

DVDS

Impossible is a successful Mission, despite Cruise

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CANWEST NEWS SERVICE

Mission: Impossible III
(Two disc collector edition)

Yes, it was the best of the Mission: Impossible movies to date, but it still cost Tom Cruise his production deal with Paramount. The problem wasn't the movie — a combustible blend of high-octane action and friction between Cruise and villain Philip Seymour Hoffman. The problem was Cruise, who was at the nadir of his popularity as he courted Katie Holmes. Cruise finds great chemistry with his male leads, and even manages to cook up some spark with love interest Michelle Monaghan. Great stunts, a good story and wonderful performances from the ensemble make Cruise more palatable — but he's still the film's biggest liability.

DVD features include a revealing making-of featurette that unveils the intricate details behind the stunts, as well as some good chit-chat with director J.J. Abrams. Other special fea-



Herald Archive, courtesy Paramount Pictures

Tom Cruise's Mission: Impossible III is the best of the series.
LoudQUIETloud:
A Film About The Pixies

Watching a band break up can be as good, if not better, than a round of ultimate fighting. But watching a band get

tures include audio commentary, deleted scenes, tribute montage, Inside the IMF, Scoring the Mission, a look at makeup effects and more.
★★½ out of five

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back together after a few years of estrangement is really the stuff documentary filmmakers dream about. Even if you're not a Pixies fan, chances are you'll still be drawn into the drama of Steven Cantor and Matthew Culkin's documentary that follows the cult band as it heads back on tour after more than a decade of hostility. Featuring incredible access to the band that inspired Kurt Cobain to write Smells Like Teen Spirit, LoudQUIETloud investigates what pulled the band apart, and revises the myth of hipster cool as everyone emerges as a slight headcase suffering from huge bouts of low self-esteem.

DVD features include bonus scenes such as scoring the film with Daniel

Lanois, Steve Albini and Girls with Insurance and Listening to WJUL Radio Session. ★★★★★

It's a Wonderful Life —
60th Anniversary Edition

It's a signature piece of warm and fuzzy movie magic from director Frank Capra, but it's a Wonderful Life would have gone nowhere if it hadn't begun with the possibility of death. George Bailey, Jimmy Stewart's depressive would-be Christmas suicide victim, embodies so many of our everyday fears, there's something cathartic in watching him find the courage to contemplate his troubles. By the time he overcomes those troubles, we're already in a different universe, delighting in the idea that fate can give us all a second chance.

In this 60th anniversary edition, we get the same magic that made this film a classic, as well as The Making of It's a Wonderful Life and Remembrance, A Tribute to Frank Capra. ★★★★★