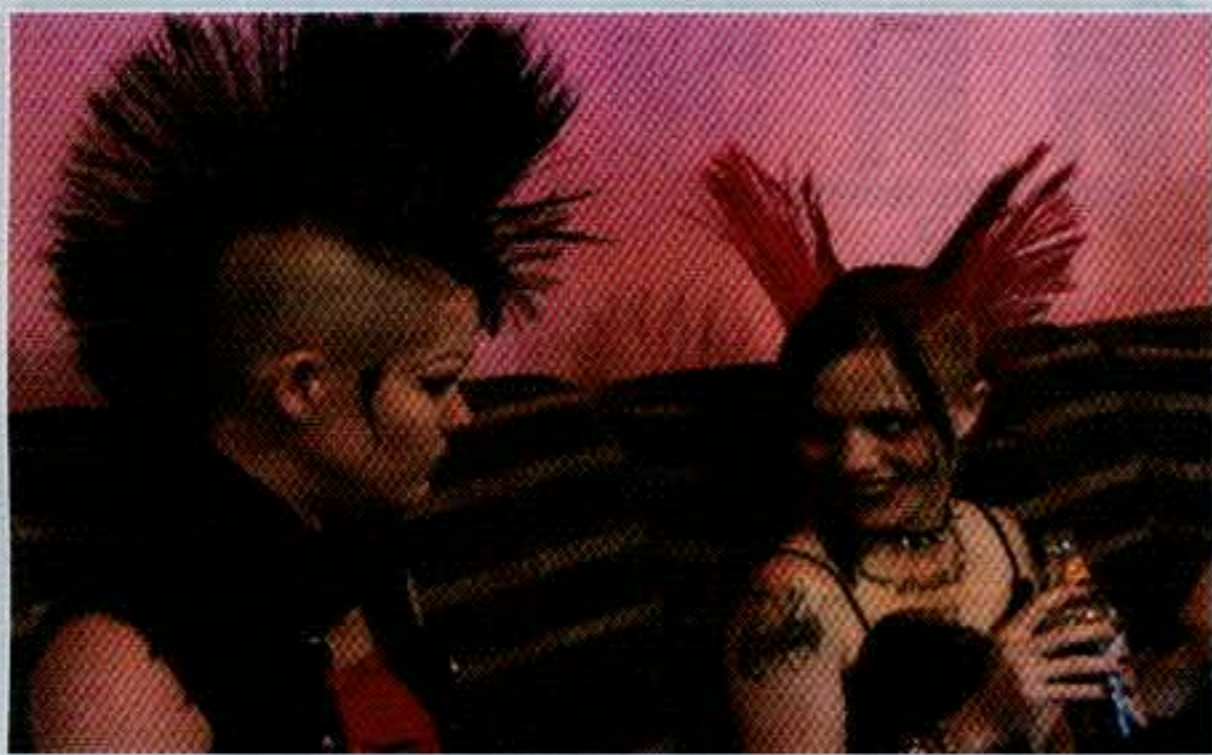


DVD WRAP-UP

By Rachel Lux and Ted Barnes



PUNK'S NOT DEAD (MVD)

A fixture in the 1980s Washington, D.C., hardcore punk scene, director Susan Dynner gives punk's evolution the documentary treatment, pushing to prove the genre and its many forms are indeed alive and well in America. With live performances, interviews, backstage footage and photos from bands' personal collections, *Punk's Not Dead* is a multi-sensory collage of all things contributing to and upholding the punk scene as it is today. In true DIY spirit, more than 100 band members, record execs, tastemakers and music journalists (including AP scribe Annie Zaleski) were interviewed about their places in modern punk. With members of Bad Religion, the Damned, Black Flag, Green Day, Minor Threat, NOFX, Pennywise, the Ramones, Rancid, Social Distortion, Stiff Little Fingers, UK Subs and the Used contributing, *Punk's Not Dead* is not only educational, it's the ultimate punk festival lineup—right in your living room.

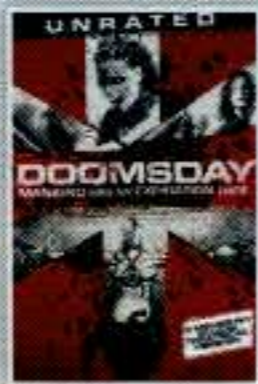
EXTRAS > Artist interviews, behind-the-scenes content, deleted scenes



21 (SONY)

So, we know most people believe this film is based on the true story of super-smart students from MIT who developed a card-counting system to beat the odds in Las Vegas and win loads of money. Our theory? Jim Sturgess could get away with anything, no matter what. Just look at that face!

EXTRAS > "21: The Advantage Player," "Money Plays: A Tour Of The Good Life" and "Basic Strategy: A Complete Film Journal" featurettes, filmmaker commentary



DOOMSDAY (ROGUE)

Having quarantined the deadly and chaotic "Reaper" virus 30 years ago by walling off the infected country, scientists re-enter when the virus starts plaguing another city. They must race the clock (and the crazed sickos) to find a cure, or they will surely face their, um, doomsday.

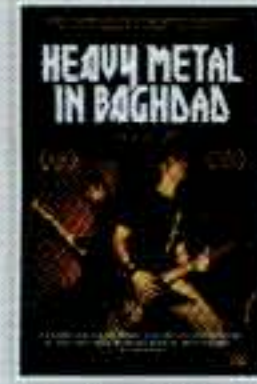
EXTRAS > Not available at press time, but we're hoping for some antibiotics



HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY (NEW LINE)

When a trip to—where else—Amsterdam goes awry, everyone's favorite stoner buddies must outrun the authorities looking to lock them up. Like the original, *H&K v.2.0* smacks with smart, witty commentary on today's society—nicely disguised as poop jokes, of course.

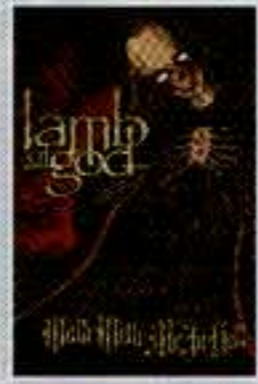
EXTRAS > Whatever's the equivalent to *Whistle* in a military prison



HEAVY METAL IN BAGHDAD (ARTS ALLIANCE)

If you think starting a band in a country like the U.S. is hard, try doing it under a dictator's regime in the war-torn Middle East. This documentary follows Acrassicauda, an Iraqi metal band, as they struggle for freedom of expression through music while fleeing their country for safety. Talk about heavy, man.

EXTRAS > "Heavy Metal In Istanbul" featurette, deleted scenes, live performances, theatrical trailer



LAMB OF GOD: WALK WITH ME IN HELL (EPIC)

What do you do when you're a Grammy-nominated metal band with a Top 10 album? Go on a two-year tour and film every waking second of it. *Duh*. The first disc in this set chronicles Lamb Of God's world tours in support of *Sacrament*, while the second provides an insider's view of their recording process. Breakdowns sold separately.

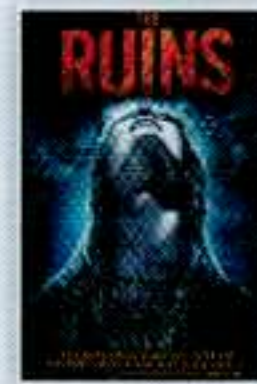
EXTRAS > Live performances, deleted scenes, "Redneck" music video



ROBOT CHICKEN: STAR WARS (CARTOON NETWORK/WARNER BROS.)

In case you needed more convincing that the *Star Wars* prequels were pure, unequivocal turd-burg, Seth Green, Matthew Senreich and posse crank out the best 30 minutes of *Star Wars* content in the past 25 years with lumps of clay and old action figures (sorry, KOTOR fanboys). Oh, and they outspoofted *Family Guy* at the same time. *Damn!*

EXTRAS > Behind-the-scenes featurettes, outtakes, bumps, deleted scenes and commentary



THE RUINS (PARAMOUNT)

The Ruins? Yeah, we saw it. It's that one about the group of sadly stereotypical American tourists who all get murdered for being ignorant, naïve douchebags. No, you're thinking of *Hostel*. This one takes place in Mexico. No, no, now you're thinking of *Touristas*. We said Mexico. Whatever. You're the bag of dicks.

EXTRAS > Making-of featurettes, alternate endings, deleted scenes



SHUTTER (FOX HOME ENTERTAINMENT)

Anything hailed as being from "the executive producers of *The Ring* and *The Grudge*" is probably fairly predictable: Pissed-off ghosts seeking revenge. But hey, it's a successful formula, and Pacey, um, Joshua Jackson is looking for his piece of the Japanese-horror pie.

EXTRAS > "A Ghost In The Lens" and "A History Of Spirit Photography" featurettes, deleted scenes, alternate ending, cast and crew commentary



JOE STRUMMER: THE FUTURE IS UNWRITTEN (LEGACY)

Sure, Joe Strummer was the frontman for the Clash, forever cementing him as one of the most important figures in rock history. But as this documentary makes clear, he was also the mouthpiece for a generation. Bono, Steve Buscemi, Courtney Love, Anthony Kiedis, Johnny Depp and many others credit him on why.

EXTRAS > Theatrical trailer, audio commentary with director Julien Temple, unseen interview footage

EVERY TIME I DIE FRONTMAN KEITH BUCKLEY WAXES CINEMATIC ON THE MORE IMPORTANT FILMS OF OUR TIME—SORT OF.



THE LEGEND OF BILLIE JEAN (1985)

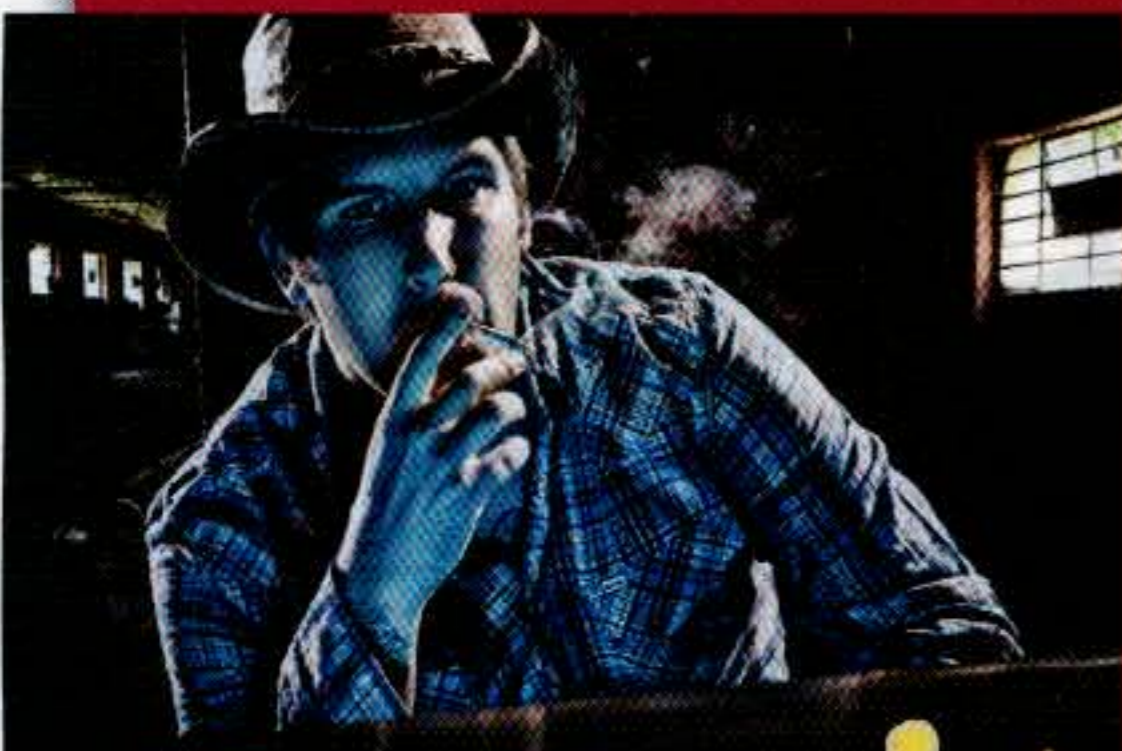
STARS: Helen Slater, Christian Slater, Lisa Simpson's voice

THE PLOT > Hey, 1980s! Remember that movie about that hot babe who shaved her head and went on the lam? Hey 1990s! Did you ever see that movie I was just talking to the '80s about?

No, she wasn't a lesbian! Well, yes, she did wear a denim vest. Oh, yeah—she did hate men. Goddamnit, '90s! You always do that! Granted, this movie is as legendary as its name. We all know the soundtrack by Pat Benatar. We all know that Billie Jean (Helen Slater) becomes the Joan of Arc to the disenfranchised youth of the '80s. But do any of us remember why? I'll tell you. After fending off a would-be rapist, Billie Jean watches her brother Binx (Christian Slater) accidentally shoot the man in the arm, neither killing him

nor seriously injuring him. Deciding they cannot yet turn themselves in, they hit the road as outlaws and fend off would-be captors by kneeling them in the balls. Billie Jean (simply a witness to a shoe on the mind you) becomes a martyr after shaving off all her hair and donning a punk-rock attitude, refusing to return home until the man admits his wrongs. Pretty soon all of Texas has caught Billy Jean fever, they gather on a beach to see her arrive and confront the evil doctor at a predetermined time. After a swift knee to the balls and a fire set to his shop full of knick knacks, Billie Jean and Binx are "free" and safely travel to Vermont. Or to the lesbian karaoke bar down the street from me.

THE POINT > Though references to Joan of Arc are not scarce throughout this epic historical satyr, I would be remiss to simply let them end at a physical resemblance. Yes, Billie Jean shaved her head just as Joan of Arc was known to dress as a page, but the parallels go further. This brilliant tactic of muting her own sexuality to emphasize masculine traits says one thing and one thing only: Men are superior. The world thanks you, Billie Jean, for conveying the complicated so very simply: "To be anyone, you simply must be. But to be someone, you must be a man."



The Classics ACCORDING TO KEITH