

Bloc Party: Also fun in alleys.



MOVING PICTURES

THIS MONTH, **BLOC PARTY** REVEAL WHICH MOVIE ALLEVIATES THEIR TOUR-BUS TEDDIUM

PURPLE RAIN

"We've been watching this on repeat—it's the most grandiose, extravagant rock film ever. We have all been seduced by Prince's wooden yet intense acting, and the stellar live performances. He is a real musical genius. A true inspiration."

RACE WITH THE DEVIL

ANCHOR BAY

★★★

The '70s horror movie meets the '70s conspiracy movie in this soon-to-be-remade 1975 tale of tourists who accidentally witness an occult human sacrifice. They report it to the local police chief but he, naturally, doubts their story. Hey, maybe the cop's one of the Satanists ... for that matter, maybe *everyone* is! An underrated creep-out with a rare lead performance from cult movie icon Warren Oates, the extras on this DVD also include a featurette with his co-star, stoner-hippie legend Peter Fonda.

D.E.B.S.

SONY

★★

With its plot about hot teen spies in Catholic-school skirts, *D.E.B.S.* sounds more like a cheapo porn flick than an action comedy. But then it would have better dialogue, better acting and fewer periods in its irritating title. For the record, Jordana Brewster plays a lesbian supervillainess, while Sara Foster is a spyette who, in one of the film's rare good jokes, is taking a course in "Gender Reconstruction and the Criminal Mastermind."

GUNNER PALACE

PALM PICTURES

★★★★

Essential viewing regardless of your politics, this documentary highlights both the bravery of the troops in Iraq and the often futile nature of their mission. Focusing on the 400 U.S. soldiers stationed in Uday Hussein's bombed-out palace, the film spotlights a varied cast of rappers, guitar shredders and grunt-philosophers as they struggle through a situation that is far from being "mission accomplished."

COACH CARTER

PARAMOUNT

★★★

Based on a true story, Samuel L. Jackson's titular coach whips a team of inner-city high school no-hopers into shape through discipline, class attendance and shouting. Jackson is hugely watchable, but the film itself suffers frequent slow spots. The DVD includes a fascinating doc about the real-life Carter, who turns out to be every bit as hard-assed, if more soft-spoken, as Jackson's depiction of him.

MUSIC DVDS

And this is after the coke kicks in.



SLOW DEATH

Everyone's favorite regular-guy rockers star in their first regular-guy rock documentary BY LAUREN HARRIS

DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE
DRIVE WELL, SLEEP CAREFULLY

PLEXIFILM

★★★

"This is simply the story of a band on the road," reads the opening crawl of newly minted indie-darlings-gone-mass Death Cab for Cutie's first documentary, and it's no understatement. A far cry from *Cocksucker Blues*, *Dig!* and other notorious bands-on-the-run docs, this film reveals the Bellingham, Washington, quartet to be harmless dweebs, flying kites and referencing *The Legend of Zelda* and *The Lord of the Rings* rather than swaddling themselves with groupies and narcotics. That's not to say the band isn't without its quirks—like football players studying

game film, band members meticulously watch footage of their shows to find ways to improve. Interspersed with live performances from their 2004 tour following the breakthrough album *Transatlanticism*, band interview topics include, not surprisingly, achieving mainstream success via *The O.C.* fandom and, slightly more surprisingly, jamming with John McEnroe.



Not pictured: drummer, Seth Cohen.

BLENDER APPROVED

The best DVDs of the past months



A DIRTY SHAME

NEW LINE

Vaginal foliage. Adult babies. Dirt-lickers. *This* is why John Waters gets paid the small-to-medium bucks!



POINT BLANK

WARNER BROS.

You don't want to make Lee Marvin angry—although everyone does in this classic 1967 thriller.

THE BEST OF THE REST

T. REX: BORN TO BOOGIE

(SANCTUARY) ★★★ We're not saying drugs were involved in this entertainingly gonzo 1972 showcase for glam-rocker Marc Bolan, which mixes concert footage with Fellini-inspired fantasy sequences. But it would explain the car-mirror-eating dwarf—and the decision to let Ringo Starr direct. **THE PRE-TENDERS GREATEST HITS** (RHINO HOME VIDEO) ★★★

"We made two of the worst videos ever," says the brutally frank Chrissie Hynde of her Pretenders, but her count may be on the low side. The sweeping documentary and New Wave pop hits salvage the high-concept, low-quality video clips. **THE DICK CAVETT SHOW: ROCK ICONS** (SHOUT! FACTORY) ★★★ Ultimate square Dick Cavett shares brief stories behind these

shows featuring icons like dapper David Bowie (with Luther Vandross singing backup) and Jefferson Airplane, still strung out from Woodstock. **MCS: KICK OUT THE JAMS** (MVD) ★★ Militant Detroit punk-rock forefathers are captured here in live, sloppily filmed glory. Low quality, sure, but it's about the best you'll ever see of the short-lived, seldom-filmed quintet.