



Director Martin Scorsese adds new commentary to *Taxi Driver*.

MUST HAVES



Indie rockers Pinback go seasonal (left); Matt Ruff's sci-fi excels (above).



Kanye West waxes prophetic on his third album, *Graduation*.

New releases: war games, Pinback, and Halo 3



Halo 3 gives gaming geeks their fix of top-notch gunplay.

WATCH

**EASTERN PROMISES** (Focus Features)

Consider this gut-twister of a film, about London's gangster underground, crib notes for any negotiation. Study actor Viggo Mortensen's cold-as-ice glare, and then ask for that raise or confront your neighbor about his overhanging branches.

**INTO THE WILD** (Paramount)

Author Jon Krakauer's captivating true story of adventurer Christopher McCandless shows a reckless but resourceful kid

traipsing to Alaska without much food or protection. Actor Emile Hirsch brings McCandless to life in this big-screen version, showing how freedom from the grid can be a deadly aphrodisiac. Watch this; then toss your BlackBerry.

READ

**WHO HATES WHOM** BY BOB HARRIS (Three Rivers)

Find yourself mixing up warring countries? This faux textbook illustrates the world's wars with basic multicolored maps. It's sarcastic at face value but useful in its simplicity.

**THE NINE** BY JEFFREY TOOBIN (Doubleday)

Skip the next Grisham novel. Toobin's unparalleled access to the Supreme Court yields a riveting exposé of the struggles among the goalies of U.S. justice.

LISTEN

**GRADUATION** KANYE WEST (Island Def Jam)

Good hip-hop stirs a fire in your stomach, and Kanye West has honed the art of building emotional momentum with this music. This is the kind of CD that inspires big dreams in the smallest of places: when you're stuck

in a packed subway car or marching in place on a treadmill.

**AUTUMN OF THE SERAPHS** PINBACK (Quarterstick Records)

If you've never meandered from the musical mainstream, then make this CD your maiden voyage. *Autumn of the Seraphs* is indie rock at its finest: It's intricate without being indulgent, unique but not pretentious, and melodic without being saccharine.

PLAY

**SKATE** (EA Black Box; PS3, Xbox 360)

Most skate games aren't as fluid or fun

to control as an actual skateboard. Here, your fingers actually feel like extensions of the skater: Instead of punching plastic to create combos or add flair to a ride, you simply flick the miniature joystick for slick kickflips, ollies, and pop shuv-its. It's scab-free fun for armchair extremists.

**HALO 3** (Bungie; Xbox 360)

The third Halo features a smart replay function that lets you record and play back (in slow motion) boast-worthy beat-downs of opposing players. It's the perfect game for bringing friends together... so they can blow each other apart.



*Into the Wild* chills (above); *The Nine* and *Who Hates Whom* (right) explain the world.



On *None Shall Pass*, Aesop Rock makes hip-hop for the thinking man.

Everett Collection (Taxi Driver), Getty Images (West), courtesy of Chrissy Piper (Aesop Rock)