



**SMILING FRIENDS:
SEASON 1 (Blu-ray)**
Warner Bros. Discovery
Home Ent.

Turn that frown upside down! Join creators Zach Hadel and Michael Cusack, go on a journey across a bizarre and colorful world with *Smiling Friends: Season 1*. You'll be grinning ear to ear while you binge on all eight episodes, alongside a bonus special and audio commentary. Who are the Smiling Friends? They're Pim, Charlie, Allan, and Glep, and their goal is to make you smile. Watch eight wonderful adventures into this fantastic, odd, beautiful, sometimes scary, but always amazing world. Plus, they go to Brazil in a special bonus episode. Get yours and start smiling today! The nine 11-minute episodes are: Desmond's Big Day Out, Mr. Frog, Shrimp's Odyssey, A Silly Halloween Special, Who Violently Murdered Simon S. Salty, Enchanted Forest, Frowning Friends, Charlie Dies and Doesn't Come Back, and the previously mentioned special bonus episode, *The Smiling Friends Go To Brazil!*

THE MERGER (Blu-ray)
IndiePix

A retired footballer becomes the coach of his hometown's struggling Australian Rules Football team in *The Merger*, a hilarious, heartfelt comedy from Down Under, starring Damian Callinan, one of Australia's most popular comedians. The town of Bodgy Creek has seen better days. Jobs are scarce and their beloved footy club, The Roosters, looks like it will have to merge with another team or fold. Living a hermit-like existence on his farm, former AFL star player Troy Carrington (Callinan) hatches a plan to save The Roosters after striking up an unlikely friendship with Neil (Rafferty Grierson), a 10-year-old aspiring filmmaker who recently lost his father. Joining forces with Neil's mother, Angie (Kate Mulvany), who runs a nearby refugee support center, Troy rebuilds the rag-tag team and leads the community on a journey of change and redemption to create a hilarious and heart-felt comedy.

**THE CISCO KID:
13-FILM WESTERN
COLLECTION (5-DVD)**
VCI Ent.

Of all the heroes of the Old West, few are as well loved or as easily recognized as the Cisco Kid, based on O'Henry's famous character. Together with his bumbling, but loveable amigo, Pancho, Cisco has entertained millions of children and adults for many years. This rough 'n' tumble 5-disc collection, including 13 movies, combine the talents of both Gilbert Roland and Duncan Renaldo starring in the role of Cisco Kid. The movies in this collection include: *The Gay Amigo* (1949), *The Cisco Kid in Old Mexico* (1945), *The Cisco Kid Returns* (1945), *Satan's Cradle* (1949), *South of the Rio Grande* (1945), *King of the Bandits* (1947), *Robin Hood of Monterey* (1947), *Riding the California Trail* (1947), *South of Monterey* (1949), *Beauty and the Bandit* (1946), *The Girl from*

San Lorenzo (1950), *The Daring Caballero* (1949), and *The Gay Cavalier* (1946).

THE ONLY WAY (Blu-ray)
VCI Ent.

An elderly Dane becomes a hero helping Jewish neighbors escape from the Nazis in his land. In April 1940, the armies of Nazi Germany invaded Denmark. The Danish government promised peaceful cooperation on the condition that Denmark's Jews remain free. The Nazi's agreed in October, 1943, the agreement was broken ... This is the true and magnificent saga of Denmark's various actions to save Danish Jews from Nazi extermination at peril of death? For the Danes, it was *The Only Way*.

JACK ARMSTRONG (Blu-ray)
VCI Ent.

This classic Columbia film serial based on the radio adventure series, *Jack Armstrong, the All-American Boy*. A brilliant scientist working on atom-powered motors is kidnapped and is taken to a mysterious island where the master's villain, in usual cliffhanger for, hopes to conquer the world and gives our hero a hell of a time! *Jack Armstrong*, of course, thwarts these evil plans in the nick of time. Good, clean fun, filled with exciting chases, fights and thrills through 15 chapters. For those old enough to remember, you can almost hear the announcer on the old radio show saying in a hushed voice ... "Well boys and girls, you'll remember that yesterday when we left Jack, Uncle Jim, Billy and Betty, they were just ready to..."

TAXI HUNTER (Blu-ray)
88 Films

After his pregnant wife perishes through the actions of a careless (and callous) cab driver, mild-mannered Ah Kin (Anthony 'King of the Cat III's' Wong) declares war on the entire profession — and you don't need 'The Knowledge' to know he won't be leaving a tip. Considered to be one of the most infamous movies rated Hong Kong's Category III, *Taxi Driver* bravely tackles the under-explored scourge of bad taxi drivers.

CADEJO BLANCO (DVD)
Film Movement

After a late night out in Guatemala City, Sarita (Karen Martinez) begins to panic the next morning when she realizes that her sister Bea (Pamela Martinez) never made it home. Convinced that Bea's disappearance must have something to do with her dangerous ex Andrés (Rudy Rodriguez). Realizing she must take matters into her own hands, Sarita devises a plan to befriend Andrés and infiltrate his gang mired in the crime-laden underbelly of Guatemala. With an unwavering determination to uncover the truth, Sarita becomes increasingly involved with Andrés his ruthless, violent world. Narrowly avoiding death at every turn, and with an unwavering determination in the face of the men who underestimate her, she searches for answers about what happened to her sister, and realizes that the truth is a lot more complicated than she could image.

The time has come, the walrus said,

**TO TALK OF MANY THINGS
of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings**

by Sal Giarratani

HAYNES STREET ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY

On August 19th, over on Haynes Street in East Boston, it was time for the annual Block Party. As usual, there was a big crowd with food, laughter and plenty of music, too! They even had someone drawing caricatures. That line was longer than the food line.



The crowd on Haynes Street was amazingly large as you can see



Caricatures were the rage of the day. I ended up with a caricature drawing of myself by artist Jerry Shippe 401-451-2984. Check it out, see what you think.



On stage singing were two friends of mine, Rose Arruda and Brian Gannon. The music sounded like soft pop and sounded quite soothing to the assembled crowd

WAKEISM ISN'T LIBERALISM

"The woke believe race is first and foremost; the thing you should always see everywhere, which I find interesting because that used to be the position of the KKK," Bill Maher pointed out on a recent *Joe Rogan Experience* show.

"That the goal is to not see race at all, anywhere for any reason," Maher continued. "That's what liberals always believed all the way through Obama, going back [to] Kennedy, everybody, Martin Luther King. That's not what the woke believe."

TRUMP FEDERAL ELECTION TRIAL SET FOR MARCH 4TH

A federal judge overseeing the federal criminal case against former President Donald Trump's so-called efforts to challenge the 2020 election results has set the trial date for March 4, 2024, which ironically was the date of Inaugural Day before it was moved to January 20th. By the way, for anybody interested, the Republican Super Tuesday Primaries are set for March 5th.

KIDS LEFT IN BOILING CAR

When I read a recent new story concerning a mother in New York City who was charged with leaving her two kids in a car unattended outside a mall as temperatures soared to 95

degrees, I wondered what would possess a mom to leave her 1-year-old son and 3-year-old daughter inside the unlocked vehicle with the engine running? The mother was a 25-year-old nurse and she left them in the car for about 45 minutes. What is the punishment for being so reckless? And remember this mother is a nurse. Good luck to these two little kids growing up with her!

HEY YOU, WAKE UP

A MBTA spokesperson recently stated that it is "absolutely forbidden for any MBTA employee to be sleeping or giving the appearance of sleeping while on duty." I know what sleeping means, but what is the definition of giving the appearance of sleeping?

A GOOD FRIEND, PASSES

A longtime friend of mine, Tommy Roche from Quincy recently passed away on August 23rd. We often seem to arrive for breakfast at O'B's Diner in

North Quincy. Everyone there was devastated by the news. He always seemed so full of life. Lived his life fully. He always seems to wear a smile on his face and is so upbeat. He will be missed by all whose path he crossed.

**BUFFETT FANS
TOAST MEMORY**

It was 5 o'clock somewhere as Jimmy Buffet fans recently celebrated at the Times Square's Margaritaville outpost around noon on Sunday, September 3rd for lunch to honor the late beach bum singer.

His fans think he's finally found his shaker of salt he had been so desperately searching for. Up in that heavenly paradise drinking endless margaritas in a very responsible way. After all, he's in heaven, right?

END QUOTE

"Here's how I'm going to beat you. I'm going to outwork you. That's it. That's all there is to it."
— Coach Pat Summitt

GALLO

Mattéo Gallo

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