



ADAM SANDLER GOES DEEP



The Movie
Kicking and Screaming



The Book
Sunday Money

The Band
Gorillaz



Are you ready for some prison-system football?

The summer movie season—which seems to creep in earlier every year—begins this month with Adam Sandler's remake of the 1974 gridiron classic, *The Longest Yard*. Sandler—now in Funny Adam, not Serious Adam, mode—assumes the Burt Reynolds part of Paul "Wrecking" Crewe, the quarterback turned inmate who unwillingly puts together a football team to compete against a team of prison guards. Things get complicated when the warden asks Crewe to throw a game—or spend the next twenty-five years in prison (same thing happened to Buffalo's Jim Kelly). Burt R.'s in this one, too, playing a coach, and the shoulder-padded cast also includes Chris Rock, Nelly, former NFL player Michael Irvin, and former NFL stiff Brian Bosworth.

If you prefer fútbol to football, May also delivers *Kicking and Screaming*, a PeeWee Soccer comedy starring Will Ferrell. While you may have had it with kiddie-sports movies—it's never been the same since *Buttermaker* and the *Bears*, if you ask us—we're enticed by Ferrell as the modern soccer dad from hell, and Mike Ditka (the Funny Ditka, not the Serious Ditka) as his nemesis. Completing the May sports-film trifecta, the Criterion Collection releases *Hoop Dreams*, which remains the best film about basketball ever made and a cautionary tale for all those LeBronabees out on the hard court.

As for music, there's new stuff this month from Gorillaz, that dance-pop supergroup that includes Blur's Damon Albarn, De La

Soul, Ike Turner, and even Dennis Hopper.

Gorillaz still have their animated alter egos and cool Ralph Bakshi-style videos, but actual human being Danger Mouse is now aboard as producer of *Demon Days*, adding new beats, a booster shot of soul, and a cameo from MF Doom, that masked rapper who knows something about alter egos. British Sea Power's latest, *Open Season*, is full of lush, romantic guitar rock, and if you're looking for rougher, meaner, more dangerous sounds, those Nine Inch Nails are back with *With Teeth*, this time with Dave Grohl accompanying *Billboard*'s favorite nihilist, Trent Reznor.

As for books, David McCullough has cranked out another impressive history opus, with no help from Dave Grohl or Danger Mouse. In *1776*, the Pulitzer Prize winner weaves an engrossing historical narrative about the year America's revolutionaries laid the smack down on the redcoats. For all you blue-staters who need help understanding your red-state brethren, there's *Sunday Money*, by Jeff MacGregor, a book that gets behind the wheel world of NASCAR. Finally, we also enjoyed *Everything Good Is Bad for You*, in which our new hero and excuse maker, author Steven Johnson, argues that video games, movies, and television are actually increasing our IQs. We heartily concur—and now we're off to spend our \$500,000 MacArthur Foundation "Genius" grant. On a vintage Donkey Kong machine.—KEVIN SINTUMUANG



PUBLIC ENEMY'S UK INVASION

DVD TO OWN

Remember when hip-hop was truly dangerous? Not dangerous in the silly 50 Cent—the Game beef way—but dangerous in a truly original, boundary-changing way? *Public Enemy—It Takes a Nation: The First London Invasion 1987* captures hip-hop's most influential group ever at their creative peak, blasting into the UK with a frantic sound that rock didn't understand and radio didn't support. Seeing Chuck D and Flavor Flav romp onstage at Hammersmith Odeon reminds one what it was like when Johnny Rotten and Sid Vicious invaded country bars in the States: raw, radical, and liberating. On the DVD, Chuck D offers play-by-play commentary as PE performs songs like "Bring the Noise." Finally, the revolution is televised.—CHRIS HUVANE



SPOON

Please bow to the awesomeness of Spoon's new album, *Gimme Fiction*. Frontman Britt Daniel may have a slightly schizo voice—it sounds part British, part deep Texas—but his band is making some of the most reliably ass-shaking rock today. From the disco-beat "I Turn My Camera On" to the bluesy, growlish "The Infinite Pet," expect this sucker to be cranking from jukeboxes—and Passats—everywhere this spring.—K.S.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: AARON BAPORTA/PETRA; COURTESY OF MERGE RECORDS; COURTESY OF NASTY LITTLE MAN; COURTESY OF HARPER COLLINS; COURTESY OF NBC UNIVERSAL