

# 'Soul Surfer' Coming to DVD

✖ *Soul Surfer*, the biopic telling of teen Bethany Hamilton's remarkable return to surfing after losing an arm in a shark attack, is to release on DVD Aug. 2.

The 106-minute, PG-rated drama features AnnaSophia Robb as Hamilton with Dennis Quaid and Helen Hunt as her parents. With singer Carrie Underwood making her acting debut in the film, *Soul Surfer* was heavily promoted to the faith-based community on its theatrical release and saw a positive response, said Dave Mechem, sales manager for Affirm Films/Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.

"The biggest thing we were excited about was the CinemaScore rating," he said. "It was an A-plus, the first film to get that this year." With a production budget of \$18 million, the film took twice that at the box office within a month of release.

The DVD will come with extras that include *The Heart of a Soul Surfer* documentary, which tells the true story of Hamilton's experience and features interviews with her family. In addition, *Soul Sisters* looks at the friendship that developed between Hamilton and Robb, while two other featurettes look at how the surfing scenes were filmed.

Mechem

said that promotional campaigns were being finalized that would see the

DVD release being supported in Christian chains with displays also

featuring related book releases, like *Raising a Soul Surfer* by Cheri Hamilton and Rick Bundschuh (Regal Books). Provident-Integrity

Distribution will distribute the DVD to Christian stores.