

## 'Funny People'

(continued from Entertainment page)  
the film is unremarkable.

Rated R for language and sexual humor, "Funny People" is two hours and 16 minutes, far too long. Scenes go on too long and several stop the movie dead.

There are too many scenes of George hang-dogging it in his lonely hilltop mansion. Had some of these indulgent sequences been replaced with genuinely funny standup routines, the film would let the viewer see and hear the routines that made George Simmons a star.

## DVDs

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moments" are balanced with suspense and explanations of how to combat the threat to mankind. The movie benefits from special effects technology that did not exist 50 years ago, so the visuals look pretty good.

"Alien Trespass" is great fun. Extras include three featurettes, one of which takes a look back at the sci-fi flicks that inspired it.

"Dark Rising" (El Entertainment), advertised as a cult comedy, focuses on Jason Parks (Landy Cannon), whose life degenerates when a series of supernatural events turn his dream of reconciliation with ex-fiancée Jasmine (Vanessa James) into a portal-seeking, demon-hunting nightmare. Attempting to resurrect his dead relationship, Jason organizes a camping trip with the assistance of best friends Ricky, Marlene, and Renee (Julia Schneider). Each with a personal agenda, they convince Jasmine to join them for a weekend of fun in the sun. But Renee has been having recurring nightmares of Summer Vale, a little girl who disappeared over 20 years ago, and she intends to use the getaway to contact the girl's spirit. Renee's mumbo-jumbo ritual actually works, and the lost girl, now grown and toting a battle ax, turns the trip into a confrontation with dark, life-threatening forces. Extras include a behind-the-scenes featurette, commentary with director and cast, and deleted scenes.

"Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: 25th Anniversary Collector's Edition" (Warner Home Video) is a four-disc box set containing four feature films. Since 1984, the

Turtles have established themselves as a tremendously popular franchise. Now, 25 years later, they are being enjoyed by a new generation of fans through their animated Saturday morning TV series. In "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: The Movie" (1990), after exposure to glowing, green ooze, four teenage turtles -- Michelangelo, Raphael, Leonardo, and Donatello -- have mutated into ninjas and have begun living in the sewers of a large city. Under the guidance of father-figure and ninja master Splinter the Rat and TV reporter April O'Neil, the Turtles embark on a mission to run crime out of the city and defeat the warlord Shredder. The three other features in the set are "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 2: Secret of the Ooze" (1991), "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3: Turtles in Time" (1993), and "TMNT" (2007). Blu-ray extras include a comic book, character cards, a signed sketch, and "radical beanie."

The media have inundated the public with stories about the death of Michael Jackson and its aftermath. If you haven't overdosed yet on the story, check out "Michael Jackson: The Trial & Triumph of the King of Pop" (Rock City Entertainment), which provides background on Jackson's highly publicized 2005 trial for child molestation and comments on the 1993 allegations made against him. The DVD is very pro-Jackson as it presents information that support the jury's not guilty verdict. Fans will be happy with the DVD, but those looking for a more objective take on the media circus surrounding the trial will have to look elsewhere.