

This week's DVDs

By MICHAEL GILTZ



Foundry Communications

WITH A BULLET: The happy SLA family poses with their weaponry.

Guerrilla: The Taking of Patty Hearst

★★★★

DocuRama, \$26.95

ONE of the best films of the year, this engrossing documentary captures the bizarre tale of a well-to-do heiress being kidnapped by a pseudo-revolutionary group called the SLA, only to denounce her family and join the group in thievery. The sheer craziness of the times—including a food giveaway demanded by the thugs that turns into a mini-riot—is deftly captured in a trim 89 minutes. Extras include commentary by director Robert Stone.

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants

★

Warner Bros., \$28.98

A sappy teen flick that wastes four talented actresses (including Alexis Bledel and Amber Tamblyn), this melodrama about the summer four best friends spend apart is based on a best-selling series of novels. Makes "Beaches" seem tough-minded. Extras include video commentary from the young women and a talk with author Ann Brashares.

Cream: Royal Albert Hall London May 2-3-5-6 2005

★★★★

Rhino, \$29.98

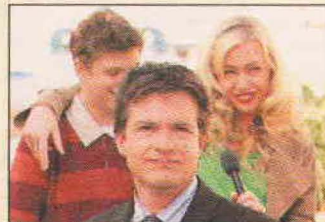
IF you can't get tickets to see Cream at Madison Square Garden later this month (and who can?), snap up this live concert DVD of their May gigs in London. The band got better the more they played, so it's no surprise most of these tracks are drawn from the May 6 finale. These 19 songs and three alternate tracks (along with interviews) are an unexpected treat after all these years. Clapton is still God.

Arrested Development, Season Two

★★★★½

Fox, \$39.98

ENJOY it while you can, because dead-in-the-water ratings mean this third season will be the last for actor Jason Bateman's droll turn as the acerbic heart of the dysfunctional Bluth family. At least the creators didn't panic when cancellation loomed. "Arrested Development" is as bizarre as ever. Modest extras include commentary tracks, deleted scenes and "Season One in 3 Minutes."



Jason Bateman and co-stars.

Sam Urdank/Fox

Also out: A superstitious fan's dilemma, "The New York Yankees Fall Classic Collector's Edition 1996-2001" (A&E; \$79.95); and the Nancy Drew for the new millennium series "Veronica Mars First Season" (Warner Bros.; \$59.98)