

DVD Debris

by: David Fear



THE BLACK KEYS LIVE (2005)

Fat Possum

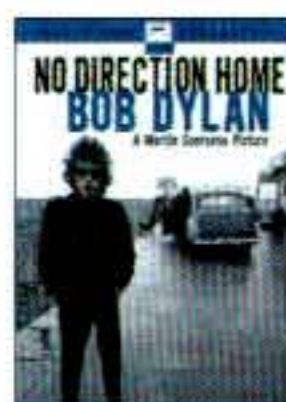
Let's see: a guitarist and drummer duo who play reverb-y garage rock and have a monochromatic color in their title? Why does this sound oddly familiar? Okay, we'll play nice—Ohio's Black Keys could easily take the Jack-and-Meg Blues Explosion in a Dayton-vs.-Detroit Rock City riff rumble, and this concert in Sydney, Australia proves it. Check out the sheer ohmygod! thunder of "Thickfreakness," or the boys' barroom-brawl version of the Stooges' "No Fun" if you don't believe us. We don't even care if singer/ax man Dan Auerbach sounds like the dude from Bad Company; those licks and that proto-caveman pounding will still scratch ya itch but good.



NEW ORDER: A COLLECTION (2005)

Rhino

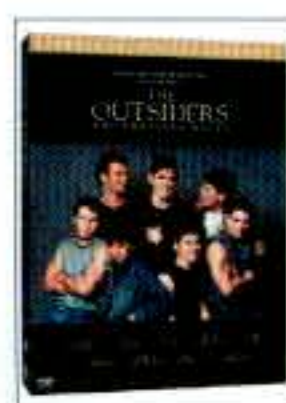
Factory Records' favorite sons have made some crap videos (that soccer-themed "World in Motion" clip is worse than the "Superbowl Shuffle") but when the synth group got their sound+vision thing in order—like the Jonathan Demme-directed "Perfect Kiss," which may be the best performance promo ever to feature a cowbell—nobody took better advantage of the form than New Order. Twenty-six videos and some live TV footage make up the first disc. Even better is the documentary *Story* on disc two, which traces the group's history from Joy Division to dancefloor legends and offers unintentionally hilarious narration from some breathless nymphomaniac in heat.



BOB DYLAN: NO DIRECTION HOME (2005)

Paramount

Martin Scorsese's epic chronicle of the only songwriter who matters (just ask Bright Eyes, kids) feels like a musty museum piece at times, but once the former Robert Zimmerman goes from chubby-faced folkie to the enigma that would change American culture forever...oh, it's on! Front-loaded with amazing archival nuggets—where did they find a film clip of the infamous "Judas!" moment?!—Scorsese stops right as Dylan goes electric and off the deep end for the first time in 1966. Even though it falls short of the full story, the director's ode to the James Joyce of pop music feels like a knock on heaven's door.



THE OUTSIDERS: THE COMPLETE NOVEL (1983)

Warner Home Video

When Francis Ford Coppola turned S.E. Hinton's perennial middle-school favorite into *Tiger Beat: The Movie*, he screwed generations of students out of properly cheating on their book reports. Now, however, Coppola has gone back and added in 20 minutes of cutting room footage—call it *The Outsiders Redux*—that lets Ponyboy, et al., stay even more golden-er. It still can't keep the movie from seeming like nothing but hunky homoerotic horseboy, but fans will dig the cast commentary track (Swayze! Howell! Macchio! Lowe! Dillon! Plus that superhot Sosh chick!) and the extra disc of treats. It's as if 7th grade never ended.



THE '70s DIMENSION (2005)

Other Cinema

Bay Area media terrorists Other Cinema mount an archeological dig of Me Decade detritus and reconstruct a lost civilization via vintage commercials and public service announcements. The result is one long Muzak-driven blast through a bad-hair past—everything from cigarettes and coffee to crackpot churches are sold with the same polyester lifestyle sheen, while Farrah Fawcett and Jack LaLane slap smiley faces over a curdled consumer culture. And just in case your mind still isn't blown, there are six psychedelic "remixes" that make the long-forgotten fluff all the more disturbing. Now, who wants a delicious Blitz beer?



PIXIES SELL OUT (2005)

Rhino

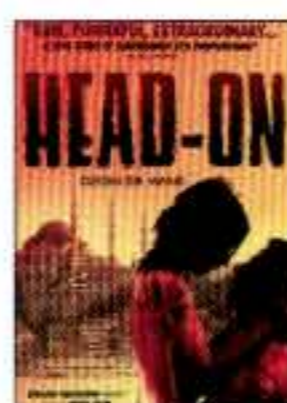
Bands that haven't played together in 12 years aren't supposed to be as good as the Pixies were when they reunited in 2004; you'd have expected nothing but rickety karaoke and cash machines cha-chinging. But as this complete concert in Belfort, France demonstrates, Frank Black & Co. are as vital a group as ever. The show's mellow "Wave of Mutilation" stands out, while additional clips from Coachella and various other gigs remind you that they were among the first to turn a restraint and assault combo into college rock bliss. If this is what nostalgia sounds like, then go ahead: Debase us, please.



OVER THE EDGE (1979)

Warner Home Video

If it still takes a teenage riot to get you out of bed these days, proceed directly to the last 20 minutes of this youth-run-wild classic. That's the point when, after getting hassled by the local fascist cop and grooving to way too much Cheap Trick, the kids of a sterile suburban community lock all the authority figures in the school gym and go apeshit nuts. Cars get smashed, classrooms get trashed and things go boom. Welcome to stickin' it to the Man '70s style, where wanton destruction is almost as glorious as Matt Dillon's feathery, feathery bangs. Bitchin', dude. Bitchin'.



HEAD-ON (2004)

Strand Releasing

He's a sad-sack barback who looks like Nick Cave and just rammed his car into a wall. She is a Turkish immigrant who slit her wrists to escape a way repressive old-world family. They meet in a hospital suicide ward in Berlin and decide to enter into a marriage of convenience. And you, dear viewer, have just entered into the most romantic post-punk movie of the past decade, in which love means never having to say you're sorry but may require yowling a "fuck you!" now and then for good measure. Tender, tragic and Teutonically brilliant, it rocks harder than you can possibly contemplate.



DEVO: LIVE (1980)

MVD

Q: Are they not men?

Before we answer that, contemplate just how weird a group of dudes robotically deconstructing "Satisfaction"—while dressed in identical white surgical scrubs and red plastic flowerpot hats—must have seemed in the midst of Reagan's America. Anyone doubting the band's genius for newer-than-New-Wave performance art need only watch this rare from-the-vaults concert featuring Akron's #1 spud-sons jerking back and forth through hits (how perfect is "Girl U Want?") and oddball obscurities (how perverse is "Swelling Itching Brain?"). And for those playing along at home: No, they weren't just men. They were Devo.