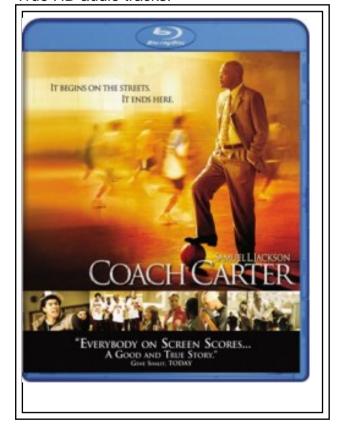
Blu-Ray Round Up: 'Into the Wild,' 'Old School,' 'Tommy Boy,' More

Submitted by BrianTT [1] on December 16, 2008 - 4:29pm

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CHICAGO – Paramount Home Video has scheduled two waves of catalog titles making their debut on Blu-Ray for the holiday season and the first set hits this week, just in time for you to finish up your Christmas shopping.

There are some recent comedy hits, a highly lauded drama from last year, and a forgotten Samuel L. Jackson movie. It's hard to imagine anyone out there looking to buy all six of these titles and schedule a Blu-Ray marathon in their own home, but it's also easy to see someone in your family having one on their holiday wish list. All films are presented in 1080p High-Definition Widescreen and feature English 5.1 Dolby True HD audio tracks.



"Coach Carter"

2005's "Coach Carter" stars Samuel L. Jackson as Ken Carter, the controversial basketball coach who locked out his entire undefeated team due to their poor academic performance. The players, parents, and the community fought against the inspirational leader, trying to get their kids back on the court to play the big game. Carter stands strong and teaches his young men that there is life beyond the court, gangs, drugs, and prison. "Coach Carter" is a pretty generic sports movie grounded a bit by yet another solid performance from Jackson.

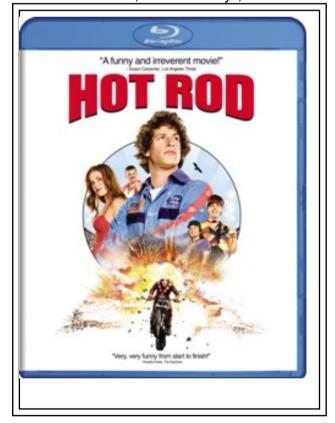
On Blu-Ray, "Coach Carter" includes four featurettes - "Coach Carter: The Man Behind the Movie", "Fast Break at Richmond High", "Writing Coach Carter: The Two Man Game", "Coach Carter: Making the Cut" - six deleted scenes, a music video with Twista featuring Faith Evans for "Hope", and the trailer in HD.



"The Heartbreak Kid"

In the critically reviled remake of the Neil Simon classic, Ben Stiller stars as Eddie, a 40-year-old bachelor who finally says "I do" to the beautiful but crazy Lila (Malin Akerman). When Eddie and Lila get to Mexico for their honeymoon, our poor hero learns that his dream of marital bliss has turned into a total nightmare. While he's down in Mexico, Eddie falls for a lovely girl played by Michelle Monaghan and supposed hilarity ensues. With its grating, unlikable characters, only Monaghan makes it out of this Farrelly Brothers' misstep unscathed. Stiller has never been worse and Akerman is the definition of annoying, but hardcore fans of Ben and the boys who made "There's Something About Mary" will want to include "The Heartbreak Kid" in their collection. Good luck.

On Blu-Ray, "The Heartbreak Kid" includes a commentary by The Farrelly Brothers, deleted scenes, a gag reel, "The Farrelly Brothers in the French Tradition", "Ben & Jerry", "Heartbreak Halloween", "The Egg Toss", and the trailer in HD.



"Hot Rod"

"Hot Rod" had "cult comedy" written all over it from day one. Just as Andy Samberg's digital shorts on "Saturday Night Live" are wildly hit-and-miss, his debut movie as a star has its own highs and lows, but weird movies always gain cult followings. If you missed the cult of "Rod", Samberg stars as Rod Kimble, a stuntman with a fake mustache and a dream. Rod is really only a stuntman in his head and with his dumb friends. To save the life of his abusive father (Ian McShane) and win the heart of his lady love (Isla Fisher), Rod plans the biggest stunt of his life. With just as many jokes that hit the floor as that hit the funny bone, "Hot Rod" is so-so at best but Samberg fans will be happy to have their cult favorite on Blu-Ray.

On Blu-Ray, "Hot Rod" includes a commentary by Akiva Schaffer, Andy Samberg, and Jorma Taccone, "Ancestors Protect Me: Behind the Scenes of Hot Rod", deleted & extended scenes, outtakes, and the trailer in HD.