

# DVDs THIS WEEK

By Michael Giltz




Nikki Reed (left) and Evan Rachel Wood in a scene from "Thirteen."

## "THIRTEEN"

### "THE SECRET LIVES OF DENTISTS"

Holly Hunter and Evan Rachel Wood (so good on TV's "Once & Again") are magnetic in "Thirteen" (\$27.98, Fox), a "teens gone wild" drama. Familiar territory (drug use, promiscuity, broken homes) is covered with panache by co-writer and director **Catherine Hardwicke**. Meanwhile, **Campbell Scott** and **Hope Davis** are quietly riveting as two dentists whose marriage might be dissolving, in director **Alan Rudolph's** latest left-field drama (\$26.99, Columbia TriStar). Both DVDs have the usual extras and unusually fine actors at their heart.

### "TIME BANDITS": SPECIAL EDITION

It's the greatest unofficial Monty Python movie, since it was co-written by **Michael Palin** and **Terry Gilliam** (who also directs) and features Palin and **John Cleese**. However, the witty "Time Bandits" (\$24.98, Anchor Bay), from 1981, has a sweetness Python movies usually lack, as it shows young Kevin swept up in raucous adventures through time with a group of bandits. Napoleon, Robin Hood, Agamemnon and the Supreme Being all come in for a good ribbing, while the special effects are both eye-popping and enjoyably creaky. (George Harrison's mini-studio, Handmade Films, was aptly named.) Among the extras is a thorough documentary about the quixotic career of Gilliam.

### "CAPTURING THE FRIEDMANS"

Anyone who paid attention knows that 2003 was the year of the documentary and one of its best achievements is this disturbing, unforgettable exploration of a sensational child molestation case in Long Island's Great Neck section (\$29.95, HBO Video). Just when you think you've found your footing (innocent? guilty?), filmmaker **Andrew Jarecki** tosses in a new shocking revelation or revealing interview that thoroughly unsettles you again. It makes the multiple takes on truth of "Rashomon" look like a Sunday picnic in comparison. The two hours of new footage (including fights at the movie's premiere, new evidence and more) make this DVD all the more essential.

### "CONAN: THE COMPLETE QUEST"

A third Conan movie has been in development for years, but fans of Gov. **Schwarzenegger** will probably have to settle for this terrific bargain that offers both "Conan the Barbarian" from 1981, and "Conan the Destroyer" from 1984, on one DVD (\$19.98, Universal). It's very entertaining, pulpy fun, with **Grace Jones** making the most of her supporting turn as a warrior in "Destroyer."

### Also out:

Disney's too-prim-and-proper 1951 take on Lewis Carroll's anarchic masterpiece "**Alice in Wonderland**," in a deluxe edition (\$29.99; Disney); the BBC's not-at-all-prim-and-proper lesbian Victorian melodrama "**Tipping the Velvet**" (\$29.95; Acorn); "**The Sherlock Holmes Collection**": Volume Three (\$69.98; MPI), another batch of beautifully mastered Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce mysteries; **Spike Jonze's** contribution to the nifty skateboarding documentary, "**Yeah Right!**" (\$19.95; Rhino Transport); "**Friends: The Complete Sixth Season**" (\$44.98; Warner Bros.); and director **Mike Nichols'** overlooked 1988 gem "**Biloxi Blues**" (\$14.98; Universal), starring **Matthew Broderick**.

### Out next week:

Comic book turned docu-drama "**American Splendor**"; Barbara Stanwyck lusts after priest **Richard Chamberlain** in the miniseries "**The Thorn Birds**"; and Golden Globe best comedy winner "**Lost in Translation**."