[Last updated April 2013]

12 ANGRY MEN. 1957. DVD NR

Knowing full well that a guilty verdict means death, a jury of 12 men (including Jack Warden and Jack Klugman) must decide the fate of an 18-year-old boy accused of fatally stabbing his father. But only one juror (Henry Fonda) wants to take the time to coolly deliberate the case. Sidney Lumet (Network) made his directorial debut with this Oscar-nominated drama that illuminates all the petty impediments on the path to justice.

A CLOCKWORK ORANGE. 1971. BLU RAY R

In this Stanley Kubrick classic based on Anthony Burgess's novel, teenage miscreant Alex DeLarge (Malcolm McDowell) wanders aimlessly amid a bleak, futuristic urban landscape, drinking drugged milk and listening to Beethoven with his fellow "droogs." But he also spends his time stealing, raping and beating innocent people in nihilistic orgies of violence, all in an attempt to get his nightly kicks.

A FACE IN THE CROWD. 1957. DVD NR

Elia Kazan's masterpiece proves that celebrity isn't all it's cracked up to be. When talent scout Marcia Jeffries (Patricia Neal) spots drifter Larry "Lonesome" Rhodes (Andy Griffith) and makes him a superstar, he gets a taste of the good life. But his hunger for klieg lights, fed by run-ins with famous people such as Burl Ives and Bennett Cerf (who play themselves), turns desperate, and he loses sight of who he is and what he's truly about.

A HOLE IN THE HEAD. 1959. DVD [FILED UNDER "THE FRANK SINATRA COLLECTION] NR

Tony (Frank Sinatra) is trying to keep his failing Miami hotel afloat while raising his 12year-old son (Eddie Hodges). As a last resort, he's forced to ask his harried brother, Mario (Edward G. Robinson), for help, but he'll only bail Tony out if he marries a sensible woman. The trouble is, Tony isn't the sensible type -- until he meets Eloise (Eleanor Parker). This classic comedy from Frank Capra features the Oscar-winning song "High Hopes."

A PASSAGE TO INDIA. 1984. BLU RAY PG

Adventurous young Englishwoman Adela Quested (Judy Davis) journeys to colonial India with open-minded Mrs. Moore (Peggy Ashcroft). Ignoring English customs, the women accompany a "native" named Dr. Aziz on a tour of the Marabar Caves. The excursion turns ugly, however, when Adela emerges from the caves accusing Aziz of rape. British authorities urge Adela to press charges, but the truth isn't as obvious as the government believes it to be.

A SEPARATION. 2011. DVD PG-13

An Iranian husband and wife split up over his decision to stay and care for his aging father instead of leaving the country with his family. But his fateful choice to hire a stranger to do most of the caretaking breeds unexpected consequences.

ABE LINCOLN IN ILLINOIS. 1940. DVD

ABRAHAM AND MARY LINCOLN: A HOUSE DIVIDED. 2001. DVD NR

An unlikely couple, Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd came from vastly different backgrounds -- he the son of a dirt farmer, she the daughter of wealthy slave owners. This dual biography tells both of their stories. From their childhoods to their marriage, to their years in the White House, this profile touches on their differences of opinion on the Civil War, their marital ups and downs and Mary's fragile state of mind after Lincoln's assassination.

ABSOLUTE POWER. 1996. DVD R Cat burglar Luther Whitney (Clint Eastwood) finds himself in the president's doghouse when he spies the chief executive (Gene Hackman) trysting with a trophy wife. When their rough romancing turns lethal, efforts to cover up the scandalous situation spiral violently out of control. Now, Luther must survive a desperate pursuit from the back streets of the nation's capital to the halls of power. Eastwood also directed this riveting crime thriller.

THE ACCUSED. 1988. DVD R

Jodie Foster won an Oscar for her portrayal of Sarah Tobias in this fact-based drama. After being raped by three men in a local bar, Sarah, enraged at the light sentence her attackers receive, persuades attorney Kathryn Murphy (Kelly McGillis) to press charges against the men who cheered on the attack. But it won't be easy: Sarah has a shady past that could be used against her in court.

ADAM'S RIB. 1949. DVD NR

Successful attorney Amanda Bonner (Katharine Hepburn) decides to defend Doris (Judy Holliday), who stands accused of the attempted murder of her husband (Tom Ewell) and his mistress (Jean Hagen), while Bonner's lawyer husband, Adam (Spencer Tracy), signs on as the prosecuting attorney. The sensational trial that ensues finds them sitting at opposing sides of the courtroom -- and the dinner table. George Cukor directs this Oscarnominated comedy.

ADVISE & CONSENT. 1962. DVD NR

Henry Fonda stars as Robert Leffingwell, the president's hand-picked candidate for secretary of state, in Otto Preminger's examination of party politics and Washington wheelings and dealings. But Leffingwell is hardly a shoe-in. A Senate committee has been assigned to investigate the nominee's past, dredging up dirt and brewing a storm of scandal. Charles Laughton provides a memorable turn as the Dixiecrat determined to sink the appointment.

AIR FORCE ONE. 1997. BLU RAY R

Harrison Ford stars in this high-stakes thriller set in the skies aboard Air Force One, in which Russian terrorists (led by Gary Oldman) conspire to hijack the aircraft with the president and his family on board. The commander in chief finds himself facing an impossible predicament: give in to the terrorists and sacrifice his family, or risk everything to uphold his principles -- and the integrity of the nation. Glenn Close co-stars.

AJAMI. 2009. DVD NR

When their uncle wounds an important clan member, 13-year-old Nasri (Fouad Habash) and his older brother, Omar (Shahir Kabaha), fear he has put their whole family in terrible danger in this moving, Oscarnominated drama set on the West Bank. A truce is arranged, but Omar must start selling drugs to pay the fine he now owes. Meanwhile, a number of other locals struggle to negotiate the political and social tinderbox of Jaffa's Ajami neighborhood.

ALEXANDRIA. . .WHY? 1978. DVD NR

Living in Egypt during the chaos of World War II, teenager Yehia (Mohsen Mohiedine) often escapes into the glamour of movies, dreaming of telling his own stories in Hollywood. But as he falls in love with a local girl and learns more about the Nazi atrocities occurring across Europe, Yehia finds it increasingly difficult to hide. This first film in Youssef Chahine's "Alexandria" trilogy follows numerous characters in intertwined stories.

ALL THE KING'S MEN. 1949. DVD NR

Willie Stark (Broderick Crawford) is a model politician -- until he's corrupted by the very system he tries to reform. Based on the cautionary Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, All the King's Men was nominated for seven Academy Awards; it won Best Picture, as well as Best Actor and Actress for stars

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Crawford and Mercedes McCambridge (later the voice of the possessed Regan in The Exorcist).

ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN. 1976. DVD PG

The film that launched a thousand journalism school students, All the President's Men chronicles how the work of reporters Bob Woodward (Robert Redford) and Carl Bernstein (Dustin Hoffman) contributed to the public downfall of President Richard M. Nixon. The duo connected a Washington, D.C., hotel breakin with a Nixon "dirty tricks" team assigned to discredit Democratic rivals, launching a series of tense events that forced Nixon to resign.

ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT. 1930. DVD

NR

Teenage German soldiers pass from idealism to despair in this poignant, Oscarwinning depiction of survival on the front lines, adapted from an anti-war novel by Erich Maria Remarque and banned in a number of countries during wartime. Awarded Best Picture in 1930, the film has lost little of its original impact, with brutal imagery and a peaceful message that also earned director Lewis Milestone an Academy Award for Best Director.

AMANDLA! 2002. DVD PG-13

The struggle to eradicate apartheid in South Africa has been chronicled over time, but no one has addressed the vital role music plays in this challenge. This documentary by Lee Hirsch recounts a fascinating and littleknown part of South Africa's political history through archival footage, interviews and, of course, several mesmerizing musical performances.

AMERICAN BEAUTY. 2000. DVD R

While struggling to endure his perfectionobsessed wife (Annette Bening), an unfulfilling job and a sullen teenage daughter (Thora Birch), suburbanite Lester Burnham (Kevin Spacey) falls deep into a midlife crisis and becomes infatuated with one of his daughter's friends (Mena Suvari). Director Sam Mendes dazzles with this arresting blend of social satire and domestic tragedy that scooped up five Oscars, including acting honors for Spacey.

AMERICAN DREAM. 1991. DVD PG-13

Documentarian Barbara Kopple weighs in with an unsettling account of the monthslong strike of employees at the Hormel meatpacking plant, juxtaposed against the Reagan administration's demolition of the nation's air traffic controllers' union. In Austin, Minn., in 1984, Hormel strikers found themselves picketing during the worst climate for organized labor since the 19th century. Kopple won an Oscar for Best Documentary in 1991.

AMERICAN HISTORY X. 1998. BLU RAY R

A California neo-Nazi (Oscar-nominee Edward Norton) gets sent to prison for murder and comes out a changed man. But can the reformed rebel atone for his sins and prevent his younger brother (Edward Furlong) from following in his hate-filled footsteps? With searing performances and gut-wrenching realism, Tony Kaye's sobering drama offers a compelling and anguishing look at racism, family and forgiveness.

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT. 1995. DVD [ON A SHARED DISK WITH "DAVE"] PG-13

Widowed U.S. president Andrew Shepherd (Michael Douglas), one of the world's most powerful men, can have anything he wants -- and what he covets most is Sydney Ellen Wade (Annette Bening), a Washington lobbyist. But Shepherd's attempts at courting her spark wild rumors and decimate his approval ratings in this romantic comedy. Rob Reiner directs, and Michael J. Fox and Martin Sheen co-star. The film was nominated for a Best Score Oscar.

AMISTAD. 1997. DVD R Steven Spielberg directed this story about the 1839 revolt aboard Spanish slave ship La Amistad and the uprising's tragic aftermath. An African-born slave (Djimon Hounsou) leads a mutiny against his brutal captors, but because the ship is in American waters, a U.S. court must decide the slaves' fates. In an eloquent courtroom speech, expresident John Quincy Adams (Anthony Hopkins) argues for the Africans' freedom.

AMREEKA. 2009. DVD PG-13

Eager to provide a better future for her son, Fadi (Melkar Muallem), divorcée Muna Farah (Nisreen Faour) leaves her Palestinian homeland and takes up residence in rural Illinois -- just in time to encounter the domestic repercussions of America's disastrous war in Iraq. Now, the duo must reinvent their lives with some help from Muna's sister, Raghda (Hiam Abbass), and brother-in-law, Nabeel (Yussuf Abu-Warda). Cherien Dabis writes and directs.

AN AUTUMN AFTERNOON. 1962. DVD NR

The final film from cinematic giant Yasujiro Ozu (Tokyo Story), this poignant tale centers on aging widower Shuhei Hirayama (Chishu Ryu) and his efforts to find a suitable husband for his daughter, Michiko (Shima Iwashita). Despite his struggles to come to terms with modernity and the inevitable loneliness that awaits him, Hirayama decides that his daughter's life should not be spent caring for him.

AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH. 2006. DVD PG

Director-producer Davis Guggenheim (HBO's "Deadwood") captures former Vice President Al Gore in the midst of waging a passionate campaign -- not for the White House, but for the environment -- in this Oscar-winning documentary. Laying out the facts of global warming without getting political, Gore makes a sobering impression on the audiences who hear his message, urging them to act "boldly, quickly and wisely" ... before it's too late.

APARAJITO. 1957. DVD FILED UNDER THE APU TRILOGY NR

In this second film in director Satyajit Ray's Apu Trilogy, Harihar takes wife, Sarbajaya, and son, Apu, to live in Benares after the destruction of the family's home. Harihar ekes out a living reading sacred texts by the shores of the Ganges River. When Apu leaves to attend college in Calcutta and his father falls ill, Sarbajaya learns to cope on her own while wishing her son -- who seems to have forgotten about her -- was still home.

APOCALYPSE NOW/APOCALYPSE NOW REDUX. 1979. DVD R

Francis Ford Coppola's timeless epic adapts Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness to the Vietnam War, where special operations Capt. Willard (Martin Sheen) must travel deep into the Cambodian jungle to locate and kill the mysterious -- and insane -- Col. Kurtz (Marlon Brando). This double feature includes the 1979 Oscar-winning masterwork set in the Vietnam War, along with the re-edited and expanded 2001 director's cut, Apocalypse Now Redux.

ARGO. 2012. DVD R

In 1979, when Iranian militants seize the American embassy, six Americans slip into the Canadian embassy for protection, prompting the CIA to concoct an elaborate plot to rescue them by pretending that they are filmmakers rather than diplomats.

ARLINGTON ROAD. 1999. BLU RAY R

Threats from sinister foreign nationals aren't the only thing to fear. Bedraggled college professor Michael Faraday (Jeff Bridges) has been vexed (and increasingly paranoid) since his wife's accidental death in a botched FBI operation. But all that takes a backseat when a seemingly all-American couple (Tim Robbins and Joan Cusack) set up house next door.

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE. 2007. DVD

THE ART OF FLIGHT. 2007. DVD R

Jailed for immoral behavior in Brazil, flamboyant homosexual Luis Molina (William Hurt, who netted a Best Actor Oscar) passes the time by detailing scenes of his favorite romantic movie to fellow inmate Valentin Arregui (Raul Julia), a hard-edged political activist. Slowly, the two forge a bond based on mutual understanding and respect and their relationship evolves. Director Hector Babenco's character study earned an Oscar nod for Best Picture.

ATTLLA '74: THE RAPE OF CYPRUS. 1975. DVD

NR

This documentary by Cyprus-born filmmaker Michael Cacoyannis tells a story close to the director's heart: It explores Turkey's 1974 invasion of the tiny island of Cyprus, whose sovereignty has been disputed ever since it gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1960. Trampled underfoot in the battle between Greece and Turkey, the people of Cyprus won't soon forget the toll the invasion took on their tiny island nation.

AS WE FORGIVE. 2009. DVD

THE ASSASSINATION OF RICHARD NIXON. 2004. DVD

R Set in 1974, this arresting psychological drama based on real-life events centers on Samuel Bicke (Sean Penn), an antisocial, unstable salesman who parlays his delusions of grandeur into a plot to assassinate President Richard Nixon. As his life begins to disintegrate, Bicke decides to take extreme measures to achieve his warped version of the American Dream. The supporting cast includes Don Cheadle, Naomi Watts and Mykelti Williamson.

ATLAS SHRUGGED, PARTS 1 & 2. 2011. DVD PG-13

Ayn Rand's controversial bestseller is the basis for this potent drama about Dagny

Taggart, a fiercely independent railroad tycoon determined to use innovative technology and enterprising partners to revive her business, no matter the personal cost.

The second installment of the Atlas Shrugged trilogy finds the world's economy in dire straits, prompting corporate protagonist Dagny Taggart to search for a solution amid the rubble of a longabandoned factory.

BAB'AZIZ. 2006. DVD NR

While trekking across the desert with his granddaughter Ishtar (Maryam Hamid), Bab'Aziz (Parviz Shahinkhou), a blind dervish, entertains her with nightly tales of a prince who gave up his kingdom to gaze into a mystical pool and meditate upon his own soul. Along the way, the pair meets similar dreamers who discover that the journey may be more important than the goal. Nacer Khemir directs this visually stunning tale.

BALLAD OF A SOLDIER. 1959. DVD NR

During World War II, 19-year-old Russian soldier Alyosha wins a 10-day leave and tries to make it home. Along the way, he meets several civilians, and his cheery presence is like a wartime tonic for them, uplifting their lives. But, as he uses most of his free time to help others, he's left with few moments to spend with family. Carefully shot (in black and white) by director Grigori Chukhrai, the film earned as Oscar nomination for its script.

BALZAC AND THE LITTLE CHINESE SEAMSTRESS. 2002. DVD NR

Based on director Sijie Dai's autobiographical novel and set in Maoist China during the Cultural Revolution, this nostalgic coming-of-age drama follows two young men, Luo (Kun Chen) and Ma (Ye Liu), who are sent to a remote village to be "re-educated" and cleansed of non-Communist influences. While there, both fall under the spell of a local beauty (Xun Zhou) whose heart they hope to win through a secret stash of forbidden Western literature.

BARCELONA. 1994. DVD PG-13

Ted (Taylor Nichols), a conservative, idealistic Chicago yuppie working in sales at his company's Barcelona office, is visited by his shallow, belligerent cousin Fred, a U.S. Navy officer. While bar-hopping, chasing women and philosophizing about love, they're inadvertently caught up in the volatile political climate of post-Franco Spain, which irrevocably alters their lives. Mira Sorvino co-stars in this romantic comedy with a serious slant.

BARRIO CUBA. 2005. DVD NR

Award-winning director Humberto Solás weaves three tales of hope and uncertainty among residents of a Havana barrio. Vivian yearns to have a child, a quest that puts a strain on her relationship; elderly Ignacio holds out hope for a last chance at romance; and Willy has finally come to terms with his homosexuality and wishes that his father could as well. Luisa María Jiménez, Rafael Lahera, Adela Legrá and Mario Limonta star in this potent film.

THE BATTLE OF ALGIERS. 1966. DVD UR

One of the most influential films in the history of political cinema, Gillo Pontecorvo's The Battle of Algiers focuses on the events of 1957, a key year in Algeria's struggle for independence from France. Shot in the streets of Algiers in documentary style, the film vividly re-creates the tumultuous Algerian uprising against the occupying French. The violence soon escalates on both sides in this war drama that's still astonishingly relevant.

THE BATTLE OF CHILE. 1976. DVD NR

Filmmaker and native Chilean Patricio Guzmán offers this riveting examination of the deadly turmoil that simmered in Chile between March and June of 1973, shortly after President Salvador Allende's Socialist Party fared well in national elections. After right-wing forces aligned with Gen. Augusto Pinochet found defeat at the polls, they turned increasingly to intimidation and brutal violence to advance their agenda.

This second installment of this documentary by filmmaker Patricio Guzmán chronicles the bloody political upheaval that rocked Chile from June to September 1973, when Gen. Augusto Pinochet staged a military coup to overthrow President Salvador Allende. Filmed on the streets while events were unfolding, this film captures the brutal violence that marked Pinochet's grab for power, including the presidential palace bombing in which Allende was killed.

In the third segment of his acclaimed documentary, filmmaker Patricio Guzmán chronicles the efforts of common Chilean citizens to organize and cope with the aftermath of the bloody coup d'état staged by Gen. Augusto Pinochet in September 1973. As these grassroots movements work together to distribute food and provide other services, they form a residual socialist resistance against their brutal new right-wing government.

BEING THERE. 1979. BLU RAY PG

In director Hal Ashby's Oscar-winning satire, illiterate gardener Chance (Peter Sellers) is run over by wealthy Eve (Shirley MacLaine) and suddenly becomes educated gent Chauncey Gardiner, thanks to Eve's misunderstanding of his mumbled introduction. Taken in by Eve's family, Chance simply regurgitates what he's heard on TV -- from gardening instructions to economic predictions -- and Washington's political elite hail him as their next star.

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES. 1946. DVD NR

Winning seven Academy Awards (including Best Picture), this classic drama follows three World War II veterans -- Homer (Harold Russell), AI (Fredric March) and Fred (Dana Andrews) -- as they return to small-town America and try to come to terms with their experiences. Best Supporting

BEYOND RANGOON. 1994. DVD R

Patricia Arquette stars as American widow Laura Bowman, a young doctor who's unwittingly drawn into political turmoil while vacationing in Burma in the late 1980s, in this fictionalized drama based on actual events. Bowman initially left San Francisco with her sister (Frances McDormand) in an attempt to escape painful memories of her husband and son's violent deaths. But her fight to escape to Thailand could prove just as harrowing.

BIG HISTORY: THE BIG BANG, LIFE ON EARTH, AND THE RISE OF HUMANITY 2008. DVD NR

Have you ever wondered: How do various scholarly discourses—cosmology, geology, anthropology, biology, history-fit together? Big History answers that question by weaving a single story from a variety of scholarly disciplines. Like traditional creation stories told by the world's great religions and mythologies, Big History provides a map of our place in space and time. But it does so using the insights and knowledge of modern science, as synthesized by a renowned historian. This is a story scholars have been able to tell only since the middle of the last century, thanks to the development of new dating techniques in the mid-1900s. As Professor Christian explains, this story will continue to grow and change as scientists and historians accumulate new knowledge about our shared past.

THE BIRDCAGE. 1996. DVD R

Longtime lovers Armand Goldman (Robin Williams) and Albert Goldman (Nathan Lane) own a Miami drag club, but when Armand's son announces his intent to marry the daughter (Calista Flockhart) of a stuffy U.S. Senator (Gene Hackman), Armand decides he has to fake a "normal" family. Nominated for an Academy Award for art direction, director Mike Nichols's comical farce is fast, funny and out of control. Hank Azaria co-stars.

THE BIRTH OF A NATION. 1915. DVD NR

Director D.W. Griffith's historical saga recounts the genesis of the U.S. Civil War, the destruction it wrought upon the populace, and the social ills spawned by Reconstruction, including the ascent of the Ku Klux Klan. The story plays out in the intertwining fates of two fictional families -the Northern Stonemans and the Southern Camerons. Though the film's legacy is stained by its racist content, it remains a landmark in filmmaking technique.

BLACK ORPHEUS. 1959. DVD NR

This superb retelling of the Orpheus and Eurydice Greek legend is set against Rio de Janeiro's madness during Carnival. Orpheus (Breno Mello), a trolley car conductor, is engaged to Mira (Lourdes de Oliveira) but in love with Eurydice (Marpessa Dawn). A vengeful Mira and Eurydice's ex-lover, costumed as Death, pursue Orpheus and his new paramour through the feverish Carnival night. Black Orpheus earned an Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film.

BLACKBOARDS. 2000. DVD NR

Wandering teachers travel to Iranian Kurdistan, near the border of Iraq. They carry blackboards on their backs that they use to take cover from army helicopters hovering overhead. An old man asks one of them, Said (Saeed Mohamadi), for help reading a letter from his son. His colleague Reeboir (Bahman Ghobadi) attempts to persuade a band of young thieves to allow him to teach them. Both find their lives taking unexpected turns.

BLACKHAWK DOWN. 2001. BLU RAY UR

When U.S. Rangers and an elite Delta Force team attempt to kidnap two underlings of a Somali warlord, their Black Hawk helicopters are shot down, and the Americans suffer heavy casualties, facing intense fighting

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from the militia on the ground. Director Ridley Scott (Gladiator) captures the brutal incident.

BLAZE. 1989. DVD R

Louisiana governor Earl Long (Paul Newman) is known for his grandiose behavior and his fondness for strip clubs. Unabashed about his habits, Long falls in love with much younger stripper Blaze Starr (Lolita Davidovich) -- an affair that Long's rivals use to attack his character. The matchup comes as a surprise to no one, but as their relationship progresses, Long's political career is increasingly strained.

BLIND SHAFT. 2003. DVD NR

True loyalty has no place in the hearts of criminals, especially two back-stabbing Chinese mobsters, Yi Xiang Li (Qiang Li) and Yuan Fengmin (Baoqiang Wang), who aren't afraid to turn on their own bosses in the name of greed and envy. Soon, however, they find that performing their misdeeds is one thing, but getting away with them is another business altogether. Although one decides to change his ways, trouble looms for both.

BLISS, 2007. DVD NR

After it's discovered that Meryem (Özgü Namal) has been raped, the young girl is ostracized by her family and community, who hold her accountable for the "crime." To salvage the family name, her father, Tahsin (Emin Gursoy), orders Cemal (Murat Han) to murder Meryem. But when Cemal refuses to carry out his orders, he and Meryem escape to a seaside town and set sail with a charismatic professor (Talat Bulut).

BLOOD DIAMOND. 2006. BLU RAY R

In war-ravaged Sierra Leone, diamond smuggler Danny Archer (Leonardo DiCaprio) learns that a local fisherman (Djimon Hounsou) has stumbled upon a gigantic gem, and he offers to reunite the man with his family in exchange for the diamond. When Archer befriends a journalist (Jennifer Connelly) tracing "blood diamonds" that finance terrorist groups, he's faced with a choice between riches and humanity. DiCaprio and Hounsou each earned Oscar nods.

THE BLUE KITE. 1993. DVD NR

This critically acclaimed award-winner, banned in China for its harshly realistic portrayal of life under Chairman Mao, is an epic look at recent Chinese history and how politics affect personal lives. The film follows young Tietou growing up in the midst of the Cultural Revolution, watching colleagues denounce each other and neighbors spy on one another. Soon, Tietou's family and friends -- and even Tietou -- get caught in the violent upheaval.

BOMBAY. 1995. DVD NR

Tackling the controversial topic of Hindu-Muslim racial conflict through a crosscultural love affair, writer-director Mani Ratnam delivers a riveting condemnation of religious bigotry and ethnic hatred. Six years after Hindi Shekhar Mishra Narayan (Arvind Swamy) and Muslim Shaila Bano (Manisha Koirala) elope against the wishes of both families, the couple and their twin boys find themselves caught in a flood of Hindu-Muslim riots sweeping Bombay.

BORN INTO BROTHELS. 2004. DVD R

British filmmaker Zana Briski's Oscarwinning documentary is a portrait of several unforgettable children who live in Calcutta's red-light district, where their mothers work as prostitutes to ensure their survival. Spurred by the kids' fascination with her camera, Briski decides to teach them photography. As they begin to look at and record their world through new eyes, the kids awaken to their own talents and sense of worth. Tom Cruise stars in an Oscar-nominated turn as U.S. Marine Ron Kovic, who returns home from the Vietnam War paralyzed from the chest down. After months of hellish rehabilitation, he finds renewed purpose protesting the war he once proudly fought. The film -- based on Kovic's autobiography of the same name -- earned Oliver Stone an Academy Award for Best Director, and also stars Kyra Sedgwick, Tom Berenger and Frank Whaley.

BOWLING FOR COLUMBINE. 2002. DVD R

Famed filmmaker and left-wing political humorist Michael Moore tackles America's obsession with firearms in this Oscarwinning documentary that focuses mainly on the Columbine High School massacre of 1999. Moore also visits a bank that gives each new customer a free gun, recites statistics for gun deaths in the United States and interviews folks ranging from National Rifle Association spokesman Charlton Heston to shock rocker Marilyn Manson.

BOYZ N THE HOOD. 1991. DVD R

South Central Los Angeles high school student Tre Styles (Cuba Gooding Jr.) struggles to stay straight in a community polluted by drugs, violence and racism, and his cynical, devoted father (Laurence Fishburne) will accept nothing but the best from him. Writer-director John Singleton's dramatic debut effort earned two Academy Award nominations (for Best Director and Best Writing) and launched the film careers of Gooding and Ice Cube.

BROADCAST NEWS. 1987. DVD R

In James L. Brooks's Oscar-nominated romantic comedy, three ambitious workaholics are set loose in a network TV newsroom, where their professional and personal lives become hopelessly crosswired. Anchorman Tom (William Hurt) is smooth, handsome and a bit dumb; Jane (Holly Hunter) is his driven, brilliant producer; and Aaron (Albert Brooks) is a seasoned, uncharismatic reporter who can't stand Tom's instant success on-camera or with Jane.

BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN. 2009. BLU RAY R

While working together near Wyoming's Brokeback Mountain in 1963, sheepherders Jack Twist (Jake Gyllenhaal) and Ennis Del Mar (Heath Ledger) begin an increasingly passionate affair. But keeping their relationship a secret from their wives (Anne Hathaway and Michelle Williams) proves agonizing and all-consuming. Ang Lee directs this Oscar-winning drama based on a short story by Pulitzer Prize winner E. Annie Proulx.

BUFFALO BOY. 2004. DVD NR

In this lyrical coming-of-age story set in rural 1940s Vietnam, 15-year-old Kim (The Lu Le) fills in for his ill father (Huu Thanh Nguyen) and leads the two family buffalo to high ground during the rainy season. When he joins a rough band of nomadic buffalo herders also on the trail, Kim sets out on an eye-opening journey in which he discovers freedom, violence and love -- as well as secrets about his past that will change his life forever.

BULWORTH. 1999. DVD R

California Sen. Jay Bulworth (Warren Beatty), reduced by years of compromise and scheming, hires a hit man to put him out of his misery. Kicking off an election campaign with nothing to lose, Bulworth lets his mouth get him in hot water. When his newfound honesty gives him clarity and garners respect from constituents, he decides to call off his assassination. But it might be too late, as the plot has already been set in motion. Beatty directs.

BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB. 1999. DVD G

In this fascinating Oscar-nominated documentary, American guitarist Ry Cooder brings together a group of legendary Cuban folk musicians (some in their 90s) to record a Grammy-winning CD in their native city of Havana. The result is a spectacular compilation of concert footage from the group's gigs in Amsterdam and New York City's famed Carnegie Hall, with director Wim Wenders capturing not only the music -- but also the musicians' life stories.

BURMA VJ. 2008. DVD NR

Filmmaker Anders Østergaard's Oscarnominated documentary profiles the courageous efforts of a renegade band of Burmese reporters who -- in the face of a repressive regime and media censorship -refuse to be silenced. Calling themselves the Democratic Voice of Burma (aka the Burma VJs), these fierce "video warriors" place themselves in peril as they smuggle footage documenting their government's abuses across the border -- and to the world at large.

BURNT BY THE SUN. 1994. DVD R

Col. Sergei Kotov, his wife Maroussia and daughter Nadia are enjoying life at their beautiful country estate in Stalinist Russia when a mysterious man arrives, shattering their hopes for a peaceful existence. Mitia, who once was Maroussia's lover, seems perfectly charming at first -- but it soon becomes clear he has a sinister agenda. Nikita Mikhalkov's powerful portrait of viciousness during the Stalin era won the Oscar for Best Foreign Film.

THE CANDIDATE. 1972. DVD PG

Robert Redford stars as Bill McKay, a California lawyer urged to run against the seemingly unbeatable Republican incumbent in a senatorial race. McKay is a well-meaning innocent, but as support widens for his open platform, the sellout begins. With an Oscar-winning script and appearances by real-life reporters and politicians, The Candidate takes a biting look at the nature of politics.

CAPITALISM: A LOVE STORY. 2009. DVD R

Filmmaker Michael Moore (Sicko, Fahrenheit 9/11) takes on capitalism's roots, the floundering U.S. economy, and 2008's global financial meltdown and subsequent bank bailout in this rousing documentary. Combining stories about those who suffer most from Corporate America's greed and insatiable thirst for profits and the people most responsible for myriad crises, Moore embarks on another shocking fact-finding rampage.

CASABLANCA. 1942. BLU RAY PG

In this Oscar-winning classic, American expat Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart) plays host to gamblers, thieves and refugees at his Moroccan nightclub during World War II ... but he never expected IIsa (Ingrid Bergman) - the woman who broke his heart -- to walk through that door. IIsa hopes that with Rick's help, she and her fugitive husband (Paul Henreid) can escape to America. But the spark that brought the lovers together still burns brightly.

CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR. 2008. DVD R

Texas congressman Charlie Wilson sets a series of earth-shaking events in motion when he conspires with a CIA operative (Philip Seymour Hoffman, in an Oscarnominated role) to aid Afghan mujahedeen rebels in their fight against the Soviet Red Army. Julia Roberts, Emily Blunt and Amy Adams co-star in this fact-based political thriller directed by Mike Nichols and based on George Crile's 2003 book by the same name.

CHE. 2008. DVD

R

Benicio Del Toro delivers a searing, emotional performance as Ernesto "Che" Guevara, an asthmatic Argentine doctor who became one of Latin America's most legendary revolutionary leaders in the 1950s. Director Steven Soderbergh recounts the events of the Cuban revolution, in which Guevara, Fidel Castro (Demiàn Bichir), Tamara Bunke (Franka Potente) and other revolutionaries worked to overthrow the dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista.

CHECKPOINT. 2003. DVD

CHILDREN OF HEAVEN. 1997. DVD PG

In this Oscar-nominated Iranian drama from filmmaker Majid Majidi, a young boy (Amir Farrokh Hashemian) accidentally loses his sister's (Bahare Seddiqi) shoes and must share his own sneakers with her in a sort of relay while each attends school at different times during the day. The boy ultimately enters a much-publicized foot race in hopes of placing third and taking home the prize: a new pair of sneakers.

CHINA: A CENTURY OF REVOLUTION. 2007. DVD

NR

This powerful, comprehensive documentary series takes an objective, firsthand look at China's tumultuous 20th century, examining the nation's social, political and cultural upheaval through personal interviews and rare historical footage. Beginning in 1911 with the fall of the last emperor, the program journeys through the decades, following China's growth into one of the world's largest economies.

CHINA FROM THE INSIDE. 2006. DVD NR

Get an unprecedented look inside the history, contemporary life and political realities of China with this fascinating PBS documentary. As China's global power grows, much of its culture remains veiled from the rest of the world -- and conflicts between economic policies and the Communist agenda have grown. The four episodes include "Power and the People," "Women of the Country," "Shifting Nature" and "Freedom and Justice."

CHINA RISES: BEHIND THE GREAT WALL. 2008. DVD NR

China's shift from secluded land of mystery to global economic powerhouse is explored in this compelling documentary about the country's progress, power and people. With unprecedented access, the Discovery Times Channel's cameras capture every aspect of this dynamic country, from the Shanghai Film Festival to a factory floor, a Great Wall rock concert to the legacy of Tiananmen Square and preparations for the 2008 Olympics.

CHINATOWN. 1974. DVD R

With a suspicious, porcelain-skinned femme fatale (Faye Dunaway) bankrolling his snooping, private eye J.J. Gittes (Jack Nicholson) uncovers intricate dirty dealings in the Los Angeles waterworks and gets his nose slashed for his trouble. Meanwhile, his financier harbors a nasty family secret. Director Roman Polanski reimagines 1930s Los Angeles with an onionlike story that reveals itself one complex layer at a time in this classic neonoir.

CHUNGKING EXPRESS. 1994. DVD PG-13

Hong Kong director Kar Wai Wong established a unique style with this cerebral film that presents two somewhat similar but ultimately unrelated stories about loneliness and disconnection in the big city. In the first story, a policeman pines after his former girlfriend and gives himself 30 days to find another woman; in the second story, another policeman catches the eye of an attractive waitress, who's intent on completely rearranging his life.

THE CIRCLE. 2000. DVD NR

Director Jafar Panahi's portrait of the status of women in fundamentalist Iran is, by any stretch of the imagination, depressing. But just getting the film made was a major political feat, given Iran's dogmatic view of women and unstable political climate. The fact that this film (made by a man) is sensitive to women's plight sheds a ray of hope that, given time, things may gradually change.

CITIZEN KANE. 1941. DVD PG

Orson Welles reinvented movies at the age of 26 with this audacious biography of newspaper baron Charles Foster Kane, which, in essence, was a thinly veiled portrait of publishing magnate William Randolph Hearst. Welles's complex and technically stunning film chronicles Kane's rise from poverty to become one of America's most influential men -- and it's considered one of the best movies ever made.

CITY OF GOD. 2003. DVD R

Buscapé (Alexandre Rodrigues) is frightened he'll end up like the countless others around him -- troubled, violent or dead. But his saving grace is his photographer's eye, through which the stories of several people who live in his forsaken Cidade de Deus unfold. Fernando Meirelles and Kátia Lund direct this sobering look at life inside a Rio de Janeiro housing project, reputed to be one of the most dangerous parts of an otherwise magical city.

THE CIVIL WAR. 1990. DVD NR

This documentary masterpiece from Ken Burns depicts the strategies and action of famous Civil War battles, and relates the stories of generals, field soldiers, politicians, heroes and a beleaguered president. The Emmy-winning miniseries begins by looking at the factors that led to the firing on Fort Sumter, and covers specific notable battles, climaxing with Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender and Pres. Abraham Lincoln's assassination.

CLASSIC POLITICAL CAMPAIGN FILMS. 2007. DVD

CLOCKERS. 1995. DVD [FILED UNDER "SPIKE LEE JOINT COLLECTION"] R

Strike is from the mean streets, working his way up in the drug rackets. When a local kingpin tips him off to an opportunity for advancement, a rival dealer is killed, and Strike gets caught between two homicide detectives. Directed by Spike Lee, produced by Martin Scorsese and adapted from a Richard Price novel, Clockers was "one of 1995's most powerful films," according to Jeffrey Lyons of Sneak Previews.

CLOSE-UP. 1996. DVD R

When Russian immigrant filmmaker Stefan Van Der Berg (Michael Mauro) is accused of committing nine murders in a gruesome incident he doesn't remember, he enters a surreal world as he becomes the center of a media storm in this tense drama. His own lawyer tries to capitalize on Stefan's plight, and Stefan's sanity begins to deteriorate as he tries to piece together what happened and fights to gain his freedom.

THE CLOSED DOORS. 1999. DVD NR

The winner of several international awards, this moving drama explores how cultural restrictions in contemporary Egyptian society affect a sexually confused teenager. Mohamad (Ahmed Azmi) lives alone with his hardworking mother (Sawsan Badr). After he's suspended from school for spying on girls through a peephole, Mohamad tries to understand his taboo longings. He soon turns to a fanatical Islamic group -- a move that leads him down a dark path.

COAL MINER'S DAUGHTER. 1980. DVD PG

Sissy Spacek shines in her Oscar-winning role as country singer Loretta Lynn in this biopic that charts the queen of country music's rise -- from her hardscrabble upbringing in Appalachia to stardom at the Grand Ole Opry. Married at the age of 13, Lynn was pushed into a music career by her husband, Doolittle (Tommy Lee Jones). Beverly D'Angelo appears as Patsy Cline, and that really is Spacek's singing voice you hear.

COCALERO. 2007. DVD NR

This 2007 Sundance Film Festival competition entry from director Alejandro Landes documents Aymara Indian Evo Morales's grassroots political campaign to become the first indigenous president of Bolivia. Morales, former president of the Chapare coca growers union, solicited a groundswell of native political support during the 2002 elections, a telling response to the incumbent administration's attempts to eradicate the crop.

THE COLOR OF OLIVES. 2006. DVD NR

Life is anything but ordinary for Palestinian Hani Amer and his family, whose home lies in the path of a long wall being built by Israel to keep suicide bombers out of the country. Armed militia, an electrified fence and locked gates now separate the Amers from their farm, providing a reminder that an ageold battle is clearly not over. Filmmaker Carolina Rivas' pensive documentary relies on natural light to lend peace to a war-torn environment.

THE CORPORATION. 2005. DVD UR

Filmmakers Mark Achbar and Jennifer Abbott explore the genesis of the American corporation, its global economic supremacy and its psychopathic leanings, with social critics like Noam Chomsky and Milton Friedman lending insight in this documentary. With their merciless quest for profit and insatiable aim to sway every aspect of culture, conglomerates' inner workings are scrutinized to draw conclusions about "business as usual."

THE COLOR PURPLE. 1985. DVD PG-13

Whoopi Goldberg stars as Celie, a Southern woman whose correspondence with her sister in Africa helps her escape an abusive husband (portrayed with a scary edge by Danny Glover) and a life of bitter circumstance. Steven Spielberg directs this Oscar-nominated drama, a sterling adaptation of Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prizewinning novel, that boasts an evocative soundtrack by Quincy Jones and a moving performance by Oprah Winfrey.

THE COMPLETE MONTEREY POP FESTIVAL. 1967. BLU RAY NR In 1967, cinematographer D.A. Pennebaker -- famous for his cinema verite style -- was in California to capture the searing performances of the likes of such icons as The Mamas and the Papas, Otis Redding and The Who on the Monterey International Pop Festival stage. Special features in this director-approved collection include substantial concert and behind-the-scenes footage.

THE CONFORMIST. 1970. DVD UR

When the government orders him to kill a political refugee, Marcello (Jean-Louis Trintignant) agrees -- even though his target is his college mentor. Hence, he is "the Conformist," a man who will do absolutely anything to belong. Bernardo Bertolucci directs this thought-provoking drama set in 1930s fascist Italy, a visually complex character study for which he was nominated an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay.

THE CONSTANT GARDENER. 2005. BLU RAY R

Justin Quayle (Ralph Fiennes), a member of the British High Commission based in Africa, launches a quest for the truth and begins his own international investigation when his wife (Rachel Weisz, in an Oscar-winning turn) is murdered. Not even the rumors of his wife's infidelity will stop him from uncovering what really happened to her -- a conspiracy that's much more dangerous than he ever imagined.

CONTROL ROOM. 2004. DVD NR

This documentary peers into the controversial and often dangerous operations of the AI Jazeera news network, an outlet that's become the most accepted informational resource in the Arab community -- even though it often enrages its own people. Egyptian-American filmmaker Jehane Noujaim gains extraordinary access to AI Jazeera journalists and examines the risks they confront on a daily basis by simply doing their jobs.

THE COW. 1969. DVD NR

This charming movie from Iran directed by Dariush Mehrjui won the hearts of moviegoers at the 1971 Venice Film Festival, where it was screened amid secrecy and controversy. It tells the not-sosimple story of Hassan (Ezzatolah Entezami), a farmer who forms an unexplainable bond with his cow. But when his pet dies, his dedication morphs into delusional sadness, and he begins to feel that he'd become his bovine's best friend.

THE CRANES ARE FLYING. 1957. DVD NR

Veronica's devastated when the love of her life, Boris, is sent to the front lines of World War II. She doesn't hear from him for ages, and becomes so distraught that she agrees to marry Boris's draft-dodging cousin, who raped her during an air raid. Never knowing if she'll see Boris again, Veronica slowly begins to rebuild her life and sense of identity. The film won the Palm d'Or at the 1958 Cannes Film Festival.

CRASH. 2004. BLU RAY R

Tensions erupt when the tangled lives of a Brentwood housewife, her district attorney husband, a Persian shopkeeper, two cops, a pair of carjackers and a Korean couple converge over a 36-hour period in the diverse metropolis of post-9/11 Los Angeles. Sandra Bullock, Brendan Fraser, Don Cheadle, Matt Dillon, Thandie Newton and Terrence Howard co-star in this Oscarwinning Best Picture from writer-director Paul Haggis.

CROOKLYN. 1994. DVD [FILED UNDER "SPIKE LEE JOINT COLLECTION"] PG-13

Spike Lee directs this semi-autobiographical tale of a large family sharing a Brooklyn apartment in the early 1970s. The story focuses on Troy (Zelda Harris), whose musican father (Delroy Lindo) and schoolteacher mother (Alfre Woodard) work hard to provide for her and her four unruly brothers. Lee wrote the script with his two siblings, and punctuates the nostalgia with a soundtrack full of '70s R&B hits.

CROSSROADS: UKRAINE AND THE TRIUMPH OF DEMOCRACY. 2007. DVD

Through the eyes of six Ukrainians, "CROSSROADS - Ukraine and the Triumph of Democracy" examines the history and current events of Ukraine, including its Orange Revolution of 2004, as context for exploring the question of democracy and what it means to be or to become an autonomous, free, and self-governing people.

THE CRUCIBLE. 1996. DVD PG-13

Playwright Arthur Miller's parable of the 1950s anti-communist crusade (thinly veiled here as the Salem, Mass., witch trials of 1692) receives lush treatment in this Oscarnominated film adaptation from director Nicholas Hytner. After being spurned by her married lover (Daniel Day-Lewis), young Abigail Williams (Winona Ryder) stirs up a frenzy of hysteria and fear with accusations of witchcraft. Joan Allen earned an Oscar nod for her role.

CRY FREEDOM. 1987. DVD PG

In segregated 1970s South Africa, black nationalist Steven Biko (Denzel Washington) and white newspaper editor Donald Woods (Kevin Kline) are unlikely friends with a common goal -- ending apartheid -- in this true story based on Woods's books Biko and Asking for Trouble. When Biko's beliefs lead him to prison and a deadly fate, Woods rallies to expose the injustice. Director Richard Attenborough's film earned Washington his first Oscar nod.

DANCES WITH WOLVES. 1990. DVD PG-13

Wounded Civil War soldier John Dunbar (Kevin Costner) tries to commit suicide -and becomes a hero instead. As a reward, he's assigned to his dream post, a remote junction on the Western frontier, and soon makes unlikely friends with the local Sioux tribe. This special edition of Costner's Oscar-winning directorial debut features an extended cut of the film, an audio commentary from Costner, a behind-thescenes featurette and more.

DAS BOOT. 1981. DVD R

Nominated for six Oscars, this edge-of-yourseat dramatic triumph follows the trials of a German U-boat crew during World War II. Upon its restored re-release in 1997, an hour was added to the original film, which further augmented its impact. It also played as a six-hour German miniseries. In all its forms, the realistic and gripping battle scenes and palpable human struggle make Das Boot a critical hit.

DAVE. 1993. DVD [ON A SHARED DISK WITH "THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT"] PG-13

Dave Kovic (Kevin Kline) looks so much like President Bill Mitchell that he's asked to stand in for him after the chief executive suffers an unexpected stroke -- and he's stuck in the White House till Mitchell's staff (led by an unctuous Frank Langella) can decide what to do. Dave gets into the part, passing legislation and even developing a crush on Mitchell's estranged First Lady (Sigourney Weaver). Ivan Reitman directed this charming political comedy.

THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW. 2004. BLU RAY

PG-13

After years of unabated global warming, the greenhouse effect is wreaking havoc all over the globe in the form of catastrophic hurricanes, tornadoes, tidal waves, floods and, most ominously, the beginning of the next Ice Age. Paleoclimatologist Jack Hall (Dennis Quaid) tries to save the world while also shepherding to safety his son Sam (Jake Gyllenhaal), who was in New York when the city was overwhelmed by the beginnings of the new big freeze.

DEAD MAN WALKING. 1995. DVD R Scheduled to be put to death for brutally slaying two teens, Matthew Poncelet (Sean Penn) seeks the aid of activist nun Helen Prejean (Susan Sarandon), a death-penalty opponent. She becomes Matthew's spiritual adviser and tries to halt the execution, even though Matthew's professed innocence is dubious. As the execution date draws ever closer, Sister Helen works to save Matthew's soul by getting him to confess -and to ask divine forgiveness.

THE DEER HUNTER. 1978. DVD R

In this Oscar-winning epic from director Michael Cimino, a group of working-class friends decides to enlist in the Army during the Vietnam War and finds it to be hellish chaos -- not the noble venture they imagined. Before they left, Steven (John Savage) married his pregnant girlfriend -and Michael (Robert De Niro) and Nick (Christopher Walken) were in love with the same woman (Meryl Streep). But all three are different men upon their return.

THE DELEGATE. 2003. DVD NR

DELIVERANCE. 1972. BLU RAY

Four suburban friends take a canoeing trip down a Georgia river, but what starts as a lighthearted adventure becomes a voyage into the heart of darkness when redneck locals descend on the foursome and force them to kill or be killed. Jon Voight, Burt Reynolds, Ronny Cox and Ned Beatty star in this terrifying, enthralling, existential action epic that earned three Academy Award nominations: Best Picture, Best Director and Best Editing.

DETROPIA. 2012. DVD NR

As the focus of this sobering documentary, the decline of Detroit also reflects the nation's larger failure to keep up in a modern global economy. The film also examines the efforts of its residents to maintain Detroit's vibrant cultural base.

THE DEVIL CAME ON HORSEBACK. 2007.

NR

In this unflinching documentary chronicling the genocide in Darfur, former Marine Capt. Brian Steidle is forever transformed by the atrocities he witnesses as a military observer for the African Union. Armed only with his camera, Steidle records the killings of black Africans at the hands of Janjaweed militias funded by Sudan's Arab government. With his bleak photos, Steidle focuses attention on the horrors ignored by the rest of the world.

DEVILS ON THE DOORSTEP. 2002. DVD UR

Jiang Wen directed and stars as the hapless protagonist in this incendiary, sociopolitical satire set in a Chinese hamlet during World War II's waning days. One wintry night, peasant Ma Dasan (Wen) becomes -- at gunpoint -- the custodian of two Japanese prisoners, one a rabid, jingoistic soldier and the other his self-preserving translator. When the gunman doesn't return, Dasan faces a weighty dilemma: Either slay his captives or free them.

DICK. 1999. DVD

PG-13

After 15-year-old best friends Betsy (Kirsten Dunst) and Arlene (Michelle Williams) inadvertently witness the Watergate burglary, the president (Dan Hedaya) takes an interest in them and hires them as "official White House dog walkers" to keep them under close surveillance. But the girls, once impressed by Nixon's stature and personality, learn that he's not as friendly as it seems, and threaten spill their guts to local newspaper reporters.

DIL SE. DVD NR

While on an interview assignment for All-India Radio, Amar Varma meets Meghna, the woman of his dreams. But in spite of Amar's repeated efforts to get close to her, the mysterious Meghna stubbornly rejects him. But why? The crestfallen Amar returns home to Delhi and consents to a familyarranged marriage. But then the enigmatic Meghna suddenly reappears, and Amar discovers that she's a suicide bomber whose mission is just one day away.

DIRTY HARRY. 1971. DVD R

When a madman dubbed the "Scorpio Killer" terrorizes San Francisco, hard-boiled cop Harry Callahan (Clint Eastwood) -- famous for his take-no-prisoners approach to law enforcement -- is tasked with hunting down the psychopath. Harry eventually collars Scorpio in the process of rescuing a kidnap victim, only to see him walk on technicalities. Now, the maverick detective is determined to nail the maniac himself.

DISTANT. 2002. DVD

UR

Mahmut (Muzzafer Özdemir), a divorced, hermit-like photographer, lets his dopey cousin Yusuf (Mehmet Emin Toprak) live with him for a while in Istanbul while Yusuf looks for a job so he can support his family in their native Turkish village. The distance -- and silence -- between the two lonely, depressed men soon grows to intolerance, on Mahmut's part, of the chaos Yusuf has brought into his life. Nuri Bilge Ceylan directs this intimate drama.

THE DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMAN. 1992. DVD R

A small-time con man (Eddie Murphy) with a big name -- Thomas Jefferson Johnson -decides to move from running a phone-sex scam to a more lucrative and legal operation. He sees his chance to weasel into politics when a congressman sharing his name dies unexpectedly in the midst of a reelection campaign. But while the junior lawmaker learns the political ropes, his interests move from money to romancing a beautiful lobbyist (Victoria Lowell).

DO THE RIGHT THING. 1989. DVD [FILED UNDER "SPIKE LEE JOINT COLLECTION"] R What begins as an uproarious comedy evolves into a provocative, disquieting drama as director Spike Lee chronicles trivial events that bring festering racial tensions to the surface on a sweltering day in a largely black Brooklyn neighborhood. After a number of minor misunderstandings -- and an effort to boycott the local pizza parlor -- a young man (Bill Nunn) lies dead, the pizzeria lies in ashes, and the racial schism is wider than ever.

DR. STRANGELOVE. 1964. BLU RAY PG

When a fanatical U.S. general (Sterling Hayden) launches an air strike against the Soviets, they raise the stakes by threatening to unleash a "doomsday device," setting the stage for Armageddon in this classic black comedy that brilliantly skewers the nuclear age. The film's star-studded cast includes George C. Scott, Slim Pickens, James Earl Jones and Peter Sellers (who steals the show and copped an Oscar nod playing three roles).

DOCTOR ZHIVAGO. 1965. DVD PG

A young physician (Omar Sharif) and his beautiful mistress (Julie Christie) get swept up in the danger and drama of the Bolshevik Revolution in this Oscar-winning epic based on the classic novel by Nobel Prize-winning author Boris Pasternak. The film earned five Academy Awards in all, including statues for Best Art Direction, Best Cinematography, Best Costume Design, Best Score and Best Screenplay. Alec Guinness and Rod Steiger co-star.

EAT DRINK MAN WOMAN. 1994. DVD NR

Distracted by their complicated love lives and secret ambitions, three adult sisters reluctantly humor their widower father (Sihung Lung) by enduring the elaborate, traditional Taiwanese dinners he insists on having every Sunday. Ang Lee directs this charming tale that humorously examines the clash between modernity and tradition within the contemporary Taiwanese family. Yu-Wen Wang, Chien-lien Wu and Kuei-Mei Yang co-star.

EL NORTE. 1983. DVD R

When the army ransacks their Guatemalan village, impoverished teenage siblings Enrique (David Villalpando) and Rosa (Zaide Silvia Gutiérrez) travel north through Mexico, hoping for a better life in America as undocumented immigrants in this Oscarnominated drama. Kind souls aid their trek northward, but criminals and a persistent fear of deportation also dog their every move. Gregory Nava directs.

ELECTION. 1999. DVD R

Tracy Flick (Reese Witherspoon) appears to have the election for student council president sewn up until one of her teachers, Mr. McAllister (Matthew Broderick), rounds up a worthy opponent: a popular and naïve varsity football player (Chris Klein) whose knee injury has him sidelined for the season. Tracy is desperate to win the race at any cost. But Mr. McAllister is just as determined to see Tracy -- a textbook overachiever -soundly defeated.

ELMER GANTRY. 1960. DVD NR

Hollywood legend Burt Lancaster nabbed a Best Actor Oscar as glad-handing, soulredeeming charlatan Elmer Gantry, a huckster who spins his talent for preaching into a métier behind the pulpit. Hopping aboard the barnstorming evangelical crusade of Sister Sharon Falconer (Jean Simmons), Gantry moralizes his way to fame and fortune till an erstwhile ladylove (Shirley Jones) threatens to expose his shady history as a skirt-chaser and scam artist.

EMPIRE OF THE SUN. 1987. DVD PG

Steven Spielberg directs a young Christian Bale in a stunning feature-film debut as Jim, a British expatriate who's separated from his parents when the Japanese army invades Shanghai at the outset of World War II. Eventually interned in a civilian prison camp, Jim hooks up with several American prisoners (led by John Malkovich) and becomes the camp mascot. Elsewhere, war tidings grow ominous for the Japanese.

ENEMY OF THE STATE. 1998. BLU RAY R

Hotshot Washington lawyer Robert Dean (Will Smith) becomes a victim of high-tech identity theft when a hacker slips an incriminating video into his pocket. Soon, a rogue National Security agent (Jon Voight) sets out to recover the tape -- and destroy Dean. Tony Scott directs this breakneck political thriller that co-stars Gene Hackman as an intelligence expert who comes to Dean's aid.

ENCOUNTER POINT. 2006. DVD NR

As violence continues in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, some of those touched by the bloodshed become advocates for peace. This documentary introduces citizens on both sides for whom an end to conflict has become a personal crusade. Family members of slain Palestinians and Israelis, both military and civilian, share their stories and how they've turned their grief into a force for change in the region.

THE ENGLISH PATIENT. 1996. DVD R

Adapted from Michael Ondaatje's acclaimed novel set against the backdrop of World War II, Anthony Mingehlla's Oscar-winning drama stars Ralph Fiennes as a horribly burned pilot who recounts a tale of doomed romance to the nurse tending him (Juliette Binoche). As his story is revealed via flashback, so too are secrets about his identity and the depth of his passion for the woman he loved (Kristin Scott Thomas). Willem Dafoe co-stars.

ENRON: THE SMARTEST GUYS IN THE ROOM. 2005. DVD R

Based on the book of the same name by Peter Elkin, director Alex Gibney's documentary takes a behind-the-scenes look at the powerful energy company whose downfall forever changed the landscape of

the business world. With a blend of fascinating footage, fast-paced interviews and a wealth of information, this film is a serious lesson in the potential trappings of dishonesty and unethical behavior dogging corporate America.

ERIN BROCKOVICH. 2000. DVD R

Julia Roberts earned an Oscar in this unconventional drama based on actual events for her portrayal of Erin Brockovich, a twice-divorced mother of three who sees an injustice, takes on the bad guy and wins -with a little help from her push-up bra. Erin goes to work for an attorney (Albert Finney) and comes across medical records describing illnesses clustered in one nearby town. She starts investigating and soon exposes a monumental cover-up.

EYES ON THE PRIZE. 1987. DVD TV-PG

This Emmy-winning documentary from the PBS "American Experience" series uses newsreel footage and narratives from famous and everyday people to take viewers inside the struggle for civil rights during the crucial years of 1954 through '65. Among the critical events discussed are the Montgomery bus boycott, the integration of schools in Little Rock, the murder of activists in Mississippi and Martin Luther King's groundbreaking marches to freedom.

FAIL-SAFE. 1964. DVD NR

Director Sidney Lumet transforms the doomsday scenario played for laughs in Dr. Strangelove into a taut thriller. When a computer glitch sends a bomber crew on a suicide mission to Moscow, the U.S. president (Henry Fonda) agonizes over how to stop it. Will Fonda tell the Russians to shoot down the plane? Global thermonuclear war may hinge on his decision.

THE FALL OF FUJIMORI. 2006. DVD NR

Ellen Perry's true-life political thriller documents the reign of former Peruvian

president Alberto Fujimori, a man who ran on a ticket to fight poverty but whose rule was ultimately marked by violence, corruption and controversy. With promises to restore stability and crush terrorist insurgents, Fujimori won popular support -and the 1990 election -- but his administration eventually dissolved under the weight of political abuses and scandal.

FAREWELL MY CONCUBINE. 1993. DVD R

A seemingly unshakable friendship between two Chinese opera stars gets put to the test in the face of war, a communist takeover, the Cultural Revolution and the intrusion of a woman who tempts both of them. In a plot that captures 50 years of Chinese history, the once-inseparable Duan Xiaolou (Zhang Fengyi) and Cheng Dieyi (Leslie Cheung) find themselves increasingly at odds after Xiaolou weds a lovely courtesan (Li Gong).

A FAREWELL TO ARMS. 1957. DVD NR

Adapted from Ernest Hemingway's World War I novel, this drama centers on American soldier Lt. Frederick Henry (Rock Hudson). While serving in the Italian Army, Henry has an affair with nurse Catherine Barkley (Jennifer Jones), and she becomes pregnant. The two lose touch, and Catherine is certain Henry's moved on to greener pastures. But he manages to track her down in Switzerland and arrives at her hospital bedside to find her clinging to life.

FARENHEIT 9/11. 2004. DVD R

Michael Moore's hard-hitting documentary addresses the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, outlining the reasons the United States (and, in turn, thousands of innocent Americans) became a target for hatred and terrorism. The film not only criticizes President George W. Bush's response to the attacks but also reinforces Moore's theory that the Bush Administration used the tragic event to push its own political agenda.

FAST FOOD NATION. 2006. DVD R

Richard Linklater's fictional tale (inspired by Eric Schlosser's 2001 nonfiction book of the same name) critiques the junk-food juggernaut that's arguably responsible for America's alarming obesity rates. Greg Kinnear plays Don Henderson, a corporate exec of a national fast-food chain, who follows beef's journey from the corrals to the slaughterhouses -- and ultimately to your stomach. Ethan Hawke, Patricia Arquette and Bruce Willis co-star.

THE FIGHT FOR THE WHITE HOUSE. 2008. DVD NR

See how television changed the face of presidential races with this collection of commercials, speeches and other footage from the campaign trail. Witness the groundbreaking Kennedy-Nixon debates, which signaled a new emphasis on appearance, Lyndon Johnson's "Daisy" commercial and Nixon's "Checkers" speech. Spanning more than 50 years, the clips illustrate the role visual media has played in shaping voters' perceptions of the candidates.

THE FIRST AMENDMENT PROJECT. 2004. DVD

NR

How the entertainment industry tackles the subject of civil liberties and free speech goes on trial, so to speak, in this documentary by The Sundance Channel and Court TV. Filmmakers Chris Hegedus and Mario Van Peebles team up for this entertaining and educational project, which includes New Jersey poet laureate Amiri Baraka reading his controversial 9/11 piece; footage from protestors at the 2004 Republican National Convention; and more.

FLAG WARS. 2003. DVD NR

A gripping look at a complex issue, this documentary explores the upheaval that occurs in a primarily African-American working-class neighborhood in Columbus, Ohio, when it becomes gentrified by an influx of white homosexuals. While longtime residents struggle to survive, the gay newcomers face their own set of issues. The economic and political clash between two historically oppressed groups brings out prejudice and insensitivity on both sides.

FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS. 2006. DVD R

Clint Eastwood directs this riveting World War II drama that recounts the story of six U.S. soldiers who were instantly immortalized when they were photographed raising the American flag atop Iwo Jima's Mount Suribachi. Based on the book of the same name, the film reconstructs the events surrounding the snapshot, which came to symbolize the U.S. troops' triumph and America's indestructible spirit. Ryan Phillippe and Barry Pepper co-star.

THE FOG OF WAR. 2003. DVD PG-13

This Oscar-winning documentary traces former Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara's career from government to the World Bank; but his work during the Vietnam War -- examined through archival footage and interviews -- is the real highlight. Having worked for both presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson, McNamara played a key role in shaping both administrations' approaches to the conflict.

FORREST GUMP. 1994. DVD PG-13

Winner of six Academy Awards, including Best Picture, director Robert Zemeckis's charming blend of comedy and drama stars Tom Hanks as Forrest Gump, a simpleminded man who finds himself in the middle of nearly every major event of the 1960s and '70s. Along the way, he makes friends, changes lives and searches for a soul mate. Hanks nabbed a Best Actor Oscar for his remarkable portrayal of the unsophisticated yet surprisingly wise Forrest.

FOUND IN CHINA. 2007. DVD

FOUNDING BROTHERS. 2002. DVD NR This insightful documentary revisits six key moments during America's first years, chronicling the efforts of George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, John Adams, James Madison and Aaron Burr to shape the country. The program delves into the disagreements and views that prompted Franklin's appeal to abolish slavery, Burr and Hamilton's fateful duel and other landmark events.

THE FRENCH CONNECTION. 1971. DVD R

Violent, foul-mouthed detective "Popeye" Doyle (Gene Hackman) pursues a suave French drug dealer (Fernando Rey) through New York City with Captain Ahab-like zeal. Featuring a legendary car-vs.-train chase scene that stands the test of time, the film won the Best Picture Oscar. William Friedkin's groundbreaking crime drama that portrays cops and thugs in a similar light took the genre down a gritty, realistic path that influenced filmmaking for years.

FRONTLINE: AL QAEDA'S NEW FRONT. 2005. DVD

FRONTLINE: BUSH'S WAR. 2008. DVD NR

This definitive documentary, produced to mark the fifth anniversary of the Iraq invasion, analyzes in detail controversial topics surrounding the war, including Sept. 11, al-Qaida, Guantanamo, Abu Ghraib, weapons of mass destruction and Fallujah. For years, the Peabody Award-winning series "Frontline" has brought viewers the real story of Afghanistan, Iraq and the dramatic political intricacies at the highest levels of the U.S. military.

FRONTLINE: CHENEY'S LAW. 2007. DVD

FRONTLINE: COUNTRY BOYS. 2005. DVD

FRONTLINE: THE DARK SIDE. 2006. DVD NR

This gripping "Frontline" report dissects Vice President Dick Cheney's actions as chief architect of the war on terror, and his battles with CIA director George Tenet over control of America's intelligence community. Interviews with more than 40 key participants shed light on the political infighting, from the moments after Sept. 11 to the administration's feverish run-up to the Iraq War and the indictment of Cheney adviser Lewis "Scooter" Libby.

FRONTLINE: ENDGAME. 2007. DVD NR

"Frontline" examines the U.S. missteps that led Iraq into a virtual civil war in this bold report. Military experts offer critical analysis of the failure of the "quick exit" plan, the flaws in leadership, the "surge" and other key factors. From faulty interpretations of history to the new military approach by Gen. David Petraeus, this incisive investigation digs into tactical and strategic moves that failed to secure Iraq and prevent civil war.

FRONTLINE: THE ENEMY WITHHIN. 2006. DVD

FRONTLINE: HOUSE OF SAUD. 2005. DVD

FRONTLINE: THE HUGO CHAVEZ SHOW. 2008. DVD NR

With Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez's weekly show "Aló Presidente" as a backdrop, "Frontline" producer Ofra Bikel examines the controversial politician's life and chronicles his rise to power. Interviews with Chávez's associates, former public officials and average citizens offer insights into his personality, policies and shrewd use of the media. But these telling accounts also expose fissures in his anticapitalist agenda.

FRONTLINE: INSIDE OBAMA'S PRESIDENCY. 2013. DVD NR

As Barack Obama is sworn in for his second term, "Frontline" takes a probing look at the first four years of his presidency. With inside accounts from his battles with his Republican opponents over health care and the economy.

FRONTLINE: THE INSURGENCY. 2006. DVD

FRONTLINE: THE MORMONS. 2007. DVD NR

Documentarian Helen Whitney directs this fascinating PBS presentation exploring the history and influence of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, one of the fastest-growing religions in the United States whose reach extends worldwide. Touching on all aspects of this complex and sometimes controversial religion, Whitney gains access to Mormon archives and captures candid interviews with church supporters, opponents and historians.

FRONTLINE: OBAMA'S WAR. 2009. DVD NR

Compelling interviews with commanders on the ground, reports from embedded journalists and analysis from home combine to provide a thoughtful examination of the war in Afghanistan in this installment of PBS's "Frontline" series. As the war continues under the Obama Administration, producers Martin Smith and Marcela Gaviria look at the U.S. counter-insurgency strategy in Afghanistan and Pakistan and consider the costs of the continuing conflict.

FRONTLINE: THE PLEA. 2004. DVD NR

Via illuminating interviews with defense lawyers, a judge and other legal experts, this installment of the investigative PBS series scrutinizes the effects of plea bargains on America's justice system. While citizens are guaranteed the right to a trial by jury, plea bargains are used to resolve almost 95 percent of felony cases even though their widespread usage threatens defendants' constitutional rights.

FRONTLINE: PRIVATE WARRIORS. 2006. DVD FRONTLINE: RETURN OF THE TALIBAN. 2006. DVD

FRONTLINE: RUMSFELD'S WAR. 2004. DVD

FRONTLINE: RULES OF ENGAGEMENT. 2008. DVD

NR

This provocative program digs deep into the devastating events of Haditha, Iraq, in 2005, when U.S. Marines allegedly killed 24 Iraqi civilians in a lopsided gun battle. From misleading initial reports that a roadside bomb was to blame to later accusations that the Marines killed the civilians in cold blood, this program sheds new light on one of the most controversial and disturbing events of the war.

FRONTLINE: SACRED GROUND. 2004. DVD

FRONTLINE: SHOWDOWN WITH IRAN. 2007. DVD

FRONTLINE: SICK AROUND THE WORLD. 2008. DVD

FRONTLINE: THE STORM. 2006. DVD NR

"Frontline" producer-correspondent Martin Smith chronicles the Hurricane Katrina disaster in this hour-long special, examining the government's failure to protect thousands of Americans before and after the storm. Drawing on footage of the devastation and suffering that left more than 900 people dead, the documentary highlights the inadequate federal response and the catastrophic relief efforts aimed at the people of New Orleans.

FRONTLINE: THE SUICIDE TOURIST. 2010. DVD

FRONTLINE: THE TORTURE QUESTION. 2006. DVD

FRONTLINE: THE WAR BRIEFING. 2008. DVD NR

The winner of the 2008 presidential election will face a foreign policy situation like no other in American history. This episode of PBS' "Frontline" examines how current global crises will affect the new president and how he might deal with them. Military strategists and diplomats discuss how the next administration will have to address an unstable Middle East, a military stretched thin and shaky relationships with our allies.

FROST/NIXON. 2008. BLU RAY R

Ron Howard directs this Oscar-nominated adaptation of Peter Morgan's popular Broadway play, a drama centering on a series of revelatory television interviews between British talk show host David Frost and former President Richard Nixon. Frank Langella reprises his Tony Award-winning stage role as Nixon with a stellar cast that includes Michael Sheen, Toby Jones, Sam Rockwell, Kevin Bacon and Oliver Platt.

FROZEN RIVER. 2008. BLU RAY. R

On a Mohawk reservation on the Canadian border, Ray Eddy (Melissa Leo, in an Oscarnominated turn) teams with widowed tribe member Lila Littlewolf (Misty Upham) to smuggle illegal immigrants into the United States. Though the work provides the women with much-needed money, each trip puts them in peril. Charlie McDermott and Michael O'Keefe also star in this riveting drama nominated for multiple Independent Spirit Awards, including Best Feature.

GABRIEL OVER THE WHITE HOUSE. 1933. DVD

THE GALINDEZ FILE. 2003. DVD NR Doctoral student Muriel Colber (Saffron Burrows) investigates the mysterious 1956 vanishing of Spanish dissident Jesus de Galindez in Gerardo Herrero's political drama. Muriel begins in Spain, where she learns of Galindez's opposition to certain Dominican Republic politicians. New information leads her to Miami, and all the while, an FBI agent (Harvey Keitel) tries to keep her from uncovering U.S. involvement in Galindez's disappearance.

GAME CHANGE. 2012. DVD TV-MA

Based on the best-selling nonfiction book, this political drama follows the historic 2008 presidential race with a focus on the sometimes contentious relationship between Republican nominee John McCain and his running mate, Sarah Palin.

GANDHI. 1982. BLU RAY PG

This awe-inspiring biopic about Mahatma Gandhi (Ben Kingsley) -- the diminutive lawyer who stood up against British rule in India and became an international symbol of nonviolence and understanding -- brilliantly underscores the difference one person can make. Epic and unforgettable, the film swept the 1983 Oscars, winning eight awards, including Best Picture, Best Actor (Kingsley), Best Screenplay and Best Director (Richard Attenborough).

GANGES. 2007. BLU RAY NR

This sprawling BBC documentary takes viewers down the river that flows through the center of India's physical, historical and cultural soul: the Ganges, a hallowed river to Hindus that's also home to a diverse population of wildlife. The video follows the vital waterway from its origin in the Himalayas' snowy peaks through the countryside to cities and the delta wetland where the Ganges empties into the Bay of Bengal.

GENERAL IDI AMIN DADA. 1974. DVD NR Director Barbet Schroeder, with the full cooperation of the infamous dictator Idi Amin, delivers a fascinating documentary on the former Ugandan leader. He talks about his outreach to Arab nations, his goal of eradicating Israel, his views on economic policy and his views of other world leaders. We also see him running a cabinet meeting, visiting a village and supervising a wargame simulation of an invasion of Israel.

GEORGE WASHINGTON. 2000. DVD NR

Four youngsters who are coming of age in rural North Carolina share a slow and regretful summer. Nasia (Candace Evanofski) leaves her boyfriend, Buddy (Curtis Cotton III), for George (Donald Holden). But when Buddy runs away, Nasia mistakenly thinks she's to blame. After a tragic accident, a group decision affects each of their lives. This award-winning film marks writer-director David Green's screen debut and includes two of his short films.

GETTYSBURG. 1993. DVD PG

The fiercest battle fought on American soil comes to the screen in a realistic production that painstakingly re-creates the events of three fateful days in July 1863 -- from the actual battle locations to the uniforms and boots. Tom Berenger, Jeff Daniels, Martin Sheen and Richard Jordan play key roles in this magnificent epic (based on Michael Shaara's Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Killer Angels*).

GHOSTS OF MISSISSIPPI. 1996. DVD PG-13

Decades after two hung juries cleared white supremacist Byron De La Beckwith (Oscar nominee James Woods) in the 1963 shooting death of civil-rights activist Medgar Evers, assistant district attorney Bobby DeLaughter (Alec Baldwin) reopens the case to bring the man to justice. With support from Evers's widow (Whoopi Goldberg), DeLaughter is determined to take down the murderer. Virginia Madsen costars in this drama based on the true 1994 trial.

GIDEON'S TRUMPET. 1980. DVD NR

Oscar-winning actor Henry Fonda stars in this Emmy-nominated Hallmark Hall of Fame drama based on Anthony Lewis's book by the same name, the true story of one man's fight for the right to legal counsel and its impact on the American legal system. When the court denies him an attorney, Clarence Earl Gideon -- accused of petty theft -- reluctantly defends himself and loses, later mounting an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court from his prison cell.

GOD GREW TIRED OF US. 2006. DVD PG

After raising themselves in the desert along with thousands of other "lost boys," Sudanese refugees John, Daniel and Panther have found their way to America, where they experience electricity, running water and supermarkets for the first time. Capturing their wonder at things Westerners take for granted, this documentary, an award winner at the 2006 Sundance Film Festival, paints an intimate portrait of strangers in a strange land.

THE GODFATHER, PARTS I, II, AND III. 1972/1974/1990. BLU RAY R

When organized crime family patriarch Vito Corleone (Marlon Brando) barely survives an attempt on his life, his youngest son, Michael (Al Pacino), steps in to take care of the would-be killers, launching a campaign of bloody revenge. Francis Ford Coppola brings Mario Puzo's multigenerational crime saga to life in this Oscar-winning epic that also spawned Best Actor honors for Brando, who refused the prize for political reasons.

The Corleone family roots are explored, tracing Don Vito's (Robert De Niro) journey from Sicily to a life of organized crime in New York. In a parallel story, his grown son, Michael (Al Pacino), extends operations to Cuba and contends with more betrayal and murder. The second film in The Godfather trilogy racked up Oscars for Best Picture, Best Director (Francis Ford Coppola) and Best Supporting Actor (Robert De Niro). Robert Duvall co-stars.

In the final installment of the Godfather trilogy, gray-haired Michael Corleone (Al Pacino) struggles with a heavy heart to make the family business legitimate, but he's pulled into more bloodshed after he makes a lucrative business deal with the Vatican. Meanwhile, Sonny's illegitimate son, Vincent (Andy Garcia), works hard to become Michael's protégé. Sofia Coppola, Diane Keaton, Talia Shire and Joe Mantegna co-star.

GONE WITH THE WIND. 1939. BLU RAY G

Margaret Mitchell's sweeping Civil War saga remains one of the greatest examples of cinematic storytelling. Vivien Leigh's tempestuous Scarlett O'Hara and Clark Gable's handsome rogue Rhett Butler bicker and battle from antebellum plantations to the streets of postwar Atlanta. This special collector's edition features a beautifully restored print and many extras.

GOOD BY LENIN! 2003. DVD R

Alex's (Daniel Brühl) mother (Katrin Sass) falls into a coma just as the Berlin Wall is about to come down. But when she wakes up eight months later, her heart is too weak to withstand shock -- so Alex goes to great lengths to keep the truth about her country's reform a secret. Wolfgang Becker directs this widely praised, Golden Globenominated comedy set in East Germany in 1989 that played in festivals around the world.

THE GOOD EARTH. 1937. DVD NR

Luise Rainer took home her second consecutive Best Actress Oscar for her heartfelt portrayal of O-Lan, the longsuffering spouse of Chinese dirt farmer Wang Lung (Paul Muni) in this film based on Pearl S. Buck's epic tome. The lyrical tale chronicles the couple's changing fortunes as they survive famine and revolution, only to be tested again by avarice, lust and Mother Nature. Karl Freund picked up an Academy Award for his first-rate cinematography.

GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK. 2006. BLU RAY PG

George Clooney's Academy Awardnominated docudrama pits veteran television newsman Edward R. Murrow (David Strathairn) against a determined Sen. Joseph McCarthy and his single-minded crusade to quell the red threat at home. Despite corporate pressure to back off, Murrow and his CBS staff vow to examine the lies and fear tactics perpetrated by McCarthy during his Communist witchhunts. Robert Downey Jr., Patricia Clarkson and Jeff Daniels co-star.

GRAND TORINO. 2008. BLU RAY R

Curmudgeonly Korean War veteran Walt Kowalski (Clint Eastwood, who also directs) must confront his Hmong immigrant neighbors -- and his own long-held prejudices -- when the family's teenage son, Thao (Bee Vang), tries to steal Walt's beloved 1972 Gran Torino. Walt soon assumes the unlikely role of guardian angel to young Thao and his sister Sue (Ahney Her), both of whom are vulnerable to local gang influences.

GRAPES OF WRATH. 1940. DVD NR

In this towering classic of American cinema, common man Tom Joad (Henry Fonda) leads his family on a harrowing journey from the Dust Bowl of Oklahoma to the promise of a better life in California. Based on John Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel and masterfully directed by John Ford, the stirring drama also stars Oscar winner Jane Darwell as Ma Joad and John Carradine as the fallen preacher Casy.

THE GREATEST SPEECHES OF ALL TIME. 2004. DVD NR

This collection of 10 memorable speeches from the 20th century includes footage of some of American history's most prolific, controversial and celebrated icons. Spanning decades and various political outlooks, the compilation includes presidential addresses from Franklin Delano Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan, as well as General MacArthur's "Old Soldiers Never Die" speech and Martin Luther King's last public address.

This second volume features 10 more memorable speeches from some of American history's most prolific, controversial and celebrated icons. Spanning decades and various political outlooks, the compilation includes presidential addresses from Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Richard Nixon, John F. Kennedy, Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton, plus speeches from Martin Luther King Jr., Barry Goldwater, Mario Cuomo and Jesse Jackson.

This eclectic anthology presents archival footage of some of the most inspiring, controversial and history-changing speeches ever delivered, including Franklin Delano Roosevelt's second inaugural address and Gerald Ford's pardon of Richard Nixon. Also featured are Robert Kennedy at the 1964 Democratic National Convention, Jimmy Carter addressing the 1979 energy crisis and John F. Kennedy introducing civil rights legislation in 1963.

THE GREEN MILE. 1999. DVD R

Director Frank Darabont's powerful adaptation of Stephen King's supernatural tale is set on death row in a Southern prison, where gentle giant John Coffey (Michael Clarke Duncan) possesses the mysterious power to heal people's ailments. When the cellblock's head guard, Paul Edgecomb (Tom Hanks), recognizes Coffey's miraculous gift, he tries desperately to help stave off the condemned man's execution. The able supporting cast includes Bonnie Hunt.

THE GROUND TRUTH. 2006. DVD R

Director Patricia Foulkrod's powerful documentary spotlights American soldiers sharing -- with aching honesty -- their experiences on the battlefield in Iraq and back home as they try to reassemble their lives. These men and women discuss the anguish of war, the difficulties of readjusting to life after their tours of duty and the often callous treatment returning troops receive from the military and the Veterans Administration.

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER. 1967. DVD

NR

Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn star as wealthy Californians who consider themselves progressive until their only daughter (Katharine Houghton) brings home her African American fiancé (Sidney Poitier) in this snapshot of race relations in the late 1960s. The film earned two Academy Awards (for Hepburn's performance and William Rose's screenplay) and eight other nominations. Stanley Kramer directs.

GUYS AND DOLLS. 1955. DVD [FILED UNDER "THE FRANK SINATRA COLLECTION] NR

A singing Marlon Brando stars as Sky Masterson opposite Frank Sinatra in this musical take on Damon Runyon's Manhattan short stories. One of the richest scores to spring from Broadway to Hollywood includes such classic songs as "Luck Be a Lady." The mix of movie stars and veterans from the show's theatrical run makes for a one-two punch of Broadway skill and Hollywood glamour.

HARLAN COUNTY, USA. 1976. DVD PG

Director Barbara Kopple's film about the 1973 coal miners' strike in Harlan County, Ky., won a Best Documentary Oscar and was selected for the National Film Registry. Highlighting the struggles of families living in shacks with no indoor plumbing and enduring hazardous working conditions, the film details the conflict between the Eastover Mining Co. and the laborers determined to join the United Mine Workers of America.

HARVEST OF SHAME. 1960. DVD

HEARTBREAK RIDGE. 1986. DVD R

Clint Eastwood stars as tough-as-nails sergeant and war vet Tom Highway, who's assigned to whip a platoon of unruly new Marines into shape as he faces his own often-humorous battles with his ex-wife (Marsha Mason) and his by-the-book commanding officers. But Highway still manages to train his troops and command their respect -- lessons that are put to the test when the Reagan-era invasion of Grenada suddenly brings the platoon into battle.

HERO. 2002. BLU RAY PG-13

The Qin King has long been obsessed with conquering all of China and becoming her first Emperor, which makes him the target of three legendary assassins. As a result, he promises great power to anyone who can defeat them. Jet Li heads the stellar cast as Nameless, the enigmatic county sheriff who earns his audience with the mighty King and stands to win mountains of gold in the process. Zhang Yimou directs this lush, Oscar-nominated epic.

HIGH NOON. 1952. DVD NR

Retiring Marshall Will Kane (Gary Cooper) insists on defending his town from a gang of hooligans who are due on the noon train -but he faces the task alone as the cowardly townspeople flee like rats from a sinking ship. Director Fred Zinnemann creates an incredibly tense Western (rightly considered one of the true genre classics) that unfurls in real time -- as the clocks on the wall constantly remind us. Grace Kelly and Lloyd Bridges co-star.

HIGH PLAINS DRIFTER. 1973. DVD R

Amid shoot-outs and existentialism, a mysterious stranger (Clint Eastwood, who also directs) is hired to protect a small town from outlaws. But his recipe for defense could be a deal with the devil, and soon, even the enigmatic gunslinger's supporters -- including Mordecai (Billy Curtis) and Sarah (Verna Bloom) -- are wondering just what they've signed up for. The rip-roaring conclusion could leave the town in tatters.

HOFFA. 1992. DVD R

Oscar winner Jack Nicholson stars as infamous Teamster boss James Riddle "Jimmy" Hoffa in this Academy Awardnominated biopic penned by David Mamet that traces Hoffa's rise through labor's ranks to create the most powerful union in the country. Directed by Danny DeVito, who costars along with Armand Assante and John C. Reilly, the film posits a guess as to what really happened when Hoffa disappeared without a trace in 1975.

HONEY FOR OSHUN. 2001. DVD R

Roberto (Jorge Perugorría), a professor in Miami, decides to venture on a road trip across Cuba, ostensibly to search for the mother who may have abandoned him. But as he explores the island with a cabbie, he learns the shocking reality about his emigration as a boy. Unexpected detours, near-death experiences and a parade of bizarre characters inhabit Roberto's trip as he starts to view life from a fresh (and funny) perspective.

HOOP DREAMS. 1994. DVD PG-13

The filmmakers of this groundbreaking documentary meant for it to be a short movie, but wound up weaving a widely celebrated feature-length film spanning years filled with grace and honesty. Meet Arthur Agee and William Gates, two young boys from equally rough Chicago neighborhoods who make use of their prodigious basketball talents to aim for a life outside the ghetto. But strife and setbacks befall them at every turn. Will they succeed?

HOOSIERS. 1986. DVD [FILED UNDER "THE FRENCH CONNECTION"] PG High school basketball is king in small-town Indiana, and the 1954 Hickory Huskers are all hope and no talent in this Oscarnominated drama. Things go from bad to worse when coach Norman Dale (Gene Hackman) joins the team. In short order, Dale expresses ambivalence about the star player, ostracizes himself from the townsfolk and hires a drunk (Dennis Hopper). Feelings for the coach change, however, when the sad-sack team turns itself around.

HOTEL RWANDA. 2005. DVD PG-13

Amid the holocaust of internecine tribal fighting in Rwanda that sees the savage butchering of hundreds of thousands of men, women and children, one ordinary hotel manager (Oscar nominee Don Cheadle) musters the courage to save more than 1,000 helpless refugees. Sophie Okonedo, Nick Nolte and Joaquin Phoenix co-star in this powerful film -- often described as an African Schindler's List -directed by Terry George.

THE HURT LOCKER. 2008. BLU RAY. R

Kathryn Bigelow directs this gripping drama (winner of the Best Picture Oscar) following one of the U.S. Army's elite EOD (explosive ordnance disposal) teams operating in the ferocious war zone of Iraq. As the squad identifies and dismantles improvised explosive devices and other bombs, they must also contend with the frayed nerves and internal conflicts that arise from living in constant peril. Jeremy Renner, Anthony Mackie, Ralph Fiennes, David Morse and Guy Pearce star.

HYDE PARK ON THE HUDSON. 2012. DVD

NR When the king and queen of England visit U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt hoping for support on the eve of World War II, Roosevelt must deal with his official duties as well as the competing interests of his mother, his wife and his mistresses.

I AM CUBA. 1964. DVD

UR

Filmed during the heyday of the nation's revolution, four beautiful vignettes set in pre-Castro Cuba dramatize the need for insurrection, idealizing hardworking but exploited peasants and Fidel Castro's staunch, freedom-loving revolutionaries. Although this landmark, politically charged film (which wasn't released in the United States until 1995) hammers home a onesided sentiment, it's masterful filmmaking nonetheless.

IL POSTINO. 1995. DVD PG

Mario Ruoppolo (Massimo Troisi), the mailman on an Italian island, pines from afar for a beautiful waitress. But when exiled Chilean poet Pablo Neruda (Philippe Noiret) comes to live on the island, Ruoppolo delivers Neruda's mail and picks up lessons on love, life and poetry. Noteworthy extras in this edition include director Michael Radford's commentary and a featurette about the real-life Neruda.

I'M NOT THERE. 2007. BLU RAY R

Six actors (including Heath Ledger and Cate Blanchett, in an Oscar-nominated role) portray six personas of music legend Bob Dylan in scenes depicting various stages of his life, chronicling his rise from unknown folksinger to international icon. The first biography ever approved by the singersongwriter, this stylized portrait (directed by Todd Haynes) reveals how Dylan reinvented himself many times. Kris Kristofferson narrates.

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER. 1993.

R

Nominated for seven Oscars in 1993, this biopic features the dramatic prowess of Daniel Day-Lewis as the Irishman Gerry Conlon, who was wrongfully sentenced to life in prison for an IRA terrorist attack that killed four people. As if a forced confession weren't enough injustice, the police work to implicate Conlon's father (Pete Postlethwaite) in the same crime. Emma Thompson plays the lawyer who worked for years to uncover the truth.

INGLORIOUS BASTERDS. 2009. BLU RAY R

A Jewish cinema owner (Mélanie Laurent) in occupied Paris is forced to host a Nazi movie premiere, where a radical group of American Jewish soldiers called the Basterds, led by Lt. Aldo Raine (Brad Pitt), plans to roll out a score-settling scheme. The face-off is about to go down -- that's if Col. Hans Landa aka "The Jew Hunter" (Christoph Waltz, in an Oscar-winning role) doesn't get in the way. Quentin Tarantino directs this World War II-set spaghetti Western.

INHERIT THE WIND. 1960. DVD NR

Spencer Tracy (in an Oscar-nominated role) and Fredric March square off as opposing attorneys Henry Drummond and Matthew Harrison Brady, respectively, in this blistering courtroom drama about the famed 1930s "Scopes Monkey Trial," in which a Tennessee teacher was taken to task for teaching Darwinism in the classroom. The film also earned Oscar nods for its editing, screenplay and cinematography. Gene Kelly co-stars as a newspaper reporter.

INNOCENT VOICES. 2004. DVD R

Based on the true story of a now-grown Oscar Torres, this moving film (set in El Salvador in the mid-1980s) follows the drama of a young boy who must choose between enlisting in the Salvadoran army or joining up with a band of guerrillas. Director Luis Mandoki presents a society of innocent victims who are caught in a blinding cross fire, a life-or-death environment in which survival is a daily struggle.

INSIDE MAN. 2006. BLU RAY R

Dispatched to the scene of a bank robbery, detective Keith Frazier (Denzel Washington) must match wits with a cunning thief (Clive Owen) who's always one step ahead of the cops. When a loose-cannon negotiator (Jodie Foster) is called on for help, the unstable situation spins out of control. Keith soon finds himself questioning the motives of everyone around him. Spike Lee directs this taut heist thriller about the perfect crime gone wrong.

THE INSIDER. 1999. DVD R

Nominated for seven Oscars, this thoughtprovoking thriller from director Michael Mann is based on the true story of a Big Tobacco scientist who exposed industry secrets and the newsman who fought forces that would have squelched the story. When TV producer Lowell Bergman (Al Pacino) coaxes researcher Jeffrey Wigand (Russell Crowe) to speak about his former employer's knowledge of tobacco's harmful qualities, the corporations try to silence them.

INTOLERANCE. 1916. DVD NR

Many film historians hail director D.W. Griffith's monumental epic as one of the greatest movies ever committed to celluloid. Griffith powerfully interlaces four parallel tales linked by a recurring shot of Lillian Gish symbolically rocking the cradle of civilization. The stories, which span two millennia, collectively illustrate how intolerance has played a pernicious role in such historic events as Christ's crucifixion and the fall of Babylon.

INVICTUS. 2009. BLU RAY PG-13

In this drama based on real-life events, director Clint Eastwood tells the story of what happened after the end of apartheid when newly elected president Nelson Mandela used the 1995 World Cup rugby matches to unite his people in South Africa. Based on John Carlin's book, the film stars Morgan Freeman as Mandela and Matt Damon (both Oscar nominated) as Francois Pienaar, the captain of the scrappy South African team that makes a run for the championship.

THE IRAN HOSTAGE CRISIS. 1997. DVD

IRON JAWED ANGELS. 2004. DVD NR

From 1912 to 1920, a group of fiery young suffragettes led by Alice Paul (Hilary Swank) and Lucy Burns (Frances O'Connor) band together to wheedle the United States into adapting a Constitutional amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote. Along the way, they incur the wrath of President Woodrow Wilson (Bob Gunton) and anger other suffragette leaders (Anjelica Huston and Lois Smith). Directed by Katja von Garnier.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE. 1946. BLU RAY NR

It's a wonderful film. Frank Capra's inverted take on A Christmas Carol stars Jimmy Stewart as George Bailey, a good man who's spent a lifetime giving up on his dreams in order to keep life in his small town humming. When a guardian angel named Clarence finds a despondent George poised to jump off a bridge, he shows George what life would've been like had he never been born.

JESUS CAMP. 2006. DVD PG-13

This riveting Oscar-nominated documentary offers an unfiltered look at a revivalist subculture in which devout Christian youngsters are being primed to deliver the fundamentalist community's religious and political messages. Building an evangelical army of tomorrow, the Kids on Fire summer camp in Devil's Lake, N.D., is dedicated to deepening the preteens' spirituality and sowing the seeds of political activism.

JFK. 1991. BLU RAY R

Oliver Stone's fascinating film about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy -- one of America's most enigmatic and mythical political figures -- is even more dramatic thanks to the extra footage included in this special edition. When Kennedy is killed while visiting Dallas, a lone gunman named Lee Harvey Oswald (Gary Oldman) takes the fall. But was he acting alone, or was he part of a larger conspiracy?

JOHN ADAMS. 2008. BLU RAY NR

Paul Giamatti shines in the title role of this epic Emmy and Golden Globe winner that recounts the life of founding father John Adams as revolutionary leader, America's first ambassador to England, the first vice president and the second president. The iconic cast of characters includes Abigail Adams (Laura Linney), George Washington (David Morse), Thomas Jefferson (Stephen Dillane) and Benjamin Franklin (Tom Wilkinson).

JOURNEYS WITH GEORGE. 2002. DVD NR

California Democratic congresswoman Nancy Pelosi's daughter, Alexandra, followed presidential hopeful George W. Bush on the campaign trail with her camera. The result is a personal portrait of a man who would become the leader of the free world.

THE JOY LUCK CLUB. 1993. DVD R

Based on the novel by Amy Tan, Wayne Wang's drama follows four Chinese women living in California -- Suyuan (Kieu Chinh), Lindo (Tsai Chin), Ying-Ying (France Nuyen) and An-Mei (Lisa Lu) -- who gather weekly to play mahjong and share stories about their lives. They also enjoy sharing stories about their daughters (Ming-Na Wen, Lauren Tom, Tamlyn Tomita and Rosalind Chao) and lamenting some of the younger generation's choices.

JOYEUX NOEL. 2005. DVD PG-13

As the French, Scottish and German soldiers prepare to open their presents on Christmas Eve, 1914, a momentous event occurs that changes the destinies of four people: an Anglican priest, a French lieutenant, a world-class tenor and his soprano lover. Diane Kruger, Benno Furmann, Guillaume Canet, Gary Lewis, Dany Boon and Daniel Bruhl co-star in this heartwarming World War I-era tale inspired by a true story.

JUDGMENT AT NUREMBERG. 1961. DVD NR

This Academy Award-winning film by Stanley Kramer stars Spencer Tracy as American judge Dan Haywood, who's chosen to guide a 1948 tribunal that's trying Germans suspected of engaging in atrocities during World War II. Against the backdrop of the Cold War, Haywood must obtain justice in a case with raised stakes and mixed emotions. Maximilian Schell co-stars in an Oscar-lauded performance as defense counsel for the Nazi prisoners.

JUDGMENT DAY: INTELLIGENT DESIGN ON TRIAL. 2007. DVD NR

With this episode, the popular "Nova" series examines the trial of Kitzmiller v. Dover Area School District, a controversial legal battle sparked by a group of science teachers who refused to comply with an order to teach intelligent design. Through scene recreations, interviews and expert testimony, the program presents the arguments of both sides and illuminates the conflict that thrust the people of Dover into the worldwide spotlight.

JUNGLE FEVER. 1991. DVD [FILED UNDER "SPIKE LEE JOINT COLLECTION"] R

Flipper (Wesley Snipes) is a successful, married architect. Angie (Annabella Sciorra) is a temporary office worker. When they meet, it's Jungle Fever. Director Spike Lee vividly explores the gray area between love and sex and the other distractions that bifurcate blacks and whites. Samuel L. Jackson picked up Cannes Film Festival and New York Film Critics awards for his powerful portrayal of Snipes's crackaddicted brother.

KANDAHAR. 2001. DVD NR

Iranian director Mohsen Makhmalbaf lenses this haunting drama that was shot during the Taliban era. The movie follows an Afghani-Canadian woman as she attempts to enter Afghanistan in search of her depressed sister. Since it's illegal for a woman to travel alone in Afghanistan, she must rely on the kindness of strangers, including a scrappy boy and a mysterious American doctor.

KILL BILL, VOL. 1. 2003. DVD R

In the first volume of this gritty revenge saga written and directed by Quentin Tarantino, an assassin (Uma Thurman) is shot at the altar by her ruthless employer, Bill (David Carradine), and other members of their assassination circle. But "The Bride" lives to plot her vengeance. Setting out for some payback, she makes a death list and hunts down those who wronged her (including a one-eyed Daryl Hannah), saving Bill for last.

KILL BILL, VOL. 2. 2004. BLU RAY R

In the second installment of Quentin Tarantino's outrageously inventive Kill Bill series, the Bride (Uma Thurman) unwaveringly continues on her "roaring rampage of revenge" against the band of assassins who had tried to kill her and her unborn child. The woman visits each of her former associates one by one, checking off the victims on her Death List Five until there's nothing left to do ... but kill Bill (David Carradine).

KILLER OF SHEEP. 1977. DVD NR

Shot in 1977 on a \$10,000 budget while its director, Charles Burnett, was in film school, this landmark urban drama sketches a vivid portrait of African-American life in the '70s. Depicting the Los Angeles ghetto of Watts through the eyes of a slaughterhouse worker (Henry G. Sanders), the movie's episodic vignettes and evocative soundtrack paint a picture of economic exclusion and muted hopes dusted with moments of transcendent joy.

THE KILLING FIELDS. 1984. DVD R

Sam Waterston portrays Sydney Schanberg, the New York Times journalist who won a Pulitzer for his coverage of the civil war in Cambodia. Aided by his translator, Dith Pran (Haing S. Ngor), Schanberg shines a light on the tragedy and madness of the bloody conflict. This harrowing drama based on Schanberg's memoirs was nominated for seven Oscars and won three: Best Cinematography, Best Film Editing and Best Supporting Actor for Ngor.

KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN. 1985. BLU RAY R

Jailed for immoral behavior in Brazil, flamboyant homosexual Luis Molina (William Hurt, who netted a Best Actor Oscar) passes the time by detailing scenes of his favorite romantic movie to fellow inmate Valentin Arregui (Raul Julia), a hard-edged political activist. Slowly, the two forge a bond based on mutual understanding and respect and their relationship evolves. Director Hector Babenco's character study earned an Oscar nod for Best Picture.

THE KLANSMAN. 1974. DVD R

Sheriff Bascomb (Lee Marvin) tries to keep the peace as racial strife hits his small Alabama town, where the mayor sides with local Klansmen. Tensions boil over when a black man is accused of raping a white woman (Linda Evans) and an angry man (O.J. Simpson) resorts to vigilante justice. As outsiders arrive for a civil rights rally, the KKK organizes a lynching party. Richard Burton, Lola Falana and Cameron Mitchell co-star.

KOYAANISQATSI. 2002. DVD

KRAMER VS. KRAMER. 1979. DVD PG

Ted (Dustin Hoffman) is a career-driven yuppie -- until he finds out his dissatisfied wife (Meryl Streep) is leaving him and their 6-year-old son. But just as Ted begins to love being a full-time parent, his wife reappears to reclaim the boy. Poignant and beautifully acted, this cinematic tearjerker swept the 1979 Academy Awards, winning Oscars for Hoffman and Streep in addition to Best Picture, Best Director and Best Screenplay honors.

LA HORAS DE LOS HORNOS. 1968. DVD

THE LAST DAYS. 1998. DVD NR

Directed by James Moll and executiveproduced by Steven Spielberg, this powerful, Oscar-winning documentary recounts the harrowing stories of five Hungarian Jews who endured the horrors of the holocaust and the reign of Adolf Hitler. In addition to the testimonials of the Hungarian subjects, the heart-wrenching film also includes accounts from U.S. soldiers who participated in the liberation of the Nazi death camps in 1945.

THE LAST DAYS OF DISCO. 1998. DVD R

Writer-director Whit Stillman captures the end of an era, chronicling love and heartbreak in a mirror-balled world of exclusive nightclubs packed with young singles who dispense wit drier than their martinis. A smart script and spot-on performances from an ensemble cast (including Robert Sean Leonard, Chloë Sevigny and Kate Beckinsale) distinguish Stillman's satire, the final installment in his so-called "yuppie trilogy."

THE LAST EMPEROR. 1987. BLU RAY PG-13

Recounting the last years of China's Ching Dynasty through flashbacks and flashforwards, this Oscar-winning epic charts the life of Pu Yi (John Lone) -- who ascended the throne at age 3 -- from coddled aristocrat to enlightened insurgent to ordinary citizen. Co-starring Peter O'Toole as Pu Yi's Scottish tutor and directed by Bernardo Bertolucci, the lavish drama collected nine Academy Awards, including Best Picture.

THE LAST HOMECOMING. 2008. DVD NR

Performance, passion and politics collide for Alexandra (Maria Kitsou) and Orestes (Hristodoulos Martas) as a family vacation on the Greek island of Cyprus turns deadly amid a battle for island control between normally civil Greek and Turkish neighbors. While the young couple helps Orestes' mother produce a local performance of a classic Euripides play, old romances resurface and former friends take up arms in a bloody coup attempt.

THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND. 2006. BLU RAY R

During an African medical mission in the 1970s, Scottish doctor Nicholas Garrigan (James McAvoy) impresses brutal Ugandan dictator Idi Amin (Forest Whitaker, in an Oscar- and Golden Globe-winning role) by acting swiftly in a crisis and becomes the dictator's personal physician. Garrigan enjoys the perks of his new position, until he begins to become aware of Amin's inhumanity -- and his own complicity.

LAST TRAIN HOME. 2009. DVD NR

Documentarian Lixin Fan follows a couple who, like 130 million other Chinese peasants, left their rural village for work in the city, leaving their children to be raised by grandparents. The husband and wife return only once each year, on an arduous 1,000mile journey. But their homecoming is not a warm one, as their now teenage daughter, Qin, makes her bitter resentment known and debates pursuing a factory job herself.

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA. 1962. DVD PG

Director David Lean's Oscar-winning epic tells the true-life story of British warrior-poet T.E. Lawrence (Peter O'Toole), who helped unite warring Arab tribes so they could strike back against the Turks in World War I. Lushly filmed and expertly acted, this timeless classic underscores the clash between cultures -- and within one man -that changed the tide of war. Alec Guinness and Anthony Quinn co-star.

LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA. 2007. BLU RAY R

As tens of thousands of Allied troops push further inland, the Japanese troops defending Iwo Jima during World War II prepare to meet their fate in this Clint Eastwood-directed Oscar nominee, a companion piece to his hit film Flags of Our Fathers. Ken Watanabe stars as a Japanese general who knows his men are outnumbered and, with no hope of rescue, that most will eventually die in battle -- or end up killing themselves.

LEWIS AND CLARK: THE JOURNEY OF THE CORPS OF DISOVERY. 1997. DVD NR

Sent by President Jefferson to find **the** fabled Northwest Passage, **Lewis** and Clark led **the** most courageous and important expedition in American history. It was **the** United States' first exploration of **the** West and one of **the** nation's most enduring adventures. **Journey** with them across a breath-taking landscape for an experience that explores **the** history -- and **the** promise -- of America.

LIBERTY! THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. 2004. DVD

NR

This PBS production showcases the events that led up to the American War for Independence, in comprehensive and sequential order. No stone is left unturned, as everything from the Boston Tea Party to the approval of the U.S. Constitution is explored. The documentary combines narration, reenactments of events, interviews with academics and historians, actors' dramatic readings of letters and diaries written at the time and much more.

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL. 1997. DVD PG-13

In this poignant tragicomedy, a clever Jewish Italian waiter named Guido (Roberto Benigni, who also directs and won an Oscar for his role) is sent to a Nazi concentration camp during World War II, along with his wife (Nicoletta Braschi) and their young son (Giorgio Cantarini). Refusing to give up hope, Guido tries to protect his son's innocence by pretending that their imprisonment is an elaborate game, with the grand prize being a tank.

LINCOLN. 2012. DVD PG-13 Director Steven Spielberg takes on the towering legacy of Abraham Lincoln, focusing on his stewardship of the Union during the Civil War years. The biographical saga also reveals the conflicts within Lincoln's cabinet regarding the war and abolition.

THE LIVES OF OTHERS. 2007. BLU RAY R

Set in 1980s East Berlin, director Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck's debut feature (which earned an Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film) provides an exquisitely nuanced portrait of life under the watchful eye of the state police. When a successful playwright and his actress companion become subjects of the Stasi's secret surveillance program, their friends, family -and even those doing the watching -- find their lives forever changed.

LUMUMBA. 2001. DVD NR

At the Berlin Conference of 1885, when Europe divided up the African continent, the Congo became the personal property of King Leopold II of Belgium. On June 30, 1960, a young self-taught nationalist, Patrice Lumumba (Eriq Ebouaney), became the first head of government of the new independent state. He lasted only two months in office before being brutally assassinated. Raoul Peck directs this award-winning biopic.

MACHUCA. 2005. DVD NR

Seeking escape from his stormy home life, well-to-do youngster Gonzalo (Matias Quer) befriends Pedro (Ariel Mateluna), a poor, bullied pupil who's attending his school on scholarship. The two grow close despite class hierarchy, but politics threaten to destroy their friendship. Set in 1973 Santiago amid political unrest, this tale centers on the friendship of two schoolboys from vastly different backgrounds.

MAD MAX: BEYOND THUNDEROME. 1985. DVD [FILED UNDER THE ROAD WARRIOR]

PG-13

While the final Mad Max film can't outrun the first two, director George Miller delivers an awesome depiction of order amid chaos. Max (Mel Gibson) becomes embroiled in the internal tensions of Bartertown, ruled by the imperious Aunty Entity (Tina Turner). Will ex-cop Max turn into an assassin? Featuring the inventive Thunderdome fight sequence, this installment offers plenty of action. Adam Cockburn and Bruce Spence co-star.

MALCOLM X. 1992. DVD PG-13

Spike Lee's Oscar-nominated drama illuminates the life of black nationalist Malcolm X (Denzel Washington), following him from his early days in prison to his conversion to Islam, marriage to Betty Shabazz (Angela Bassett) and discovery of Elijah Mohammad's (Al Freeman Jr.) Nation of Islam writings. When Malcolm turns his back on the Nation of Islam (following a pilgrimage to Mecca), he becomes a murder target.

MAN BITES DOG. 1992. DVD UR

A satirical look at how the media affects and promotes violence in modern society. Spoofing reality television, a fascinated documentary crew follows a charismatic yet unrepentant serial killer on his murder sprees. The crew attempts to objectively document the horror, but as the violence escalates, they ultimately get sucked into participating. Man Bites Dog won the International Critics' Prize at the 1992 Cannes Film Festival.

THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE. 1962. DVD [FILED UNDER "THE FRANK SINATRA COLLECTION] PG-13

Raymond Shaw (Laurence Harvey) is a Korean War hero with a lethal secret: He's been brainwashed by the communist Chinese. With one phone call, the Reds can transform Shaw into a deadly assassin -unless fellow veteran Bennett Marco (Frank Sinatra) can stop them first. Some thrillers remain as suspenseful -- and timely -- as when they were first released, and this classic from director John Frankenheimer is one of the best.

THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE. 2004. BLU RAY R

In this remake of the 1962 political thriller, Capt. Bennett Marco (Denzel Washington) and Sgt. Raymond Shaw (Liev Schreiber) are taken captive during the first Persian Gulf War and brainwashed so that they're programmed to rebel once they return home. Ten years later, as Shaw's mother (Meryl Streep) is busy helping her son in his bid for the presidency, Marco recalls the brainwashing. Can he get to Shaw before it's too late?

MANDELA. 1996. DVD NR

This outstanding documentary recounts the astonishing story of Nelson Mandela, told in his words. Mandela was born into a divided South Africa, with the white Afrikaner minority in sole possession of political authority. Mandela's opposition to apartheid led to his 27-year imprisonment. Eventually released from prison, Mandela oversaw South Africa's transition to a genuine democracy and became its first black president.

MANUFACTURED LANDSCAPES. 2007. DVD NR

More than a simple portrait of an artist, this documentary about celebrated photographer Edward Burtynsky is also an examination of industrialization and globalization. Known for finding strange beauty in large industrial vistas, Burtynsky searches for great shots on trips to China and Bangladesh. In contrast to his seemingly impersonal aesthetic, the film focuses on individuals, revealing the dreariness and dangers of industrial work.

MARDI GRAS: MADE IN CHINA. 2005. DVD NR Each year, drunken revelers at Mardi Gras flash a little skin at parade floats and at the crowd in exchange for beads. But the streets of New Orleans couldn't be farther from the Chinese factory where the beads are made. David Redmon's documentary juxtaposes the excess of Carnival against the reality of workers who string 12 necklaces to earn one penny. Uncompromising and darkly humorous, the film has won a host of festival awards.

MARS ATTACKS. 1996. DVD PG-13

Tim Burton directs an all-star cast in this outlandishly funny spoof of 1950s-era sci-fi flicks, featuring bulbous-headed Martians come to Earth hell-bent on world domination and destroying everyone and everything in their path! Can the president (Jack Nicholson) save America -- and the planet -from the invaders? Or are we all just toast? Annette Bening, Pierce Brosnan, Sarah Jessica Parker, Glenn Close and Michael J. Fox co-star.

MATEWAN. 1987. DVD PG-13

Well-intentioned labor leader Joe Kenehan (Chris Cooper) arrives in Matewan, W. Va., to unionize the the coal mine workers. But his efforts to organize the coal company workers spark one of the most violent incidents in the history of the 1920-21 Coal Wars. Tensions grow between the minors and the company men, igniting a powder keg of racial hostility, corruption and betrayal. John Sayles directs; James Earl Jones also stars.

MEMORIES OF UNDERDEVELOPMENT. 1968. DVD

NR

When his wife and many of his friends emigrate to the United States, Sergio (Sergio Corrieri), a wealthy, introspective author, decides to remain in Cuba. This choice gives him a unique perspective on his native country -- the revolution, the condition of his fellow countrymen and Cuba's relationship with the United States. Directed by Tomás Gutiérrez Alea, this profound cinematic work effectively fuses drama with documentary footage.

METROPOLITAN. 1990. DVD PG-13

Writer-director Whit Stillman's witty comedy of manners (which won an Independent Spirit Award for Best First Feature) pokes gentle fun at a group of upper-class Manhattan preppies who gather regularly to play bridge and engage in intellectual discussion. Led by acerbic cynic Nick (Christopher Eigeman), the coterie adopts "proletariat" Tom Townsend (Edward Clements), who has reservations about his new socialite friends and what they represent.

MICHAEL CLAYTON. 2007. BLU RAY R

Screenwriter Tony Gilroy delivers a finely tuned directorial debut with this dramatic thriller about burned-out corporate lawyer Michael Clayton (George Clooney), a man who's built his career on cleaning up other people's messes. When a guilt-ridden colleague (Tom Wilkinson) threatens the settlement of a multimillion-dollar case, Clayton faces his biggest challenge yet. Tilda Swinton nabbed an Oscar for her turn as a conflicted general counsel.

THE MIDDLE OF THE WORLD. 2004. DVD NR

It's a known fact that desperate people will be driven to take desperate measures. And when we say driven, we mean it -- literally. This movie is based on the incredible true story of a man who takes his wife and five children on a 2,000-mile bicycle trip across Brazil in search of a decent job. Stars Cláudia Abreu and Manoel Sebastião Alves Filho.

THE MILAGRO BEANFIELD WAR. 1988. DVD R

Based on John Nichol's book set in a tiny New Mexican town, Robert Redford's comedy-drama pits the little guys against big development. When a local resort owner wants to expand, farmer Joe (Chick Vennera) takes a stand. The eccentric locals divide on the issue, but organized action mixed with a little magic unites them to fight for their rights. John Heard, Christopher Walken, Sonia Braga, Ruben Blades, Daniel Stern and Melanie Griffith costar.

MILK. 2008. BLU RAY R

Sean Penn (in an Oscar-winning role) stars in this fact-based drama about Harvey Milk, the openly gay activist and San Francisco politician who was murdered along with Mayor George Moscone (Victor Garber) by disgruntled city supervisor Dan White (Josh Brolin) in 1978. Emile Hirsch, James Franco and Diego Luna co-star in director Gus Van Sant's compelling biopic, which also earned Oscar nods for Best Picture and Best Supporting Actor (Brolin).

MR. DEEDS GOES TO TOWN. 1936. DVD NR

When small-town tuba player Longfellow Deeds (Gary Cooper) lands a \$20 million inheritance and moves to the big city, the sharks begin to circle, including a sassy reporter (Jean Arthur) who'll do anything for a scoop -- until she falls for her subject. Director Frank Capra (It's a Wonderful Life) delivers a heartfelt romantic allegory about daring to stand up for principles in the face of greed and malice.

MR. SMITH GOES TO WASHINGTON. 1939. DVD

NR

When idealistic junior senator Jefferson Smith (James Stewart) arrives in Washington, D.C., he's full of plans and dazzled by his surroundings -- qualities he retains despite widespread corruption among his cynical colleagues. Jean Arthur puts in a sharp performance as Smith's streetwise secretary, who helps him navigate his way through Congress, in this Academy Award-winning classic from director Frank Capra.

MISSION TO MOSCOW. 1943. DVD

MISSISSIPPI BURNING. 1988. DVD R

When three civil rights workers disappear in 1964 Mississippi, two FBI agents (Gene Hackman and Willem Dafoe) with wildly divergent investigative styles find themselves resorting to increasingly violent tactics to apprehend the culprit Ku Klux Klan. Crucial to the case is the testimony of a beautician (Frances McDormand) who's struggling to break free from her husband's influence. Director Alan Parker's fact-based drama received seven Oscar nods.

MO' BETTER BLUES. 1990. DVD [FILED UNDER "SPIKE LEE JOINT COLLECTION"] R

Spike Lee wrote and directed this story about fictional musician Bleek Gilliam (Denzel Washington), a trumpeter with an equal talent for music, women and trouble. Bleek is a self-centered man with his own quartet -- and two women vying for his attention. The Branford Marsalis Quartet dubs Gilliam's band on the soundtrack; Bill Lee, Spike's father, wrote the score.

MODERN TIMES. 1936. BLU RAY G

Conceived and produced as talking pictures were taking Hollywood by storm, Charlie Chaplin's brilliant satire of the machine age was also his last "silent," even though it also features his first words spoken on film. The Little Tramp shuffles bravely forward into a maze of technology and the rapidly changing shape of society. Although barely in control of his own fate, he demonstrates pluck and endurance in the face of unstoppable forces.

MONSOON WEDDING. 2001. DVD R

As the monsoon rains loom in director Mira Nair's romantic drama, Lalit Verma (Naseeruddin Shah) and his extended family reunite for the last-minute arranged marriage of his daughter Aiditi (Vasundhara Das) in New Delhi. But long-guarded secrets threaten to tear the family apart. As wedding preparations proceed, five stories intersect, highlighting different aspects of love and crossing boundaries of class and continent.
MONSTER'S BALL. 2001. BLU RAY R

Death row in the Louisiana State Penitentiary is the hothouse backdrop for this hard-hitting drama about racist prison guard Billy Bob Thornton, who falls in love with the wife (Best Actress Oscar winner Halle Berry) of a condemned man he helped execute. Peter Boyle plays Thornton's hopelessly bigoted father, and rapper Sean "Puffy" Combs astonishes as Berry's illfated, "dead man walking" husband.

MOOLAADE. 2004. DVD NR

Senegalese writer-director Ousmane Sembene makes an impassioned plea against the practice of salinde, or female circumcision, in this moving portrait of a society in transition. In a West African village run by uncompromising Muslim males, fiery Colle (Fatoumata Coulibaly) provides safe harbor for young girls fleeing their "cleansing" rituals. But what one man terms "a minor domestic issue" soon puts the whole town on the verge of bloodshed.

THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN IN AMERICA. 2009. DVD NR

Revisit a pivotal point in American history in this documentary that chronicles Pentagon insider Daniel Ellsberg's daring endeavor to leak top-secret government papers that disclosed shocking truths about the Vietnam War and Nixon's presidency. Judith Ehrlich and Rick Goldsmith direct this absorbing, Oscar-nominated account that features compelling interviews with Ellsberg, retired New York Times editor Max Frankel and other key figures.

THE MOTORCYCLE DIARIES. 2004. DVD R

This foreign-language drama tells the incredible true story of a 23-year-old medical student from Argentina -- future revolutionary Che Guevara (Gael Garcia Bernal) -- who motorcycled across South America with his friend Alberto Granado (Rodrigo de la Serna) beginning in 1951. Walter Salles's film is based on Guevara's diaries of the trek, a deeply personal odyssey that ultimately crystallized the young man's budding political beliefs.

MUGABE AND THE WHITE AFRICAN. 2009. DVD NR

An unprecedented look inside politically fractured Zimbabwe under dictator Robert Mugabe, this documentary follows Michael Campbell, one of the country's few remaining white farmers, as he bravely battles to protect his land from government seizure. After suing Mugabe for racial discrimination and human rights violations, the 75-year-old Campbell must brace his family to face potentially life-threatening retaliation.

MUNICH. 2005. DVD R

In this thriller based on actual events, Palestinian terrorists hold hostage and ultimately kill a group of Israeli athletes during the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich, prompting a Mossad agent (Eric Bana) to track down the assassins in the tragic aftermath. Ciaran Hinds and Geoffrey Rush co-star in this film directed by Steven Spielberg and written by Tony Kushner, the award-winning playwright of "Angels in America."

THE NAMESAKE. 2006. DVD PG-13

Gogol Ganguli (Kal Penn) is torn between his parents' (Irrfan Khan and Tabu) Indian traditions and his decidedly modern lifestyle, and frankly prefers for his friends to call him "Nick." But the true meaning of his name is a story that spans two continents -- and two generations. Based on Jhumpa Lahiri's bestselling novel, Mira Nair's coming-of-age drama explores first-generation Americans' delicate dance between culture and identity.

NASHVILLE. 1975. DVD R

Countless characters, including Shelley Duvall, Keith Carradine, Ned Beatty and Karen Black, get caught up in a political rally that takes over Nashville in director Robert Altman's sprawling satirical masterpiece about politics and country music. The many fine performances in this mosaic include Lily Tomlin's bored housewife and Henry Gibson's pompous, patriotic country singer. The actors also wrote and performed their own songs.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC: CHINA'S LOST GIRLS. 2005. DVD NR

Accompanied by her team from her travel show, "National Geographic's Ultimate Explorer," reporter Lisa Ling ("The View") flies off to China with American parents set to adopt baby girls, the casualties of the country's long-standing one-child policy. In hewing to this strict rule, families wind up aborting, abandoning or hiding their daughters, many of whom end up in the United States, brought by couples longing for children.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC: INSIDE NORTH KOREA. 2006. DVD

NR

Disguised as a medical coordinator, National Geographic correspondent Lisa Ling gains access into North Korea and gives viewers a powerful glimpse inside one of the most restrictive countries in the world. Through personal accounts and exclusive footage, Ling exposes the difficulties North Koreans face while living in such an oppressive regime, coping with poverty, hunger and the lack of civil liberties.

THE NATIONAL PARKS: AMERICA'S BEST IDEA. 2009. DVD TV-G

The award-winning documentarian turns his insight and cameras to the history and breathtaking splendor of America's national parks. The words of early naturalists and modern advocates accompany panoramas of Yosemite, Glacier, Redwood and other parks.

NETWORK. 1976. DVD R When network news anchor Howard Beale (Peter Finch) loses his mind on the air, his outrageous rants reach viewers at home, boost the ratings and intrigue cutthroat network executives Faye Dunaway and Robert Duvall. William Holden contrasts their avarice as an old-school TV journalist hopelessly out of step in writer Paddy Chayefsky's Oscar-winning masterpiece, which predicted today's rash of trash television and shock-laden news broadcasts.

NATURAL BORN KILLERS. 1994. BLU RAY R

Director Oliver Stone's stark satire of media and murder still generates controversy. Mickey and Mallory Knox (Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis, respectively) hit the road on an interstate killing spree that triggers a manhunt and garners amazing ratings for a tabloid TV star (Robert Downey Jr.). Shocking, bloody and relentlessly violent, Stone's visually frenetic film makes a chilling statement about the American cultural landscape.

NIGHT AND FOG. 1955. DVD NR

Employing haunting images, such as a hill of human hair or a pyramid of shoes, director Alain Resnais contrasts 1955 footage of Auschwitz's quiet, empty buildings with black-and-white footage shot there in 1944. This landmark documentary -- one of the first cinematic reflections on the unspeakable horrors of the Holocaust -- is as lyrical as it is graphic, and has influenced contemporary movies such as Schindler's List.

NINE TO FIVE. 1980. DVD PG

Judy (Jane Fonda), Violet (Lily Tomlin) and Doralee (Dolly Parton) -- fed up with their "sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot" of a boss (Dabney Coleman) -- entertain fantasies about revenge. But fantasy turns into reality when the women think they've inadvertently poisoned Mr. Hart's coffee. To cover their tracks, they concoct an intricate ploy that turns the tables on the chief and shreds the patriarchal old boys' network.

NIXON. 1995. BLU RAY R

The Watergate scandal toppled the world's most powerful man: United States president Richard Nixon (Anthony Hopkins). Director Oliver Stone re-creates the turbulent days of the early 1970s as a shadowy epic of lies and intrigue. The cast includes James Woods, Ed Harris and Joan Allen, but the film belongs to Hopkins, who portrays Nixon as a man possessed of great gifts but haunted by past failures.

NO END IN SIGHT. 2007. DVD NR

This Oscar-nominated documentary from filmmaker (and former Brookings Institution fellow) Charles Ferguson examines the decisions that led to the 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq and the handling of the subsequent occupation by President George W. Bush and his administration. Featuring detailed analysis and exclusive interviews with central players, the film pulls no punches as it chronicles the twists and turns America took on the path to war.

NO MAN'S LAND. 2001. DVD R

Talk about dynamite concepts. ... During the Bosnian War, two soldiers (a Bosnian and a Serb) find themselves pinned down in a trench, while a wounded grunt lies prone on a land mine that could blow them all to smithereens. The plot seems cadged straight out of Eugene Ionesco's Theatre of the Absurd. Weird thing is, this kind of misfortune of war is endemic to all of them.

NORMA RAE. 1979. DVD [SHARED WITH "WORKING GIRL"]

PG

In an Oscar-winning performance, Sally Field is unforgettable as Norma Rae Webster, the real-life Southern millworker who revolutionizes a small town and discovers a power within herself that she never knew she had. Under the guidance of a New York unionizer (Ron Leibman) and with increasing courage and determination, Norma Rae organizes her fellow factory workers to fight for better conditions and wages. Beau Bridges co-stars.

NOT ONE LESS. 1999. DVD G

Master Chinese filmmaker Zhang Yimou turns his lens on the travails of modern China's peasants. When teacher Gao (Gao Enman) town for a month, 13-year old Wei (Wei Minzhi) is pressed into serving as his substitute at the school from which she just graduated. If she keeps her class intact, she will receive a bonus. But when a student leaves for the city, she follows and strives relentlessly to bring him back.

O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU? 2000. DVD

PG-13

With their collective eye focused on retrieving a cache of hidden money, three convicts (George Clooney, John Turturro and Tim Blake Nelson) break out of jail in Depression-era Mississippi and embark on an epic journey that bears more than a few similarities to Homer's Odyssey. Along the way, they fast-talk their way out of jams, sidestep alluring riverside sirens and record a hit country song as the Soggy Bottom Boys.

OCTOBER. 1927. DVD NR

Created to commemorate the 10-year anniversary of the 1917 October Revolution in Russia, this re-creation is considered one of director Sergei Eisenstein's (Battleship Potemkin, Alexander Nevsky) best works. Known for its brilliant use of montage, reenactment, lighting and editing, this historical masterpiece diligently chronicles the events leading up to the Bolshevik takeover of the Kerenksy regime.

THE OFFICIAL STORY. 1985. DVD NR

Argentinean schoolteacher Alicia (Norma Aleandro) is forced to question her government's official story of the "Dirty War" of the 1970s when she suspects that her adopted daughter, Gaby, may be the child of a murdered political prisoner. But her quest for truth takes a heavy toll on her relationship with her conservative husband (Héctor Alterio). This wrenching historical drama won the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film in 1986.

OFFSIDE. 2006. DVD PG

In director Jafar Panahi's offbeat Iranian tale, several girls find themselves arrested after posing as boys to sneak into a soccer stadium to see a key international qualifying match. It's illegal for Iranian women to attend sports events, so the gate-crashers end up in a holding pen waiting for authorities. But a sympathetic guard watching through a peephole describes the action for the girls, who are eager to know what's happening in the game.

ON THE WATERFRONT. 1954. DVD NR

Winner of eight Oscars, director Elia Kazan's classic morality tale stars Marlon Brando as Terry Malloy, a has-been boxer who experiences a crisis of conscience while working for mobbed-up union boss Johnny Friendly (Lee J. Cobb). Terry turns a blind eye when Friendly's thugs kill a fellow dockworker to keep him from testifying in a corruption case, but he has second thoughts when the victim's sister (Eva Marie Saint) urges him to take a stand.

ONE BRIGHT SHINING MOMENT. 2005. DVD

NR

Retracing presidential candidate George McGovern's unsuccessful run for office in 1972 -- despite his well-respected intellect and decency -- this political documentary interviews McGovern himself, as well as supporters and activists such as Gore Vidal, Gloria Steinem, Warren Beatty and Howard Zinn, to explore the volatility of the electoral process. A period-appropriate soundtrack features songs by Bob Dylan, Donovan and Elvis Costello.

ONE WOMAN, ONE VOTE. 2005. DVD

NR

Oscar-winning actress Susan Sarandon narrates this educational installment of the popular "American Experience" series as it examines the 72-year struggle for a woman's right to vote. Segments focus on influential figures in the women's suffrage movement, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Alice Paul; the country's widespread fear of social revolution; and the U.S. Senate's passage of the 19th Amendment by a single vote.

OSAMA. 2003. DVD PG-13

This stunning film, the first to be made in a post-Taliban Afghanistan and inspired by a newspaper account read by director Siddiq Barmak, recounts the efforts of a family of women to survive under an oppressive regime. To eke out a meager living, they dress up their 12-year-old girl, Osama, as a boy so she can work. A talented cast of non-actors -- including Marina Golbahari and Zubaida Sahar -- adds integrity to the heartbreaking story.

THE OSTERMAN WEEKEND. 1983. DVD R

An investigative reporter for a TV news show throws a big soiree every year to which he invites his closest friends. But the C.I.A. dumps a wet blanket on the festivities when they tell him that his "friends" are really Soviet agents. Who do you believe? This pulse-pounding thriller stars Rutger Hauer, Craig T. Nelson, Dennis Hopper, John Hurt and Meg Foster. This was director Sam Peckinpah's final film, adapted from the novel by Robert Ludlum.

PALE RIDER. 1985. BLU RAY

Nominated for a Palme d'Or at Cannes, this tense Western stars Clint Eastwood (who also directs) as a stranger in a clerical collar who rides into a mining town and comes to the aid of some gold prospectors under the thumb of a ruthless landowner (Richard Dysart). Known as the Preacher, Eastwood's loner can shoot faster and straighter than anyone, and he's unafraid to take on the band of thugs terrorizing the miners.

PARADISE NOW. 2005. DVD PG-13

Hany Abu-Assad's disturbing yet moving tale examines two young Palestinians who are drafted as suicide bombers for an assignment in Tel Aviv. Both commit to their mission, but have second thoughts after spending a final night with friends and family. Instead of portraying the men as soulless monsters, Abu-Assad attempts to humanize them and find reasons why they would accept such a drastic, tragic fate. The film was shot on location in the West Bank.

THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST. 2004. BLU RAY

R

Oscar-winning actor-director Mel Gibson helms this controversial epic that focuses on the last 12 hours of Jesus's life -- from the betrayal, trial and death of Jesus to his brutal crucifixion and resurrection from the tomb. Starring Jim Caviezel as Jesus, Maia Morgenstern as Jesus's mother and Monica Bellucci as Mary Magdalene, The Passion is spoken entirely in Latin and Aramaic, and the violent Crucifixion scenes are incredibly graphic.

PATHER PANCHALI. 1955. DVD FILED UNDER THE APU TRILOGY NR

In the first film in director Satyajit Ray's acclaimed trilogy, A boy named Apu is born to a poor but proud Brahmin family. When father Harihar (Kanu Bannerjee) loses his treasury job, he sets out to find work elsewhere, leaving his family with depleted resources. In his absence, their condition deteriorates. Months later, Harihar returns to face the tragedy that forces the family to leave their ancestral home.

PATHS OF GLORY. 1957. DVD NR

Writer-director Stanley Kubrick's powerful anti-war statement stars Kirk Douglas as Col. Dax, the commander of a weary regiment of French army soldiers stationed along the western front during World War I. When French generals order the regiment to carry out what amounts to a suicide mission against heavy German fire, some of the men refuse. But when the army tries three of the soldiers on charges of cowardice, Dax acts as their defense attorney.

PATTON. 1969. BLU RAY PG

Gen. George S. Patton (George C. Scott) earned the nickname "Blood and Guts" for his determination on the battlefield. This epic-scale production follows the commander as he guides his troops across Africa and Europe, illuminating a man whose life was defined by war. Director Franklin J. Schaffner's multiple Oscar winner is a character study masquerading as a World War II film, with astonishing combat scenes and reflection on Patton's inner life.

A PERFECT CANDIDATE. 1996. DVD NR

Disproving F. Scott Fitzgerald's pronouncement that there are no second acts in American lives, former Marine Oliver North (he of the sad, basset hound expression) emerged from the Iran-Contra scandal to run for the U.S. Senate in 1994. During the heated race, documentarians were granted access to view the back-room machinations hatched by the candidates, their handlers and the press. For budding politicos, it's a real eye-opener!

PERSEPOLIS. 2007. DVD PG-13

Marjane (voiced by Chiara Mastroianni) just wants to be an ordinary kid, but that isn't easy in 1978 Iran. This profound animated film follows Marjane's childhood in a repressive society, her adolescence in France and her return to Tehran as an adult. Based on Marjane Satrapi's autobiographical graphic novel, this Oscar nominee for Best Animated Feature Film also features the vocal talents of Catherine Deneuve and Simon Abkarian.

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PHILADELPHIA. 1993. DVD PG-13

Philadelphia attorney Andrew Beckett (Tom Hanks, in an Oscar-winning role) launches a wrongful termination suit against the hand that feeds him when his law firm finds out about his HIV-positive status -- and his homosexuality -- and fires him. Denzel Washington co-stars as a homophobic lawyer who reluctantly agrees to take Andy's case in this Jonathan Demme-directed film, the first major-studio picture to tackle the topic of AIDS.

PLATOON. 1986. DVD

R

Helmed by Oliver Stone, this searing autobiographical drama chronicles the Vietnam experiences of naïve volunteer soldier Chris Taylor (Charlie Sheen), whose view of the conflict starts to change after witnessing murder and rape at the hands of his compatriots. Platoon won Academy Awards for Best Picture and Best Director, with Tom Berenger and Willem Dafoe earning supporting actor nods as rival topkicks who offer Sheen contrasting role models.

PLEASANTVILLE. 1998. DVD PG-13

Geeky teenager David (Tobey Maguire) and his popular twin sister, Jennifer (Reese Witherspoon), get sucked into the blackand-white world of a 1950s TV sitcom called "Pleasantville," and find a world where everything is peachy keen all the time. But when Jennifer's modern attitude disrupts Pleasantville's peaceful but boring routine, she literally brings color into its life. Gary Ross directs this Oscar-nominated comedy.

PLEASE VOTE FOR ME. 2007. DVD NR

Though China's government is Communist, the third grade election for the prestigious position of Class Monitor at the Evergreen Primary School in Wuhan is being decided by a democratic vote. In this enlightening documentary, filmmaker Weijun Chen captures all the action as the three candidates -- two boys and a girl -- go all out to win: performing in a talent show, debating each other and delivering speeches to their classmates.

PRAY THE DEVIL BACK TO HELL. 2008. DVD NR

Director Gini Reticker and producer Abigail E. Disney's documentary tells the story of the thousands of Liberian women, both Christian and Muslim, who helped end the bloody civil war in 2003 that killed over 200,000 people. Through nonviolent protests, these brave women forced a resolution in the peace talks, and their efforts led to the election of Africa's first female head of state, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf.

THE PRESIDENTS COLLECTION. 2008. DVD

NR

From the American Experience on PBS. Includes documentaries on Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, FDR, Truman, JFK, LBJ, Nixon, Carter, Reagan, and George HW Bush.

PRIMARY. 1960. DVD NR

Filmmaker Robert Drew trailed Senator John F. Kennedy as he campaigned against Hubert Humphrey for the Democratic presidential nomination in Wisconsin in 1960. The first film in which the sync sound camera moved freely with characters throughout a breaking story, Primary is recognized as a breakthrough in documentary filmmaking and was selected as an historic film for inclusion in the Library of Congress's National Film Registry in 1990.

PRIMARY COLORS. 1998. DVD R

When Newsweek reporter Joe Klein was unmasked as the anonymous author of Primary Colors -- a thinly veiled take on Bill Clinton's campaign for the 1992 Democratic presidential nomination -- heads (and pages) turned. With a sterling cast (John Travolta, Emma Thompson and Kathy Bates) and a brilliant screenplay, director Mike Nichols transforms Klein's roman à clef into a wry look at modern politics.

PROHIBITION. 2011. DVD NR

Ken Burns's fascinating multipart documentary examines the history of alcohol in America, including the events leading up to the passage of the 18th Amendment, the social and legal effects of prohibiting alcohol, and the repeal of Prohibition.

THE PRUITT-IGOE MYTH. 2011. DVD NR

Once a sign of hope for the underprivileged, the Pruitt-Igoe housing complex in St. Louis fell into disrepair and was eventually demolished. In this documentary, archival footage and interviews shed light on the legacy and meaning of the project.

PULP FICTION. 1993. DVD R

A burger-loving hit man (John Travolta), his philosophical partner (Samuel L. Jackson), a drug-addled gangster's moll (Uma Thurman) and a washed-up boxer (Bruce Willis) converge in this sprawling, comedic crime caper fueled by director and co-writer Quentin Tarantino's whip-smart dialogue. Their adventures unfurl in three stories that ingeniously trip back and forth in time, resulting in one of the most audacious and imitated films of the 1990s.

THE QUIET AMERICAN. 2002. DVD R

Based on the novel by Graham Greene, this murder mystery centers on a love triangle set against the French Indochina War in 1952 Vietnam -- a world suffused with opium, intrigue and betrayal. A British reporter, Fowler (Michael Caine, in an Oscar-nominated performance), falls in love with a young Vietnamese woman, Phuong (Do Thi Hai Yen), and is dismayed when an American (Brendan Fraser) also begins vying for her attention.

RAMBO. 1982. BLU RAY

R

When governments fail to act on behalf of captive missionaries, ex-Green Beret John James Rambo (Sylvester Stallone) sets aside his peaceful existence along the Salween River in a war-torn region of Thailand to take action. Although he's still haunted by violent memories of his time as a U.S. soldier during the Vietnam War, Rambo can hardly turn his back on the aid workers who so desperately need his help.

RANA'S WEDDING. 2002. DVD NR

Palestinian director Hany Abu-Assad finds love among the brutalities of war in this heart-tugging drama that chronicles the quest of headstrong 17-year-old Rana (Clara Khoury) to be reunited with her secret boyfriend, Khalil (Khalifa Natour). In less than a day, Rana must wend her way through war-torn neighborhoods, Israeli soldiers, desperate residents and lost citizens so she can wed her beloved Khalil.

RASHOMON. 1950. DVD NR

Considered one of Japanese director Akira Kurosawa's masterpieces, this Oscarwinning crime drama unfolds as four witnesses to a rape and murder report their versions of the attack, leaving the viewer to decide what really happened. But the chain of events depicted by the bandit (Toshiro Mifune), the rape victim (Machiko Kyo), the murdered man's ghost (Masayuki Mori) and the woodcutter (Takashi Shimura) have more differences than similarities.

THE READER. 2008. BLU RAY R

Michael Berg (Ralph Fiennes) reflects on the formative sexual relationship he had with older woman Hanna Schmitz (Kate Winslet, in a Golden Globe- and Oscar-winning role) as a young teenager in this poignant drama set in post-World War II Germany. The passionate affair ended when Hanna disappeared. But years later, Michael learns she's on trial for horrific Nazi war crimes. David Kross plays the teenage Michael in this film based on Bernhard Schlink's bestseller.

RECOUNT. 2008. DVD NR

This Emmy-winning made-for-TV movie chronicles the extraordinary behind-thescenes drama that unfolded in the weeks following the highly controversial 2000 election -- a presidential race that further split an already divided America. With the nation's leadership in the balance, the battle between George W. Bush and Al Gore comes down to a hotly contested vote count in Florida. Kevin Spacey and Laura Dern (in a Golden Globe-winning role) star.

RED RIVER. 1948. DVD NR

It's mutiny on the cattle drive when irascible, ironfisted trail boss Tom Dunson (John Wayne) relentlessly brutalizes his drovers, causing adopted son Matt Garth (Montgomery Clift, in his first film appearance) to intercede and take charge. Tom vows vengeance for Matt's unpardonable offense, leading to the quintessential Western showdown. Walter Brennan costars as the ornery camp cook in director Howard Hawks' immortal sagebrush saga.

REDACTED. 2007. DVD R

Written and directed by Brian De Palma, this docudrama about the war in Iraq uses news broadcast footage, trial coverage and video blogs shot by soldiers and civilians to illustrate the contrast between different forms of media coverage. Homing in on an incident in which a 14-year-old Iraqi girl was raped and killed by U.S. soldiers, De Palma presents a thought-provoking argument that the realities of war are, in fact, victims of perspective.

REDS. 1981. DVD

Radical journalist and socialist John Reed (Warren Beatty), along with his paramour, protofeminist Louise Bryant (Diane Keaton), gets swept up in the world-changing spirit, euphoria and aftermath of Russia's 1917 Bolshevik Revolution and the newly founded Soviet Union. Jack Nicholson, Paul Sorvino, Edward Herrmann, M. Emmet Walsh and Maureen Stapleton co-star in this Beattydirected, Oscar-winning epic.

RENDITION. 2007. DVD R

Suspected of being a terrorist, Egyptianborn Anwar El-Ibrahim (Omar Metwally) "vanishes" from an international flight and is taken to a secret prison. Now, his wife, Isabella (Reese Witherspoon), desperately tries to uncover his whereabouts -- as well as his true intentions. While she looks for answers, CIA analyst Douglas Freeman (Jake Gyllenhaal) objects to the interrogation practices used on El-Ibrahim. Meryl Streep and Alan Arkin co-star.

RETURN TO KANDAHAR. 2003. DVD

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD. 2008. BLU RAY R

The perfect couple living in the perfect house in a perfect suburb? Not quite. April (Kate Winslet) and Frank's (Leonardo DiCaprio) marriage unravels when a desperate plan to change their "perfect" lives becomes their last hope to escape lives actually engulfed in emptiness. Sam Mendes helms this heartrending, razorsharp glance at the 1950s American Dream -- behind the picture window. Michael Shannon and Kathy Bates co-star.

RICE PEOPLE. 1994. DVD NR

When the father of a family of Cambodian rice growers dies, the mother must summon the courage to lead her clan. Beneath the serenity of their day-in, day-out agrarian rhythms lie persistent grieving, financial worry and insidious pests. Pushed to the brink, the family's survival hinges on a successful rice harvest. Nominated for the Golden Palm at Cannes in 1994, this film was directed by Rithy Panh, with a haunting score by Marc Marder.

THE RIGHT STUFF. 1983. DVD PG

Director Philip Kaufman and a stellar cast -including Sam Shepard, Scott Glenn and Ed Harris -- chronicle NASA's early transition from breaking the sound barrier in 1947 to the expeditions of the Mercury astronauts in the 1960s. Richly variegated and surprisingly funny, this film adaptation of a novel by Tom Wolfe brilliantly depicts the personal, political and technological achievements it took for America to get ahead in the space race.

THE RIVER. 1952. DVD NR

In this drama set in India against the backdrop of the Ganges river, withdrawn British teenager Harriet (Patricia Walters) and her outgoing, boisterous best friend, Valerie (Adrienne Corri), both have a crush on debonair outsider Capt. John (Thomas E. Breen). Though his heart lies with beautiful local native Melanie (Radha Shri Ram), John's dark past as a WW II veteran keeps him from acting on his feelings and plunges him deeper into depression.

THE ROAD HOME. 2000.DVD G

Veteran director Yimou Zhang helms this enduring love story starring Ziyi Zhang (Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon) as Zhao Di, a young country girl who falls head over heels for the village's new schoolteacher, Luo Changyu (Hao Zheng), in 1950s China. The couple's demure courtship is cut short when the new communist government summons Luo to the city for questioning during the Cultural Revolution, leaving Zhao to wait longingly for his return.

THE ROAD TO 9/11. 2005. DVD

THE ROAD WARRIOR. 1981. DVD. [SHARED DISC WITH MAD MAX] R

In this sequel to the dystopian actionadventure Mad Max, Mel Gibson returns as the heroic loner who drives the dusty roads of a postapocalyptic Australian Outback in an unending search for gasoline. Arrayed against him and the other scraggly defendants of a fuel-depot encampment are the bizarre warriors commanded by the charismatic Lord Humungus (Kjell Nilsson), a violent leader whose scruples are as barren as the surrounding landscape.

ROGER & ME. 1989. DVD R

In this blistering, satirical documentary, exjournalist Michael Moore gives a personal account of the tough times in his hometown of Flint, Mich., after the General Motors plant was closed in the mid-1980s. The film revolves around Moore's dogged attempts to gain an interview with Roger Smith, the elusive and well-insulated head of GM and the man responsible for massive layoffs that eliminated more than 30,000 jobs and left the town destitute.

THE ROLLING STONES: GIMME SHELTER. 1970. BLU RAY R

Featuring classic renditions of "Sympathy for the Devil," "Under My Thumb," "Satisfaction," "Jumpin' Jack Flash" and "Wild Horses," this unvarnished documentary chronicles the Rolling Stones' chaotic 1969 American tour. The film starts off on a high note at a riveting New York City show and concludes in the aftermath of the infamous Altamont Speedway gig, where Hell's Angels who were hired to do security ultimately brutalized concert-goers.

RONALD REAGAN: THE GREAT COMMUNICATOR. 2004. DVD NR

From his early years as a radio sports broadcaster to a Hollywood film career to his eventual emergence as perhaps the key political figure in the latter half of the 20th century, Ronald Reagan was one of the most effective public speakers in presidential history. This unique biographical documentary explores Reagan's powerful communication skills through speeches, rare newsreels, movie footage and clips of more than 100 presidential appearances.

THE RUSSIAN GAMBLE. 2009. DVD

SALAAM BOMBAY! 1988. DVD NR

This wrenching story concerns a 10-year-old boy who's tossed out onto the streets of Bombay to find work. As he tries to earn enough money to return home, he finds it's hard enough just trying to stay alive in this lawless world. This first fiction film from director Mira Nair (Monsoon Wedding) won her the new director's award at Cannes in 1988. Nair hired many Bombay street kids for the film, and some scenes are filmed in an actual brothel.

SALT OF THE EARTH. 1954. DVD NR

Director Herbert Biberman's prescient drama incited a furor upon its release with the political overtones in its story about the Mexican-Americans who went on strike to protest unsafe conditions and unfair treatment at New Mexico's Empire Zinc Mine. Presaging the civil rights and feminist movements, the 1954 film -- the only one blacklisted in American history -- paints a thought-provoking picture of the struggle by the miners and their families.

SALVADOR. 1986. DVD R

Washed-up photojournalist Richard Boyle's (James Woods) bad habits keep him from getting jobs, so he heads to El Salvador with his pal Dr. Rock (James Belushi) to find work amidst the country's fledgling civil war. But he soon finds that the danger is more than he can handle. Boyle and Rock realize that they need to flee before the violence escalates, but Boyle doesn't want to leave his new girlfriend (Elpidia Carrillo) behind. Oliver Stone directs.

SANKOFA. 2003. DVD

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN. 1998. DVD R

As U.S. troops storm the beaches of Normandy, three brothers lie dead on the battlefield, with a fourth trapped behind enemy lines. Ranger captain Tom Hanks and seven men are tasked with penetrating German-held territory and bringing the boy home. Steven Spielberg and cinematographer Janusz Kaminski paint a harrowing picture of the price of war and heroism -- one that netted them Oscars for Best Director and Best Cinematography, respectively.

THE SCENT OF GREEN PAPAYA. 1993. DVD

NR

Little things mean a lot in the world of 10year-old Mui, a girl who's trained to be a house servant in 1950s Vietnam. This film follows Mui as she grows up in pre-war Saigon, and finds quiet love with a family friend. Dialogue seems almost tertiary in this film that celebrates the senses, as the young girl discovers the world around her and marvels at every new sight, sound and scent she experiences while going about her workday life.

SCHINDLER' LIST. 1993. DVD R

Liam Neeson stars as Oskar Schindler, a greedy German factory owner made rich by exploiting cheap Jewish labor. But as World War II unfolds, he becomes an unlikely humanitarian, spending his entire fortune to help save 1,100 Jews from Auschwitz. Costarring Ralph Fiennes, Steven Spielberg's holocaust epic won seven Academy Awards (including Best Picture) and is an unforgettable testament to the possibility of human goodness.

SEABISCUIT. 2003. BLU RAY PG-13

A knobble-kneed colt becomes a winning thoroughbred at the hands of its owner (Jeff Bridges), its unorthodox trainer (Chris Cooper) and its jockey, a half-blind exprizefighter (Tobey Maguire), in this depression-era drama based on the true story of champion racehorse Seabiscuit. During a trying period in U.S. history, people across the country became fascinated with the inspiring success of Seabiscuit, awarded Horse of the Year in 1938.

SECRET HONOR. 1984. DVD NR

Philip Baker Hall stars as Richard Nixon in this Robert Altman adaptation of a one-man stage play that tracks the former president as his career takes a dive. The film opens in the aftermath of Nixon's resignation after much speculation about his involvement in the Watergate scandal. As the reality of his life and choices begins to set in, Nixon propels himself further into a drunken stupor and lets loose on all his past and present enemies.

SEE HOW THEY RUN. 2002. DVD NR

This witty look at San Francisco's mayoral runoff between Willie Brown, Tom Ammiano and Clint Reilly provides a candid look at the mudslinging and scandal that seem to accompany all political races. Direct in its delivery, this documentary holds very little back and includes appearances by Bill Maher, Sean Penn, Jesse Jackson, Arianna Huffington and more.

SERGEANTS 3. 1962. DVD [FILED UNDER "THE FRANK SINATRA COLLECTION] NR

Frank Sinatra and the members of his famous Rat Pack -- Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Peter Lawford and Joey Bishop -star in this comical retelling of the 1939 classic Gunga Din, transplanted to the 1870s American West. Joined by freed slave Jonah Williams (Davis), the trio of eponymous sergeants (Sinatra, Martin and Lawford) take on an American Indian chief intent on consolidating tribes and knocking off every paleface in sight.

SEVEN DAYS IN MAY. 1964. DVD NR

Military aide Martin Casey (Kirk Douglas) stumbles across a plot by his boss (Burt Lancaster) to overthrow the U.S. president (Fredric March), who has just negotiated a controversial peace treaty. Casey's dilemma: Follow orders and remain silent, or betray his boss. Director John Frankenheimer demonstrates the same mastery that made The Manchurian Candidate a classic, and Lancaster gives an effective performance in an unsympathetic role.

SEVEN YEARS IN TIBET. 1997. BLU RAY PG-13

Austrian mountaineer Heinrich Harrer (Brad Pitt) journeys to the Himalayas without his family to head an expedition in 1939. But when World War II breaks out, the arrogant Harrer falls into Allied forces' hands as a prisoner of war. He escapes with a fellow detainee and makes his way to Llaso, Tibet, where he meets the 14-year-old Dalai Lama (Jamyang Jamtsho Wangchuk), whose friendship ultimately transforms his outlook on life.

SID & NANCY. 1986. DVD R

This gritty biopic portrays the relationship and downward spiral of Sex Pistols bassist Sid Vicious (Gary Oldman) and his junkie girlfriend, Nancy Spungen (Chloe Webb), from their first meeting soon after Vicious joined the iconic punk band to the tragic end of their story. Hole front woman Courtney Love plays Nancy's friend, Gretchen, and music from the Clash's Joe Strummer, the Pogues, the Circle Jerks and others is included on the soundtrack.

THE SIEGE. 1998. BLU RAY R

When U.S. military zealots abduct a Muslim religious leader, constitutional rights are summarily suspended, and martial law is imposed in New York as hard-line Army Gen. William Devereaux (Bruce Willis) cordons off Queens to form a detention camp. In a struggle to save the day, FBI agents Anthony "Hub" Hubbard (Denzel Washington) and Frank Haddad (Tony Shalhoub) team with CIA operative Elise Kraft (Annette Bening) in this action-packed thriller.

SILKWOOD. 1983. DVD R While working at an Oklahoma nuclear power plant, Karen Silkwood (Meryl Streep) becomes exposed to radiation. When the official investigation is tampered with, Karen conducts her own inquiry, but she disappears under suspicious circumstances before its completion. Kurt Russell co-stars in this fact-based drama, which was nominated for multiple Oscars and earned Cher a Best Supporting Actress Golden Globe for her minimalist performance.

THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION. 1994. BLU RAY

R

Framed in the 1940s for the double murder of his wife and her lover, upstanding banker Andy Dufresne (Tim Robbins) begins a new life at the Shawshank prison, where he puts his accounting skills to work for an amoral warden (Bob Gunton). During his long stretch in prison, Dufresne comes to be admired by the other inmates -- including an older prisoner named Red (Morgan Freeman) -- for his integrity and unquenchable sense of hope.

SHOAH. 1985. DVD NR

Director Claude Lanzmann's devastating Holocaust documentary sheds light on one of the darkest periods in the history of humankind. With more than nine hours of footage, the film relies solely on testimony from survivors, witnesses and perpetrators. Eschewing archival footage, Lanzmann interviews each subject -- many at length -beginning with Simon Srebnik, one of only two Jews who survived the Chelmno death camp.

SHOUTING FIRE: STORIES FROM THE EDGE OF FREE SPEECH. 2009. DVD

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE. 2008. BLU RAY R

After coming within one question of winning it all on the Indian version of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?," 18-year-old Mumbai "slumdog" Jamal Malik (Dev Patel) is arrested on suspicion that he cheated his way to the top. While in custody, he regales a jaded inspector (Irfan Khan) with remarkable tales of his life on the streets and the story of the woman (Freida Pinto) he loved and lost. Danny Boyle directs this Oscar-winning Best Picture.

SICKO. 2007. DVD PG-13

Michael Moore sets his sights on the plight of the uninsured in this Oscar-nominated documentary that uses Moore's trademark humor and confrontational style to ask the difficult questions and get to the truth behind the health care crisis. In the world's richest country, 45 million people have no health insurance, while HMOs grow in size and wealth. Moore also explores the widespread use of antidepressants and their possible link to violence.

SOPHIE SCHOLL. 2005. BLU RAY NR

Arrested for participating in the White Rose resistance movement, anti-Nazi activist Sophie Scholl (Julia Jentsch) is subjected to a highly charged interrogation by the Gestapo, testing her loyalty to her cause, her family and her convictions. Based on true events, director Marc Rothemund's absorbing Oscar-nominated drama explores maintaining human resolve in the face of intense pressure from a system determined to silence whistle-blowers.

THE SOUTH PARK MOVIE. 1999. BLU RAY R

The potty-mouthed youngsters of "South Park" co-creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone move from cable television to the big screen in this Oscar-nominated animated comedy. With a loose plot involving Satan, Saddam Hussein and the corruption of American youth via their Canadian neighbors, this film boasts old-school animation, dialogue to make the censors blush and catchy songs with clever, often profane lyrics.

STAFFERS '04. 2004. DVD

NR

Experience the 2004 Democratic campaign from the unique perspective of campaign staffers with this behind-the-scenes documentary. From the Iowa caucuses to Kerry's presidential nomination, the film follows the tireless workers assigned to support John Kerry, Howard Dean, Joe Lieberman, Wesley Clark and Dennis Kucinich on the campaign trail. The film captures the candid moments and unexpected twists and turns of a pivotal campaign.

STARSHIP TROOPERS. 1997. DVD R

In this sci-fi adventure based on a novel by Robert A. Heinlein and directed by Paul Verhoeven, fire-spitting, brain-sucking bugs attack Earth, and the city of Buenos Aires is wiped off the map. Coming to the rescue are Johnny Rico (Casper Van Dien), Dizzy (Dina Meyer), Carmen (Denise Richards) and Ace (Jake Busey), courageous soldiers who travel to the distant Klendathu system for the ultimate showdown.

STATE OF FEAR. 2005. DVD

STATE OF THE UNION. 1948. DVD NR

At the urging of power-hungry newspaper executive Kay Thorndyke (Angela Lansbury), industrialist Grant Matthews (Spencer Tracy) is persuaded to campaign for the Republican presidential nomination. To boost his public persona, Matthews reunites with his estranged wife (Katharine Hepburn). She quickly uncovers the corruption that's infected her once moral husband. Frank Capra directs this compelling adaptation of the Pulitzer Prizewinning play.

THE STONING OF SORAYA M. 2008. BLU RAY

R Set in

Set in 1986 Iran at the start of Khomeini's reign, director Cyrus Nowrasteh's drama tells the true story of Soraya (Mozhan Marnò), whose husband plots to have her falsely accused of adultery so he can divorce her and marry a young girl. French journalist Freidoune (Jim Caviezel) is pulled into Soraya's tragic story when he meets a desperate woman named Zahra (Shohreh Aghdashloo).

STOP MAKING SENSE. 1984. BLU RAY NR

Director Jonathan Demme expertly crafted this unrivaled concert film from footage of three live gigs at Hollywood's Pantages Theatre. The staging concept -- the brainchild of Talking Heads front man David Byrne -- begins with the lead vocalist striding onto an empty stage, acoustic guitar and boom box in hand. With each new tune, another band member or backup singer joins Byrne onstage, building steadily toward the smokin' finale.

THE STORY OF INDIA. 2007. BLU RAY NR

Explore the rich culture of India with this visually striking program that takes viewers on a fascinating journey from the country's ancient origins to its significant place in our contemporary global community. Hosted by noted British historian Michael Wood, the series explores the many facets of Indian society, including the arts, spiritual traditions, the diverse population, the rising high-tech business community and much more.

THE STORY OF QII JU. 1993. DVD NR

Gong Li delivers a superbly nuanced performance as the titular heroine in director Yimou Zhang's droll take on the absurdities of bureaucratic impotency. Set in a remote Chinese province, the film follows pregnant peasant Qui Ju on her resolute quest for justice after the village elder kicks her husband in the family jewels. Merely seeking an apology from the stubborn chief, Qui Ju soon gets caught in the cogs of an exasperating legal system.

STORYTELLING. 2001. DVD R

Writer-director Todd Solondz (Welcome to the Dollhouse) presents two stories --

"Fiction" and "Non-Fiction" -- focusing on the racial and sexual tension bubbling in a college writing class and the hidden fractures in a suburban household. Raw, chilling and wrenching in its exploration of how we turn fact into fiction and lies into truth, Storytelling serves as a modern fable for people who don't need happy endings.

SUMMER HOURS. 2008. DVD NR

Sensing that death is close at hand, 75year-old Hélène (Edith Scob) summons her three adult children to her home in the French countryside and tasks them with deciding the fate of her extraordinary art collection. Juliette Binoche, Charles Berling and Jérémie Renier star as the three siblings forced to ponder their legacy and identity in this touching drama from internationally acclaimed writer-director Olivier Assayas.

SUMMER PALACE. 2006. DVD NR

Beijing students and lovers Yu Hong (Lei Hao) and Zhou Wei (Xiaodong Guo) are torn apart during student pro-democracy demonstrations, and Zhou flees to the country. Years later, haunted by the memory of Yu, Zhou returns to China to find his true love. But has their love survived the intervening years of political and personal turmoil? Directed by Ye Lou, this atmospheric drama also features Xueyun Bai, Lin Cui and Long Duan.

SUPERSIZE ME. 2004. DVD PG-13

On the heels of recent lawsuits against McDonald's, director Morgan Spurlock takes a hilarious and often terrifying look at the effects of fast food on the human body, using himself as the proverbial guinea pig. For one month, Spurlock eats nothing but McDonald's, ordering everything on the menu and "super-sizing" his order whenever asked. The result is a sobering examination of the line between personal and corporate responsibility.

THE SUPREME COURT. 2006. DVD

NR

In the Supreme Court, nine enigmatic and esteemed officials sit in final judgment of the most significant cases. This series blends history and biographies to present the human side of those whose decisions impact the lives of all Americans. Computer graphics clarify complicated legal concepts and interviews with experts shed light on how and why decisions are made in the U.S.'s highest court in the land.

SUZHOU RIVER. 2000. DVD NR

The Suzhou River that flows through Shanghai is a reservoir of chaos and poverty, but also a meeting place for memories and secrets. This tale -- of a woman named Marda who falls in love with a dramatically beautiful young woman named Moudan --- reveals the river as a Chinese Styx in which forgotten stories and mysteries are revealed.

SYRIANA. 2005. BLU RAY R

America is at the beck and call of the Middle East when it comes to the oil industry, and all its players -- Washington, sheiks, oil companies, field workers -- intersect with each other in this political thriller from director Stephen Gaghan. The star-studded cast includes Matt Damon, Amanda Peet, Chris Cooper, Christopher Plummer and George Clooney, who won a Best Supporting Actor Oscar and Golden Globe for his role as CIA operative Bob Barnes.

TASTE OF CHERRY. 1997. DVD NR

In Iranian director's Abbas Kiarostami's award-winning drama, Mister Badii (Homayoun Ershadi) drives about Tehran looking for someone to bury him when he commits suicide -- or rescue him if he fails. But it's difficult to find anyone who will help. A taxidermist (Abdolrahman Bagheri) eventually agrees, mostly so he can use the money to care for his sick son. But there's another reason -- he once attempted suicide himself.

R

Martin Scorsese crafts a violently prophetic, gripping vision of urban decay and insanity in which mentally unstable Vietnam vet Travis Bickle (Robert De Niro) drives a cab through the sleaziest streets of pregentrified New York City and befriends a child hooker (Jodie Foster). The groundbreaking film earned four Oscar nominations, including nods for Best Picture, Best Score, and for De Niro and Foster's haunting performances.

TAXI TO THE DARK SIDE. 2007. DVD NR

Alex Gibney (Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room) directs this Best Documentary Oscar winner that uses interviews, news footage and firsthand reports to examine the Bush administration's policy on torture. The film focuses on the case of an Afghan taxi driver who picked up three passengers and never returned home. Instead, he wound up dead at the Bagram Air Base, killed by injuries inflicted by U.S. soldiers.

TEN. 2002. DVD

Iranian writer-director Abbas Kiarostami trains his lens on contemporary Iran as seen through the eyes of one woman. We witness the female driver as she motors through the streets of Tehran over the course of several days. During that time, she picks up 10 passengers (including her sister and young son, a prostitute and a jilted bride). What we begin to fathom is how complex -- and varied -- modern Iran has become.

THANK YOU FOR SMOKING. 2005. DVD R

On a mission to make the country forget the dangers of smoking, Big Tobacco spin doctor Nick Naylor (Aaron Eckhart) promotes his product in the movies and hushes those who bad-mouth cigarettes, all the while trying to remain a role model to his young son. Maria Bello, Katie Holmes, Robert Duvall and William H. Macy co-star in Jason Reitman's razor-sharp satire, which won the Independent Spirit Award for Best Screenplay.

THELMA & LOUISE. 1991. DVD R

Waitress Louise Sawyer (Susan Sarandon) and naive housewife Thelma Dickinson (Geena Davis) take off for a simple weekend free of men ... and become outlaws blazing a cathartic trail across America.

THEY CALL IT MYANMAR: LIFTING THE CURTAIN. 2012. DVD NR

Shot clandestinely over a two-year period in the second-most isolated country on the planet, Burma, this documentary lifts the curtain to expose everyday life in a country that has been held in the iron grip of a brutal military regime for 48 years.

THIRTEEN DAYS. 2000. DVD PG-13

When a nuclear missile presence escalates in Cuba, President John F. Kennedy (Bruce Greenwood) attempts to curb the threat with help from his aides, his generals and his younger brother, Bobby (Stephen Culp), then the U.S. attorney general. After assessing the situation, they quickly realize the Soviets could launch offensive warheads, leaving the fate of the world hanging by a thread. Kevin Costner co-stars in this drama based on actual events.

TIANANMEN SQUARE. 2007. DVD NR

The History Channel uses previously unseen footage and declassified sources to revisit 1989 Beijing, where hundreds of student protesters were killed by the Chinese military on Tiananmen Square. The program examines the growth of the opposition to the ruling Communist Party, the efforts the government took to quell the dissenters and the lasting repercussions the historic event had on Chinese politics and culture.

TIBET: CRY OF THE SNOW LION. 2003. DVD UR Ten years in the making, this feature-length documentary was filmed during nine remarkable journeys throughout Tibet, India and Nepal, chronicling the dark secrets of Tibet's recent past through interviews, personal stories and archival images. Martin Sheen narrates, and Susan Sarandon and Ed Harris provide voice-overs for this powerful film that takes viewers to the longforbidden "rooftop of the world" with an unprecedented richness of imagery.

TITO AND ME. 1992. DVD NR

In 1954 Yugoslavia, 10-year-old Zoran (Dimitrije Vojnov) -- to his parents' consternation -- develops a fascination with the country's charismatic but despotic ruler, Marshall Tito (Vojislav Brajovic). Zoran is also consumed with thoughts of a female classmate who plans to take a walking tour of Tito's homeland. Sparked by his dual obsessions, Zoran wins an essay contest that earns him a spot on the tour ... but he's in for some unexpected lessons.

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD. 1962. DVD NR

Southern comforts abound in this big-screen adaptation of Harper Lee's novel as lawyer Atticus Finch (Gregory Peck, in an Oscarwinning role) defends an innocent black man (Brock Peters) against rape charges but ends up in a maelstrom of hate and prejudice. Meanwhile, with help from a friend (John Megna), Finch's children, Jem (Phillip Alford) and Scout (Mary Badham), set their sights on making contact with a reclusive neighbor (Robert Duvall).

TO LIVE. 1994. DVD NR

A bold, energetic masterpiece from Zhang Yimou, the foremost director from China's influential "fifth generation" of filmmakers. Continuing his brilliant collaboration with China's best-known actress, Gong Li, Zhang weaves a tapestry of personal and political events, following the struggles of an impoverished husband and wife (Ge You and Li) from their heyday in the 1940s to the hardships that accompanied the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s.

TOKYO STORY. 1953. DVD NR

Director Yasujiro Ozu focuses on an elderly couple (Chishu Ryu and Chieko Higashiyama) in post-World War II Japan who travel to Tokyo to visit their children but are received rather coldly by their offspring; in fact, the only one happy to see them is their widowed daughter-in-law (Setsuko Hara). In an attempt to get them out of the way, the children shuttle their aging parents off to a health spa, a decision that could come back to haunt them.

TRAFFIC. 2000. DVD R

Steven Soderbergh's Oscar-winning drama intricately weaves three disturbing snapshots of America's drug war. At the forefront are a U.S. drug czar (Michael Douglas) who learns his daughter is an addict and a Mexican cop (Benicio Del Toro in an Oscar-winning role) dealing with a corrupt system. Meanwhile, a wealthy housewife (Catherine Zeta-Jones) whose husband is arrested for dealing must choose to carry on the business or sacrifice her lifestyle.

TRIUMPH OF THE WILL. 1934. DVD NR

Leni Riefenstahl's infamous propaganda film documenting the Third Reich's 1934 Nuremberg Party Rally features a cast of thousands -- including Adolf Hitler, Heinrich Himmler, Joseph Goebbels, Rudolf Hess, Hermann Goering and other top officials. Images of cheering crowds, precision marching, military bands, banners lining Nuremberg's streets and Hitler's climactic speech illustrate with chilling clarity how Germany fell under his spell.

TROUBLE THE WATER. 2008. DVD NR

Filmmakers Tia Lessin and Carl Deal recount a surprising tale of heroism amid tragedy in New Orleans, where a wannabe rapper and her husband brave the floodwaters of Hurricane Katrina to rescue their neighbors. Featuring live video diary footage from the couple, the Oscarnominated documentary is both a poignant portrait of a family's will to survive and a startling portrayal of Katrina's devastating power.

TRUMAN. 1995. DVD PG

Gary Sinise owns the screen with his performance as U.S. president Harry S. Truman. Coming to power in the shadow of the legendary Franklin Roosevelt, Truman survived near-certain defeat in the 1948 election and led the rebuilding of postwar Europe. Sinise perfectly captures the underrated 33rd president's unpretentious style, which concealed a razor-sharp political will. Diana Scarwid keeps pace as Truman's wife.

THE TURANDOT PROJECT. 2001. DVD NR

This documentary from director Allan Miller takes you behind the scenes with conductor Zubin Mehta as he stages the Puccini opera "Turandot" in two decidedly different locations: Florence, Italy, and Beijing, China. The film focuses primarily on the unexpected areas of dramatic interest and conflict that opened up when the production, initially scheduled only for Florence, was given official permission to be remounted in Beijing.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL: THE WAR ON OUR CIVIL LIBERTIES. 2004. DVD NR

Following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, Congress passed a series of legislations known as The Patriot Act, which is designed to assist law enforcement in preventing future terrorist attacks. Take an inside look at this controversial bill through the eyes of legal analysts and constitutional experts as they examine the possible dangers The Patriot Act poses to our civil liberties and individual freedoms.

UNDER THE SAME MOON. 2007. DVD PG-13

In this tale illuminating the plight of illegal aliens, Kate del Castillo plays Rosario, a woman working illegally in the United States to provide a better life for her son Carlitos (Adrian Alonso), who remains at home in Mexico. Longing for his mother, Carlitos stows away on a van that's headed for the border. But an already treacherous journey becomes even more so when Carlitos is separated from his smugglers (Jesse Garcia and America Ferrera).

UNFORGIVEN. 1992. BLU RAY R

Retired gunslinger William Munny (Clint Eastwood) reluctantly takes one last job -and even more reluctantly accepts a boastful youth (Jaimz Woolvett) as a partner. Together, they learn how easily complicated truths are distorted into simplistic myths about the Old West. Gene Hackman (who won an Oscar) and Richard Harris stand out as old foes who have an unhappy reunion. The film also earned Oscars for Best Picture and Best Director (Eastwood).

UNTIL WHEN. . .2004. DVD NR

Director Dahna Abourahme's documentary follows four Palestinian families who live in Dheisheh refugee camp near Bethlehem, painting a genuine portrait of life in the settlement through interviews, photo archives and emotionally compelling footage. A revealing look at how displaced people survive such frustrating circumstances, this moving film also shares what inspires the refugees to keep a firm grasp on their hopes for a better tomorrow.

THE UP SERIES.

1964/1971/1978/1985/1992/1999/2006 DVD NR.

When Seven Up was broadcast in 1964, it broke new ground and became the first segment of a laborious and momentous labor of love: an engrossing chronicle of the lives of 14 students from varied social backgrounds, beginning when they were 7 years old. The first meeting with the group of wide-eyed, innocent children invites viewers to take a look at lives in the making; the follow-up film, 7 Plus Seven, checks in on them 7 years later and every 7 years after that.

UP THE YANGTZE. 2007. DVD NR

When the Three Gorges Dam makes life hard for the Yu family, daughter Yu Shui must take a job aboard a cruise ship, where she enters into a dizzying microcosm of modern China. Meanwhile, her parents face the rising waters of the Yangtze. Chinese Canadian filmmaker Yung Chang's beautifully photographed film of China's peasant life and cultural upheaval was nominated for Best Documentary for the Independent Spirit Awards.

V FOR VENDETTA. 2005. BLU RAY R

From the pages of David Lloyd and Alan Moore's groundbreaking graphic novel springs the enigmatic "V" (Hugo Weaving), a masked freedom fighter who's taken up arms against the totalitarian government in a futuristic Britain. Finding an unlikely ally in a young woman named Evey Hammond (Natalie Portman), V urges the citizenry to fight the oppression of the state. John Hurt and Stephen Rea also co-star.

VIETNAM: A TELEVISION HISTORY. 2004. DVD NR

Fascinating and heart-wrenching in its attention to detail, this in-depth documentary, which first aired on public television in 1983, unfolds in all its painful glory the American military bête noire that is Vietnam. The show chronicles the country's failed efforts to install an anti-Communist government, a losing battle almost from the moment it started as soldiers grappled with unfamiliar terrain, guerrilla tactics, murky politics and more.

VIVA CUBA. 2005. DVD NR

In this Cuban coming-of-age charmer, preteens Jorgito (Miló Ávila) and Malú (Tarrau Broche) have formed a deep bond, so when they learn Malú's divorced mother plans to remarry and leave the country, taking Malú with her, the two friends go on a quest to prevent their separation. Leaving Havana and traveling on foot and by any available vehicle, the children try to reach Malú's father before he signs papers permitting her to emigrate.

W. 2008. BLU RAY PG-13

Oscar winner Oliver Stone directs an all-star cast in this satiric retrospective of the life and political career of George W. Bush (Josh Brolin), from his troubles as a young adult through his governorship of Texas and all the way to the Oval Office. Richard Dreyfuss plays Vice President Dick Cheney, with Elizabeth Banks as First Lady Laura Bush and Thandie Newton as Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

WAG THE DOG. 1997. DVD R

When the president is caught in a sex scandal less than two weeks before the election, White House spinmaster Conrad Brean (Robert De Niro) creates a phony war with the help of Hollywood producer Stanley Motss (Dustin Hoffman) to distract the electorate. From acclaimed director Barry Levinson and writers Hilary Henkin and David Mamet comes this biting look at American politics and its insidious relationship with the media.

WALL STREET. 1987. BLU RAY R

Enterprising stockbroker Bud Fox (Charlie Sheen) falls under the enticing spell of Gordon Gekko (Michael Douglas), an unabashedly greedy Wall Street arbitrageur. Gekko takes Fox under his wing, tutoring his charge in the unscrupulous tactics that put the corporate raider on top. But when Gekko embroils his protégé in an insider-trading scheme that may risk the jobs of kith and kin, Fox develops a conscience and decides to turn the tables.

WALL STREET: MONEY NEVER SLEEPS. 2010. BLU RAY

PG-13

Trader Jake (Shia LaBeouf) tries to mend the broken relationship between his fiancée, Winnie (Carey Mulligan), and her father, Gordon Gekko (Michael Douglas), while avenging the fate of his mentor, Lou (Frank Langella), by getting close to Wall Street's new megalomaniac, Bretton James (Josh Brolin). Centered on the 2008 financial crisis, director Oliver Stone's follow-up is a modern-day ode to unfettered capitalism and, of course, greed.

THE WAR. 2007. DVD TV-14

Documentarians **Ken** Burns and Lynn Novick bring **the** harrowing history of World **War** II to life through **the** personal accounts of a handful of participants from four "typical" American towns -- proving nothing was typical during this terrible time. Historical footage and photographs combine with realistic sound effects to create visceral scenes of **the** battles at Omaha Beach, Guadalcanal, Okinawa and more in this seven-part PBS presentation.

THE WAR ROOM. 1993. DVD PG

In this intensely observational documentary, filmmaker D.A. Pennebaker examines the inner workings of President Bill Clinton's first White House campaign in the early 1990s, focusing on the wizardry of James Carville and George Stephanopoulos. One of the founding members of the direct cinema movement, Pennebaker applies the genre's hallmarks of reality and truth to craft a fascinating portrait of modern American politics.

WARM SPRING. 2003. DVD NR

Fleeing the clutches of an abusive foster parent, orphan Xiao Hua finds safe haven in the home of a kindly old gent who vows to give her everything he has to afford her a better life. But in the face of meager resources, disapproving neighbors and a jealous son and daughter-in-law, the man's good intentions meet more resistance than he expected. Tian Chengren, Zhang Yan, Hai Yang and Yu Weijie provide support in this touching tale.

WATCHMEN. 2009. BLU RAY R

Zack Snyder directs this adaptation of Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons's graphic novel set in a parallel Earth in 1985, where superheroes are prohibited from using their powers despite the threat of nuclear war. When one of their number is murdered, however, the outlaw heroes -- including Dr. Manhattan (Billy Crudup), Silk Spectre (Carla Gugino), Rorschach (Jackie Earle Haley) and Nite Owl (Patrick Wilson) -- unite to defend themselves.

THE WEATHER UNDERGOUND. 2002. DVD

UR

This sobering documentary about a group of 1960s "committed freedom fighters" known as the Weather Underground chronicles a global trend of revolution that sprang from the belief that not acting against violence is violence. A radical offshoot of the Students for a Democratic Society, the Weathermen didn't just march or sit in: They rioted and bombed -- not to change the American political scene but rather to destroy it.

WEDDING IN GALILEE. 1988. DVD NR

The elder of a Palestinian village in Israel seeks and is granted permission to hold a traditional wedding for his son on one condition: that the Israeli military governor and his staff be guests of honor at the ceremony. In director Michel Khlefi's first feature, two disparate cultures come together (and set aside their complex differences) for one day of bipartisan celebration.

WELCOME TO SARAJEVO. 1997. DVD R

In Michael Winterbottom's heartbreaking film about war-torn Bosnia, Stephen Dillane stars as English reporter Michael Henderson, one of many journalists dispatched to cover the mayhem in the Sarajevo. When Michael observes the countless children left orphaned by the war, he risks his life to help spirit an orphan named Emira (Emira Nusevic) out of the country -- even as he competes with an American journalist (Woody Harrelson) to get the story.

WEST SIDE STORY. 1961. DVD UR

Winner of 10 Academy Awards including Best Picture, this classic musical set among the tenements of New York City finds starcrossed lovers Maria (Natalie Wood) and Tony (Richard Beymer) caught in the midst of a turf war between rival street gangs. The modern Romeo and Juliet story features original choreography by Jerome Robbins, as adapted from the Broadway stage production. Oscar winners Rita Moreno and George Chakiris co-star.

WHY WE FIGHT. 2005. DVD PG-13

Filmed during the Iraq War, Eugene Jarecki's Sundance Grand Jury Awardwinning documentary dissects America's military machine with a keen eye to answering a necessary question: Why do we engage in war? Through personal stories of soldiers, government officials, scholars, journalists and innocent victims, the film examines the political and economic interests and ideological factors, past and present, behind American militarism.

WILD CHINA. 2008. BLU RAY NR

This six-part series from the BBC uncovers some of the most exotic and uncharted natural habitats hidden within the vast and diverse topography of China, including Yunnan's forests, the Tibetan plateau, the Silk Road and the Mongol steppes. Through high-definition and other cutting-edge camera technologies, the footage presented here captures stunning wildlife sequences, along with a plethora of breathtaking landscape photography.

THE WIND WILL CARRY US. 2000. DVD NR

This film's abstract, symbolic plot follows a man named Behzad and two of his colleagues as they travel from Tehran, Iran, to the tiny village of Siah Dareh, located on a dry, barren mountainside. There they observe the harsh life and everyday activities of the villagers. Technology -- or the lack thereof -- figures prominently in this film, which is considered director Abbas Kiarostami's most socially critical work.

WITH GOD ON OUR SIDE. 2004. DVD NR

Deftly maintaining an evenhanded tone in tackling a sensitive topic, this documentary first traces the roots, rise and rocky history of the conservative evangelical movement in America. The film then goes on to explore how President George W. Bush's religious beliefs inform his decisions as the country's commander in chief. Included are rare archival clips, interviews with leading evangelists and comments from key players in Washington.

WITHOUT THE KING. 2007. DVD NR

In this provocative documentary about Swaziland's ruling family -- the last absolute monarchy on the African continent -- King Mswati III faces myriad challenges as he governs a troubled, poverty- and AIDSstricken country where the average life expectancy is 31 years. The film contrasts the royal family's lavish lifestyle with the meager existence of most of Swaziland's people, whose discontent has created the seeds of a revolutionary movement.

THE WIZARD OF OZ. 1939. DVD G

There's no place like home for young Dorothy (Judy Garland), who's been swept away from her farm in Kansas to a wonderland of munchkins, flying monkeys and different-colored horses. She must follow the Yellow Brick Road to the allknowing Wizard of Oz to find her way home. Along the way, she meets the Scarecrow (Ray Bolger), the Tin Man (Jack Haley) and the Cowardly Lion (Bert Lahr), who help her fend off the Wicked Witch of the West (Margaret Hamilton).

THE WOODEN CAMERA. 2003. DVD NR

Jean-Pierre Cassel stars in this engrossing drama about two friends, Madiba and Sipho, whose lives are changed forever after they chance upon the body of a dead man and decide to make off with two of his belongings. Madiba chooses the man's video camera, while Sipho picks his gun. Their choices appear to signal the decisions they'll make in near the future: Madiba becomes the observer, while Sipho aggressively stalks the world.

WOODSTOCK. 1970. DVD R

The director's cut of Michael Wadleigh's Oscar-winning documentary restores footage snipped from the original 1970 release. With the help of a young editor named Martin Scorsese, Wadleigh not only chronicles Woodstock's memorable music and legendary artists, he also captures the festival's dauntless free spirit. The presentation features live performances from, among others, Jimi Hendrix; the Who; Janis Joplin; and Crosby, Stills and Nash.

WORKING GIRL. 1988. DVD. [FILED WITH "NORMA RAE"]

R Industrious secretary Tess McGill (Melanie Griffith) dreams of climbing the corporate ladder and may be on her way after landing a job with Katherine Parker (Sigourney Weaver), a top brokerage firm executive. When a skiing mishap puts Katharine out of commission, the secretary discovers her boss has stolen Tess' idea for saving a client. Hooking up with investment broker Jack Trainer (Harrison Ford), Tess takes over the deal and turns the tables.

THE WORLD AT WAR, VOLS. 3, 5, 6, 8

THE WORLD OF APU. 1959. DVD FILED UNDER THE APU TRILOGY NR

Living alone in a tenement above the railway, a grown Apu passes his days reading poetry, playing his wooden flute and looking for work. Although poor and without family, he remains hopeful about his future. After reuniting with a childhood friend, Apu marries the man's cousin. But marital bliss is short-lived, as a terrible tragedy awaits the newfound lovers. This is the third and final film in the renowned Apu trilogy from director Satyajit Ray.

XIU XIU: THE SENT DOWN GIRL. 1999. DVD R

At the height of China's Cultural Revolution, a girl is sent to a remote area as part of a government initiative and finds her exile a liberating adventure -- and a nightmarish trap. Brimming with beautiful images and moving performances, Xiu Xiu: The Sent Down Girl is a rich tale about the individual cost of collective decisions. Actress Joan Chen's directorial debut won accolades.

THE YEAR MY PARENTS WENT ON VACATION. 2006. DVD PG

When his parents' political leanings force his family to flee Brazil in haste, 12-year-old Mauro (Michel Joelsas) is left behind to live with his grandfather on the outskirts of São Paulo in the city's Jewish community. But what his parents didn't realize is that Mauro's grandfather has recently died, and the only person left to care for the boy is his grandfather's next-door neighbor, Shlomo (Germano Haiut).

THE YEAR OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY. 1983. DVD

PG

Guy Hamilton (Mel Gibson), an Australian reporter on assignment in politically unstable Indonesia, joins forces with a savvy photographer (Linda Hunt). But it's Guy's affair with the beautiful British attaché Jill Bryant (Sigourney Weaver) that complicates his life. As the country moves to the brink of civil war, Jill warns her lover to leave, but Guy insists on pressing on to expose the truth ... even if it comes with a high cost.

YI YI. 2000. DVD

NR

Among movie critics' highest-rated foreign films of 2000, Yi Yi chronicles three generations of a Taiwanese family mired in a crisis of self-doubt. The film focuses mostly on computer worker N.J. (Nien-Jen Wu) and his wife and two children. A chance meeting with a former lover compels N.J. to question the assumptions on which his life is based. Warm and thoughtful, Yi Yi posits that truth is something we may never know.

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU. 1939. DVD

NR

In this Frank Capra classic, Tony (James Stewart) and Alice (Jean Arthur) meet and fall in love. But things are far from rosy: He's the son of a millionaire, and she and her wacky family live in a house that's in the way of the senior Kirby's construction project. Will an office building literally stand in the way of true love? The movie, adapted from a Pulitzer Prize-winning play by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, delivers the answer.

YOUNG & RESTLESS IN CHINA. 2008. DVD

NR

Helmed by Sue Williams, this eye-opening documentary follows a cross section of Chinese entrepreneurs, pacesetters and struggling Gen-Xers swept up in a bubbling cauldron of rapid social and economic transition. Profiling a handful of people -including an activist attorney, a hotelier and a downtrodden rap artist -- the film charts their trajectories over the course of four years and looks at how the sweeping transformations are affecting them.

YOUNG MR. LINCOLN. 1939. DVD NR

With Henry Fonda in the title role, this biopic follows the future president through his early law career -- with the drama focusing on his defense of two brothers unjustly accused of murder -- and traces Honest Abe's budding political consciousness. Sure-handed direction, powerful performances and strong writing (the film received an Oscar nomination for Best Original Screenplay) characterize this highly fictionalized tale from John Ford.

Z. 1969. DVD NR

Based on true events, director Costa-Gavras's Oscar-winning film closely parallels the real-life assassination of a Greek doctor and humanist whose 1963 murder led to public scandal and eventual overthrow of the democratic government in Greece. Part mystery and part thriller, the film made its mark as a groundbreaking political roman à clef, and its edge-of-your-seat plot, vérité photography and driving score resonate even today.

ZERO DARK THIRTY. 2012. DVD R

For a decade, an elite team of intelligence and military operatives, working in secret across the globe, devoted themselves to a single goal: to find and eliminate Osama bin Laden. ZERO DARK THIRTY reunites the Oscar-winning team of director-producer Kathryn Bigelow and writer-producer Mark Boal (2009, Best Picture, THE HURT LOCKER) for the story of history's greatest manhunt for the world's most dangerous man.