

# MVD Teams With Chuck D on DVD-Plus-CD

By JESSICA WOLF

Music Video Distributors (MVD) has teamed up with rap legend and Public Enemy frontman Chuck D to bring a line of DVD-plus-CD sets to the avid hip-hop consumer.

The titles come from Chuck D's label SLAMjamz and will include a music-related DVD feature program, live concert footage, interviews with artists and an audio CD, available in an Amaray or CD jewel case.

The SLAMjamz series launches Oct. 5 with three titles — *Impossebulls: Slave Education*,

the story of the world's first virtual rap group; *7th Octave: The Seventh Degree*, the vehicle for the music concept "Ghetto Metal" from Professor Griff of Public Enemy; and *No Boundaries: A SLAMjamz Compilation*, a joint venture between SLAMjamz and NAP Records that reaches into different styles and songs from varied artists. All three DVD/CD sets are priced at \$16.95 each.

"SLAMjamz Records are designed simply to serve the uncompromising expression of hip-hop-based music in general," Chuck D said of the label's mission. "Any particular style of play-

ing and vocalization that represents an authentic way of musical feeling is genuine expression. By virtue of its significance in place, time and circumstance, it possesses its own tradition, artistic standards and audience that will keep it alive."

"Hip-hop, therefore, is expression and communication, a musical and worldwide social manifestation, and SLAMjamz Records is concerned with identifying its impulse, with the option of varied sonic formats, not sensational and commercial adornments. MVD allows SLAMjamz to present this to the world," he said.

(\$14.98).

Red Distribution Oct. 19 releases *Willie Nelson and Friends: Outlaws and Angels* (\$19.98), featur-

*Nat King Cole* (\$19.98).

From Surfdog Records

Nov. 9 comes *The Stray Cats: Rumble in Brixton* in a live CD/DVD set (\$19.98). The DVD includes live concert footage, an audio track of the group's first new studio track in 12 years and a 20-minute peek



of feature, a photo gallery and an interactive game on the other. Streeting Nov. 2 *George Harrison: Dark Horse Years 1976-1992* (\$24.98) special edition multi-disc set focusing on the late Beatle's solo career.

From Sony Music Oct. 19 com-

*David Bowie: A Reality Tour* (\$14.98), featuring footage of the ubiquitous rocker from TV concerts this year in Dublin, Ireland.

Rhino Records Oct. 16 releases *Crosby Stills Nash: The DVDs*, a collector's edition box



at frontman Brian Setzer teaching original bandmates Lee Rocker and Slim Jim Phantom the new song.

Epic Records Nov. 16 will release *The Ultimate Collection* (\$59.98) from Michael Jackson. The

deluxe boxed set includes four audio CDs featuring 13 previously unissued recordings and a concert DVD from a 1992 Jackson performance in

included performances from Clapton, Jeff Beck, Santana, James Taylor, Joe Walsh and many others. Extras include behind-the-scenes footage, extended inter-

views and a photo gallery. The

footage is from the 1992 tour.



**Genre Watch**

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**NETFLIX DROPS PRICE, EYES COMPETITION FROM AMAZON**

By HOLLY L. WAGNER

Online DVD retailer Netflix will move to discount subscriber price to \$18 a month and pull out of plans to expand in the United States and Canada for at least a year. Netflix CEO Reed Hastings said the company had been anticipating such a move for some time.

Over the past year, hundreds of classic TV shows, from Sid Caesar's *Improv Show* and *Don Rickles' Comedy Hour* to *Bob Newhart's Comedy Tech!* have been arriving on DVD, often in elaborate "complete-season" packages packed with bonus features.

"It's great to watch TV with no commercials, particularly since on TV, a half-hour classic sitcom is

now 45 minutes long," Hastings said.

These old shows are airing on TV these days — maybe 80 of the thousands of great shows smugly in the "dust."

Netflix executives expect the Internet behemoth to get into online video streaming by early next year.

"The rumors of Amazon starting about two weeks ago were true," Hastings said. "Over the past few weeks we have been confirming them," CEO Reed Hastings told analysts. "If we had known in Q3 that Amazon was planning to do this, we would have raised our prices."

— Reed Hastings, Netflix CEO

By ANGELIQUE FLORES

Carl Reiner, a regular on such popular TV shows as *You've Seen One*