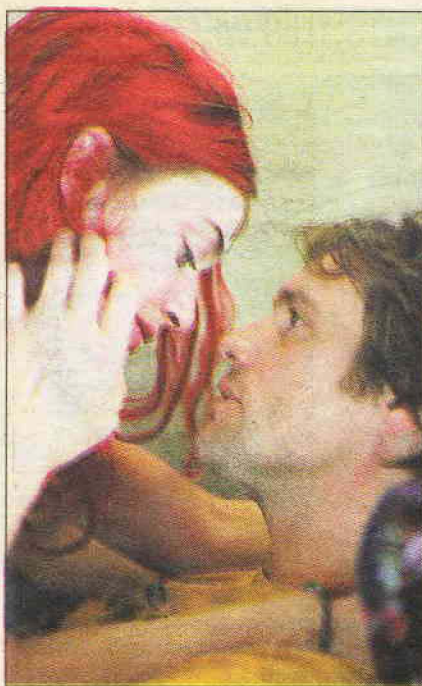


This week's DVDs

By MICHAEL GILTZ


**Eternal
Sunshine of the
Spotless Mind**

★★★

Universal, \$29.98

It's easy to forget what a diverse, fascinating career Jim Carrey has. "Eternal Sunshine" is one of the best-reviewed movies of the year (and the first time screenwriter Charlie Kaufman deepens a story with his elaborate, clever script). Also out: "In Living Color Season Two" (Fox, \$49.98) shows Carrey at his comic best, and the 1992 TV movie "Doing Time on Maple Drive" (Fox, \$14.98) proved early on he could tackle drama.

The Alamo

★

Touchstone, \$29.99

Unconvincing is the first word that springs to mind to describe this umpteenth retelling of the last stand at the Alamo, where Jim Bowie and Davy Crockett perished. From Dennis Quaid's scowling first appearance as Sam Houston to the timid finale when revenge isn't so sweet, none of it works. Some deleted scenes and a making-of documentary are here, but no hint of the much longer movie the filmmakers probably wanted to make.

Super Size Me

★★★

Hart Sharp, \$26.99

With just a digital video camera and a clever idea — eating nothing but McDonald's for a month — filmmaker and star Morgan Spurlock (right) delivered one of the most successful documentary films of all time. At the other extreme is the polished boxed set "Ken Burns' America" (PBS, \$129.99), which compiles seven fine documentaries about the Brooklyn Bridge, the Statue of Liberty, etc. Burns is great, but his boxed sets are overpriced and poorly packaged.


Ellen: Season One

★★

A&E, \$39.95

This gay roundup is led by TV's first lesbian star — who was so closeted, she didn't even know it herself. Ellen DeGeneres was always more appealing than her "Ellen" sitcom, and rewatching these so-so episodes proves it. The closeted Mormon in the pretty-good drama "Latter Days" (TLA, \$24.99) knows it but can't admit it, and the oddball Comedy Central cult hit "Strangers with Candy: Season Three" (Paramount; \$26.99) isn't technically gay, just gay-ish.

Footloose

★★

Paramount, \$14.99

**I Wanna Hold
Your Hand**

★★★

Universal, \$19.98

Here are two movie musicals that met very different fates. "Footloose" became a smash in 1984 and made a star of Kevin Bacon, who provides commentary on the DVD. "I Wanna," 1978, is director Robert Zemeckis's delightful debut about teens in 1964 desperate to get into "The Ed Sullivan Show" and see The Beatles. Zemeckis went on to "Back to the Future" and "Forrest Gump," but this gem is relatively unknown.