



Palm Pictures

Gunner Palace

★★★
Palm Pictures, \$24.99

THIS admirably apolitical documentary gives an American soldier's-eye view of the war in Iraq by staying with a group stationed in one of Uday Hussein's residences. The filmmaking is unremarkable — anyone brave enough to stay with these guys for a few months could have obtained similar footage. But co-directors Michael Tucker and Petra Epperlein actually did it, capturing the black humor, decency and resolve of the soldiers without glossing over their shortcomings.

The Daily Show With Jon Stewart: Indecision 2004

★★★
Paramount, \$39.99

THIS collection of political convention coverage from "The Daily Show" should have come out right after the election results were in. Still, for topical political humor, this holds up very well. The extras include our national anthem sung in "four-correspondent harmony" and Stephen Colbert's award-not-winning segment "Requiem For a Show That Was Daily."

Diary of a Mad Black Woman

★★
Lions Gate, \$28.98

WRITER-STAR Tyler Perry entered the mainstream with this smash hit film version of his message-heavy, comic drama about a woman dumped by her husband. Most of Perry's plays are available on DVD, but they're just filmed versions of his shows. This modestly budgeted film opens up the play but keeps the story's dizzying switches between melodrama and broad comedy leavened by wholesome sermonizing and Perry in drag as his most famous creation

Grandma Madea. Extras include commentary and a featurette about Perry.



Kerry Hayes

The Pacifier

★½
Disney, \$29.99

SCHWARZENEGGER wannabe Vin Diesel's career was flat-lining, thanks to the underperforming "XXX" from 2002 and outright duds like 2001's "Knockaround Guys," and 2004's "The Chronicles of Riddick." Inexplicably, it's been revived by this hit about a Navy SEAL ordered to pose as a babysitter. Critics groaned, audiences laughed and Mr. Diesel presumably sighed with relief. Modest extras include deleted scenes and "outrageous" bloopers.