highmore plays a young Max) that establish his character's joie de vivre and the tender relationship shared between uncle and nephew. Didier Bourdon is Francis Duflot, the tender of the vineyard, and Tom Hollander plays Charlie, Max's best friend. *Fox*

**Apartment Zero** The proprietor of a Buenos Aires revival-house cinema meets an American "free spirit," and before long, he has agreed to let the stranger board in his flat, which is decorated with pictures of movie stars. Although the theater owner obsequiously vies for the American's affections, he becomes aware that unexplained murders have been taking place in the city, and that his lodger may not be exactly what he seems. As their relationship develops, both men attempt to discover who the other one is, and what he is striving to attain. *Anchor Bay*

**Meltdown: Days of Destruction** An asteroid flies a little too close to the Earth and knocks it out of its orbit, leading to rising global temperatures. LAPD cop Tom Brackett (Casper Van Dien) recruits a team of scientists to try to prevent the planet's demise, but is there enough time left to save it from obliteration? *Meltdown: Days of Destruction* contains all the answers. *MTI*

**Going Shopping** Henry Jaglom's comic tribute to consumerism stars Victoria Foyt as Holly, a clothing designer who runs a successful boutique. But when her accountant boyfriend (Bruce Davison) embezzles her rent money, Holly has just three days to save her beloved business. Amid other personal pressures, the enterprising merchant will have to pull off the sale of the century in order to continue fueling her female clientele's obsession with shopping. *MTI*

**White Air** Set in the world of X-treme snowboarding "White Air" tells the story of Alex Crow, (Riley Smith), a once-promising snowboarder who has lost his edge. To make ends meet, he is working in Steve's local garage (Tom Sizemore) to help support his family. Though able to fly sky high, Alex's preoccupation with his family's problems have left him in a rut, estranged from his girlfriend Christie (Dominique Swain) and unable to land his jumps. After losing several local Half Pipe competitions to his nemesis Jason ('Brent le Macks'), Alex loses faith in himself and totters on the verge of abandoning his dreams to seek financial stability. Only close friend and trainer Pete ('Paul Logan') may have the answer for Alex to compete in one final, exciting pro-jam super pipe event. *Monarch*

**The Agony and the Ecstasy** Much of what appeared in Irving Stone's biographical novel of the life of Michelangelo was of the author's invention, but few will dispute that the artist painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, which is the subject of Carol Reed's film. Starring Charlton Heston as the irascible genius, it traces his life from the age of 13 to his death at 88 but deals mainly with the five years during which he painted the chapel. Pope Julius II (Rex Harrison) has commissioned the work in the hope that it will serve as an immortal symbol of his enlightened papacy. Yet both his money and remaining years are finite, and his constant haranguing of the artist to finish his painstaking work is the source of an ongoing war of words between them. When not struggling with the pope, Michelangelo battles with his physical limitations and recalcitrant materials in the quest for perfection. *Fox*

**Francis of Assisi** The stirring tale of the founder of the Franciscan order unfolds in this biopic of Francis of Assisi, the saint who rescinded all worldly goods in favor of living for the poor. Born into a wealthy Umbrian family, Francis spent his early years in revelry, and was set on a military career until he heard God's voice in a dream. The rest of his life was spent in the service of the Lord, ever simplifying his own possessions while proselytizing far and wide. His gentleness was legendary, extending even to the animals with which he came to be associated, through his compassion for all beings and his joy in nature. *Fox*

**Demetrius and the Gladiators** This sequel to *The Robe* finds freed Greek slave Demetrius forced into gladiatorial combat at the behest of emperor Caligula (Jay Robinson). The depraved Caligula covets Christ's hallowed robe -- now in Demetrius' hands -- and works in concert with the seductive Messalina (Susan Hayward) to manipulate Demetrius and gain possession of it. After falling victim to their machinations, Demetrius suffers a crisis of faith that will decide his destiny. *Fox*

**David and Bathsheba** brings to life what is possibly the most dramatic story in the Old Testament. Gregory Peck stars as King David, a devout servant of God who is having serious marital difficulties with his wife Michal. Recently returned home from the wars with the Ark of the Covenant in tow, David spies hottie Bathsheba (Susan Hayward) bathing on a nearby rooftop, and in no time at all the two lovebirds are tossing their togas to consume their passion. Of course, there are a couple small hitches--Bathsheba's husband for one, and the wrath of God. With a drought upon the land and King David's flock demanding that Bathsheba be stoned to death for her sins, dashing David must come up with some new psalms on the double to save the kingdom and his love. Special effects work on the Ark was innovative for the period and the costuming is excellent, making *David and Bathsheba* one of the better biblical films of the 1950s. *Fox*

**Percy Julian: Forgotten Genius** As a black scientist born near the turn of the 20th century, Percy Julian made strides in both science and society. This docudrama from NOVA features Tony winner Ruben Santiago-Hudson as the oft-overlooked chemist who held numerous patents. *Percy Julian - Forgotten Genius* centers on the man who struggled against racial prejudice to contribute his ideas to humanity. *Boston*

**Detonator Orgon** Tomoru Shindo is a recent college grad who, while trying to figure out what to do next, whiles away his time playing games on his Pysch-Sim. However, his peaceful life gets shaken up when aliens begin invading his dreams, warning him that the Earth must prepare for a large scale disaster. Meanwhile, a suit of alien armor is proving to be a complex puzzle for Michi, a young military research scientist. Not long after that, a band of hostile aliens attack the Earth, stating that they must destroy the renegade soldier, Orgun, and head straight for Tomoru. Contains the entire series. *Central Park*

**Black Jack Collection 1: Infection, Seizure, Incubation** Mysterious surgeon Black Jack performs miraculous operations for unbelievably high fees in this collection of episodes from the anime series based on Osamu Tezuka's dark manga. Cloaked in black, the renegade doctor saves his patients from certain death, but no one's even certain he's a licensed surgeon! Join the shadowy doctor as he inexplicably defies the reaper. Extras include commentary by director Osamu Dezaki, an art gallery and more. *Disk 1 Infection, Disk 2 Seizure and Disk 3 Incubation. Central Park*

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**Open Water 2 Adrift** A weekend cruise on a luxurious party yacht goes horribly wrong for a group of old high-school friends. They forget to let the ladder down before they jump into the ocean for a swim. The boat proves impossible to climb. They are stuck in the water many miles from shore, with baby Sara left alone on board. Sara's mother Amy must contend with her aqua-phobia as well as the group's increasing desperation, as the friends begin to turn on each other. Soon the exhaustion of keeping afloat and the struggle to get back on board begin to take a terrible toll. The happy reunion turns into a fight for survival. *Lions Gate*

**Crooked** A by-the-book policeman joins with a rebellious cop to protect the only person who saw the murder mob case's star witness. But as assassins pursue the trio, their precarious partnership is rocked by outside accusations that one of them is corrupt. Gary Busey, Fred Williamson, and Don "The Dragon" Wilson star in this action-driven cop thriller. *Lions Gate*

**Flicka** Based on Mary O'Hara's classic coming-of-age novel, My Friend Flicka, this 2006 drama follows Katy (Alison Lohman), a rebellious Wyoming teen, as she contends with her parents (country singer Tim McGraw and lauded actress Maria Bello) and struggles to tame the willful and wild horse of the title. When her frustrated father opts to sell the rambunctious Flicka (whose Swedish name roughly translates as "beautiful girl"), Katy must take dramatic action for the sake of both herself and her equine companion. Initially filmed in the 1940s under its original name, the story switches the lead character from a boy to a girl, allowing the always-compelling Lohman to add depth to her restless character. Previously known for the edgy drama director Michael Mayer skillfully corrals the story through beautiful Western scenery and breathtaking horse-riding sequences, but the real highlights of Flicka are the performances of Lohman and Bello, who play off energetically against the stoic McGraw. With its old-fashioned, straightforward cinematic storytelling and topnotch cast, Flicka breaks to the front of the family-film herd, and stands out as one of the finest horse-themed movies of the early 21st century. *Fox*

**One Night with the King** A visually beautiful film, One Night With The King depicts the biblical tale of a Jewish peasant, Hadassah (Tiffany Dupont), and her journey to become the legendary Queen Esther. Her parents were murdered when she was a young girl and she was taken in by her uncle, Mordecai (John Rhys-Davies); he raised her in Susa, a city of the ancient empire of Persia. Hadassah--beautiful, intelligent and passionate--was summoned among many of the kingdom's virtuous young women to be groomed as a possible new queen for the powerful and handsome King Xerxes (Luke Goss). Hadassah hides her Jewish heritage under advisement from her uncle, and changes her name to Esther. She impresses the King. He falls in love with her and chooses her to be his bride, and she becomes Queen of Persia. Soon after, Haman the Agagite (James Callis), the King's Prime Minister, proclaims his goal of wiping out all the Jews of Persia, and he convinces the King to approve the plan. It is up to Queen Esther to announce her Jewish heritage and come to the rescue of her people. Peppered with many religious references, One Night With The King conveys the message of divine destiny as it tells the story of a queen who continues to be an inspiring figure. Although the result of Queen Esther's intervention is well known, the filmmakers and actors do a superb job of building up the suspense and the desperation felt by all involved. The film includes a brief cameo by Peter O'Toole as the biblical figure Samuel, and Omar Sharif appears as Prince Memucan. *Fox*

**Cinderella Liberty** In Cinderella Liberty, John (James Caan), a good-natured sailor on shore leave, begins a bittersweet romance with a hard-bitten prostitute, Maggie (Marsha Mason), who has an illegitimate black son in need of a father. When Maggie runs away, the sentimental John goes AWOL to find her, in an effort to make a family out of their unlikely coupling. Especially strong performances by Caan and Mason highlight this touching drama of subtle social commentary. Director Mark Rydell's film effectively combines the gritty realism of the character's surroundings--in particular, the life of a single mother and prostitute--and the classic elements of star-crossed romantic melodramas of the 1940s. *Fox*

**Apocalypse and the End Times** There have always been catastrophes in the world? but never before have there been so many, so frequently! Earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, famine, disease and war? are we simply experiencing the natural order of things? Or are the signs we see all around us the warnings of the end times? And in the 21st century, are science and technology confirming the prophecies of old? Apocalypse and the End Times... is the most comprehensive and compelling compilation of answers to these and other fascinating questions yet assembled. It will challenge your beliefs and perhaps even change the way you see the world... forever. *Grizzly Adams*

**Deadly Justice** After a savage beating at the hands of two criminals, cynical police officer Richard Beck (Emmy Award-winner Richard Crenna) is forced to see the criminal justice system through the eyes of a victim. Never having cared much about the public he served, Beck now has to confront the dehumanizing system he once endorsed. To regain his self respect, Beck must track his attackers down and bring them to justice--his way. *KC Sales*

**The Efficiency Expert / Loophole Double Feature** The Efficiency Expert During the Sixties, a troubled British efficiency expert travels to Spotswood, a suburban Australian town, in order to improve productivity at an ailing moccasin factory. The company is owned by a sweet-natured old man who values his workers' happiness over bottom line profits, and as a result, he's quickly going out of business; only by selling off pieces of property over the last few years has he been able to show a profit. After making his observations, the visiting expert recommends sacking a great many of the employees in order to keep the company afloat. The owner reluctantly agrees and starts filling out pink slips, but the outsider begins to doubt his evaluations as he gets better acquainted with the friendly, fun-loving workers. He comes to realize that his decisions may be based on the manipulation of cold, hard figures -- but they affect the everyday lives of real human beings. Loophole Because he's up to his neck in debts, mild-mannered architect Stephen Booker can't resist getting mixed up with a gang of criminals out to rob London's most secure bank. The mastermind behind the plan is Mike Daniels, an expert safecracker who recruits Stephen, along with a group of other talented pros. As the thieves prepare to pull off the job, Stephen's loving wife, Jenny, becomes concerned about her husband. But once the gang begins making its way into the bank's vault, it's too late for Stephen to back out. Will the gang succeed or will the police foil the caper? *KC Sales*

**Crazy Streets** A hard-headed cop (Alec Baldwin, in his first screen appearance) is caught in a deadly cat-and-mouse chase involving big bucks and a beautiful girl, fixed in the gunsight of her pursuing killers. Hannah Schygulla plays the beautiful novelist who becomes involved in a New York City underworld mystery, and becomes the target for nefarious criminals and low-lives. *KC Sales*

**Summer City** Mel Gibson made his feature-film debut. A Australian teen drama that chronicles the exploits of a quartet of boys who leave Sydney and head out for a weekend of surfing and adventure. Unfortunately the fun takes a serious turn when they find themselves involved in a murder. *KC Sales*

**Dance Off the Inches** Tummy Tone Party Zone with Marie Forleo Tone those abs with this fun, dance-intensive fitness program. Different from typical aerobic workouts in that it uses dance moves to burn calories, Tummy Zone Party Zone! Features two dance sequences taught by instructor Marie Forleo. This program includes mat and standing segments. *Anchor Bay*

**Pick Your Level Fat to Firm Fast** This workout offers multiple levels within one program, enabling viewers to adjust the routine as they see fit. Never too hard or too easy, the Pick Your Level series is made to be customized by the individual. Each move is illustrated by three different instructors catering to beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels. This weight-loss edition promises to knock off the pounds thanks to moves that blend cardio and toning, as well as enthusiastic leading by fitness instructor Michelle Dozois. *Anchor Bay*

**Pick Your Level Weight Loss Pilates** This workout offers multiple levels within one program, enabling viewers to adjust the routine as they see fit. Never too hard or too easy, the Pick Your Level series is made to be customized by the individual. Each move is illustrated by three different instructors catering to beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels. This Pilates edition promises to knock off the pounds, thanks to clear instructions and enthusiastic leading by Crunch-trained instructor Ellen Barrett. *Anchor Bay*