

Arts

DVDs THIS WEEK

By Michael Giltz



"SCARFACE": ANNIVERSARY EDITION

This 1983 gangster flick is crazily over-the-top even for director **Brian De Palma** and screenwriter **Oliver Stone**, two men not known for their reserve. **Al Pacino** (sporting an outrageous accent) is Tony Montana, a Cuban refugee who quickly muscled his way into the drug trade. There are memorable moments in "Scarface" (\$26.98, Universal), but nothing more. The movie is such a cartoon, it's no surprise to find in a fine new documentary



Al Pacino (left) and Steven Bauer in Brian De Palma's "Scarface."

that hip-hop artists — who glorify the thug life of gangstas — have embraced it as a touchstone. Lots of other extras, including a very amusing comparison between the theatrical version and the one shown on network TV.

"BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM"

A young Indian girl in England struggles to pursue her dream of playing soccer when her family's traditions demand she behave like a proper woman (\$27.98, Fox). This charmer is the movie "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" wanted to be — a comedy with its roots in a very specific community that manages to show the need for change without mocking or stereotyping the world it depicts. Extras include a commentary track, 10 deleted scenes, and director Gurinder Chadha's recipe for aloo gobi.

"THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD"

Is there a greater adventure film than 1938's "Robin Hood" (\$26.99; Warner Bros.), the Errol Flynn classic co-directed by Michael Curtiz? As thrilling today as the day it was made, it's the sort of movie "The Pirates of the Caribbean" aspires to be. Best of the many extras: a "Warners Night at the Movies" function lets you experience the film the way moviegoers would have in 1938, with a full slate of trailers, newsreels, shorts and cartoons offered before the main feature. Also just out in equally marvelous packages are "Yankee Doodle Dandy," from 1942, and "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre," from 1947.

"KNIFE IN THE WATER"

Roman Polanski just won the Oscar for "The Pianist" but the truth is it was really a career award — the Academy knew he deserved it years ago for classics like "Tess," "Chinatown," "Rosemary's Baby," "Repulsion" and his acclaimed 1962 Polish language thriller debut "Knife in the Water" (\$39.95, Criterion). A typically marvelous Criterion presentation includes interviews with Polanski, new subtitling by Polanski himself and a treasure trove of eight early Polanski shorts. Also just out from Criterion is 1941's "The Devil & Daniel Webster" (\$39.95), with Walter Huston as old Scratch, Bernard Herrmann's brilliant score and many extras.

Also out:

The Who mock their high-art pretensions — and smash a lot of guitars — with their rambunctious 1979 career overview "The Kids Are Alright" (\$29.98, Pioneer); **Ken Burns** wasn't even born yet when 1952's "Victory at Sea" (\$79.95, History Channel) set the standard for TV documentaries with its thrilling 26-episode look at World War II; "The Stephen Sondheim Collection" six-disc set (\$119.99, Image) includes the beautifully intimate "Passions," the legendary "Follies in Concert" and more.