

# New On DVD from Paramount

**Barnyard** What really happens on the farm when the farmer isn't looking? In director Steve Oedekerk's computer-generated animation feature, the farm animals can do everything humans do. They talk, walk upright, buy human contraband from a "gray market" run by the gophers, and even turn the barn into a nightclub. Of course, they do all of this in secret. The biggest party animal is Otis (voiced by Kevin James), a happy-go-lucky cow. (Yes, the movie is full of male cows, complete with udders....) The animals know they can always count on him for a kooky stunt or a practical joke. But Otis' carefree attitude doesn't sit well with his father, Ben (Sam Neill), the barnyard patriarch and protector. Ben loves his slacker son, but thinks Otis needs to learn more responsibility, especially because he hopes to leave a legacy to care for the barnyard. When the dangerous coyote season arrives and Ben is suddenly no longer able to serve as barnyard security, mayhem immediately ensues and the barnyard looks more like an amusement park than a farm...until Otis steps up to fill his father's shoes. But is he really ready to take the lead, or would he prefer to be wooing Daisy (Courtney Cox), the pretty new cow on the farm, and partying with his friends? And when push comes to shove, will Otis be able to stand up to the coyotes and protect the barnyard? This coming-of-age tale is bolstered by the human antics of the animals and genuine laugh-out-loud moments for all ages. Wanda Sykes voices Bessy, Daisy's cynical cow friend, and Danny Glover voices Miles the Mule, a sage elder on the farm. Songs by Tom Petty and Peter Gabriel, as well as other artists, elevate the soundtrack above the typical children's film. *Paramount*

**The Andy Griffith Show Final Season** The Andy Griffith Show premiered in 1960 and, featuring one of the most beloved television fathers of all time, quickly charmed its way into the hearts of audiences. Set in the fictitious environs of Mayberry, North Carolina, the series chronicles daily life in that peaceful Southern hamlet through the gently humorous eyes of town sheriff Andy Taylor (Andy Griffith). A widower raising his young son, Opie (a pre-Happy Days Ron Howard), with the help of his live-in spinster aunt, Bee (Frances Bavier), Andy capably navigates single parenthood with the same goodhearted wisdom that he brought to his law enforcement duties. This collection presents all 30 episodes of the series' eighth and final season, including fan-favorite episodes like "Barney Hosts a Summit Meeting" and "Mayberry R.F.D." as well as guest appearances by Don Knotts, Jack Nicholson, Harry Dean Stanton, Teri Garr, Ken Berry, and Howard Hesseman. Disk 1 includes the following episodes: "Opie's First Love," "Howard the Bowler," "A Trip to Mexico," "Andy's Trip to Raleigh," "Opie Steps Up in Class" and "Howard's Main Event." Disk 2 includes the following episodes: "Aunt Bee, the Juror," "Tape Recorder," "Opie's Group," "Aunt Bee and the Lecturer," "Andy's Investment" and "Howard and Millie." Disk 3 includes the following episodes: "Aunt Bee's Cousin," "Suppose Andy Gets Sick," "Howard's New Life," "Goober the Executive," "The Mayberry Chef" and "Emmett's Brother-In-Law." Disk 4 includes the following episodes: "Opie's Drugstore Job," "The Church Benefactors," "Barney Hosts a Summit Meeting," "Goober Goes to an Auto Show," "Aunt Bee's Big Moment" and "Helen's Past." Disk 5 includes the following episodes: "Emmett's Anniversary," "The Wedding," "Sam for Town Council," "Opie and Mike," "A Girl for Goober" and "Mayberry RFD." *Paramount*

**World Trade Center** The events of September 11 left an indelible mark on most Americans, and certainly on those in the New York City area. Yet as fresh as the images seem, it's easy to forget the actual grit, sacrifice, and uncertainty of that day. Director Oliver Stone captures the essence of 9/11 by focusing on the true story of two Port Authority Police Department officers who were trapped beneath the wreckage of the fallen World Trade Center. Veteran officer Sergeant John McLoughlin (Nicholas Cage) and his team, including rookie Will Jimeno (Michael Pena) are gathering equipment to enter the burning Twin Towers when the concourse comes crashing down around them. Twenty feet below the surface, pinned by debris and unable to reach anyone by radio, the officers must rely on their own will--and on each other--to survive. Above ground, their families watch the towers fall, uncertain whether or not McLoughlin and Jimeno are there, since they are normally assigned to the Port Authority Bus Terminal. Like so many that day, Donna McLoughlin (Maria Bello) and Allison Jimeno (Maggie Gyllenhaal) wait for news at home surrounded by their families, fearing the worst and praying for the best. Stone's film depicts the horror and heartbreak of the victims, survivors, and their families with an understated, subtle touch. From the ash and dust covering everyone and everything to the dazed expressions of the workers leaving the towers to the steaming twisted metal remains of the World Trade Center, attention to detail is exceedingly realistic. Rather than being political or sensationalistic, this is a film about everyday heroes--men and women doing their best in the face of an unspeakable event. It may be just one story of many from September 11, but it represents the efforts, emotions, and reactions of so many on that fateful day. *Paramount*

**Mission Impossible Season 1** Forty years before it hit the big screen, the classic 1960s television series Mission Impossible captivated audiences with its tense and stylish thrill ride through Cold War espionage. Following the globetrotting exploits of a covert taskforce of government spies--team leader Daniel Briggs (Steven Hill), master of disguise Rollin Hand (Martin Landau), electronics expert Barney Collier (Greg Morris), tough guy Willy Armitage (Peter Lupus), and femme fatale Cinnamon Carter (Barbara Bain)--the series distinguished itself with intricate plotting, high-tech gadgetry, inventive cinematography, and, of course, an indelible theme song. Smart and iconic, the vintage series is resurrected in this collection of 28 digitally remastered, remixed, and high-definition episodes from the debut season, which netted two Emmy Awards (Best Dramatic Series and Best Actress for Barbara Bain) and featured guest appearances by Lloyd Bridges, Carroll O'Connor, Ricardo Montalban, George Takei, and Eartha Kitt. Disk 1 includes the following episodes: pilot, "Memory," "Operation Rogosh" and "Old Man Out (Part 1)." Disk 2 includes the following episodes: "Old Man Out (Part 2)," "Odds on Evil," "Wheels" and "The Ransom." Disk 3 includes the following episodes: "A Spool There Was," "The Carriers," "Zubrovnik's Ghost" and "Fakeout." Disk 4 includes the following episodes: "Elena," "The Short Tail Spy," "The Legacy" and "The Reluctant Dragon." Disk 5 includes the following episodes: "The Frame," "The Trial," "The Diamond" and "The Legend." Disk 6 includes the following episodes: "Snowball in Hell," "The Confession," "Action!" and "The Train." Disk 7 includes the following episodes: "Shock," "The Curse of Sugar," "The Traitor" and "The Psychic." *Paramount*

**The Last Kiss** is a film about growing pains and choices. Nearing his 30th birthday, marriage-phobic Michael (Zach Braff) loves his live-in girlfriend Jenna (Jacinda Barrett), but worries that there are no surprises left in his life. Enter Kim (Rachel Bilson), a vibrant college student who Michael meets at a wedding. Soon, he finds himself treading in dangerous territory; he loves Jenna, but is intrigued by Kim and attracted to both her and to the possibilities that a new relationship offers. With Kim, Michael not only feels 10 years younger, but also as if anything is possible. Now, he has to decide if pursuing Kim is worth the risk of losing Jenna, and if the life he has planned with Jenna is in fact the life he really wants. Michael, meanwhile, is not the only one experiencing growing pains; his friends have their own relationship issues. Izzy (Michael Weston) is battling heartbreak after being dumped by his longtime girlfriend. Chris (Casey Affleck) and his wife already have a rocky relationship, and are feeling the stress of having their first baby. Kenny (Eric Christian Olsen) is the only one without relationship issues--but that's only because he is determined to remain a single ladies man. Then there are Jenna's parents, Anna (Blythe Danner) and Stephen (Tom Wilkinson), who are facing their own issues after 30 years of marriage. The Last Kiss looks at relationships from all angles, and shies away from finger pointing and laying blame. Instead, it acknowledges that the world is full of temptation, and that growing up is serious business. Braff does a nice job of conveying Michael's confusion without asking for sympathy. *Paramount*

**Jackass Number Two** Born of the world of underground skateboard videos--where viewers watch more for the accidents than for the tricks--Jackass began as an MTV series before becoming a big-screen sensation in 2002. Four years on, Johnny Knoxville is a movie star, and cohorts Bam Margera, Chris Pontius, and Steve-O have started successful franchises. One would think that they have moved on--yet here they are, back for more stunts and pranks involving defecation, ejaculation, and pubic hair, and ranging from the disgusting to the ridiculous. Like its predecessor, undoubtedly--in relation to its budget--one of the most profitable studio films in history, Jackass: Number Two is merely a series of wince-inducing stunts. These often result in injury--filmed with a handheld camcorder. Highlights this time around include a four-person teeter-totter in the middle of a ball ring; Knoxville, Pontius, and Margera being blasted with riot control pellets; fellow skate video alumnus Spike Jonze in elderly-woman makeup losing his clothing in public; and Knoxville blasting off on the outside of a rocket. And these are just the beginning. There are also puncture wounds, the guys endlessly laughing at one another's injuries, and more male nudity than one normally sees in a mainstream film (including a surplus of scarred and bruised bottoms). Jackass: Number Two is bookended by two beautifully filmed sequences--first the gang does a jaw-dropping running of the bulls down a suburban street. Then (and nothing is being spoiled here) the film concludes with an elaborate Busby Berkeley musical number. These sequences up the ante a little bit from the first installment, and though Jackass Two certainly isn't for everyone, it remains the best and safest way to see a guy blasted into a lake in a rocket-fueled wheelchair. *Paramount*