

Summer's 'Hellboy II' tops DVD releases

Extras include 2-hour making-of documentary

The following motion pictures are now available on DVD:

"Hellboy II: The Golden Army," Universal Studios Home Video, 120 minutes, Rated PG-13 for sequences of sci-fi action and violence, and some language - When an elfin prince declares war on mankind, he sets out to reconstruct the crown that will give him power over the Golden Army, a group of fighting machines capable of destroying the human race. All that stands between the death of mankind are the prince's sister and Hellboy (Ron Pearlman) and his cohorts. Rooting for the red-haired devil spawn is an acquired taste, but there are some very funny moments here that make this film worth renting. Extras on the three-disc edition include "Hellboy: In Service of the Demon," a two-hour look at the making of the film, deleted scenes, a director's commentary, a digital copy and more.

"Star Wars: The Clone Wars," Warner Home Video, 98 minutes, Rated PG for sci-fi action violence throughout, brief language and momentary smoking - In this animated film, Anakin Skywalker and Obi-Wan Kenobi are tasked with recovering the son of Jabba the Hutt, who has been

kidnapped. They suspect that Count Dooku is behind the abduction as he tries to bring the Hutt clan into his camp. If you're a fan, you'll like it. Extras include a commentary and

a digital copy.

"Beer for My Horses," Lions Gate Home Entertainment, 86 minutes, Rated PG-13 for some violence, sexual humor and dialogue, language, drug content and brief nudity - After his girlfriend is kidnapped by a Mexican drug lord, Deputy Sheriff Bill "Rack" Racklin (Toby Keith) defies his boss and agrees to exchange his prisoner for his girl. It's a pretty silly road-trip kind of film with Deputy Lonnie (Rodney Carrington) providing constant comic relief - even when it's not needed. The soundtrack should appeal to country fans. Bonus features include a blooper reel and three featurettes.

"Mister Foe," Magnolia Home Video, 96 minutes, Rated R for strong sexual content and language - Convinced that his stepmother murdered his mother, Hallam (Jamie Bell) sets out to prove her guilt. After an unfortunate incident causes him to leave home, he finds himself homeless in Edinburgh but unable to resist his peeping Tom impulses. This is one very strange but powerful film that covers a lot of ground as its story unfolds. The cast also includes Ciaran

Hinds, Claire Forlani and Sophia Myles. Definitely worth a look. Bonus materials include deleted scenes and a behind-the-scenes featurette.

"Blood Wars," MTI Home Video, 90 minutes, Rated R for some violence and a sex scene - A college student finds himself in the middle of a power

struggle between a group of vampires and their enemies, the Sentries. After he is bitten by a seductive vampire, he struggles to hold onto his humanity and his girl. Pass. No extras.

The best of the rest

"Conjurer" - A photographer moves to a rural farmhouse and begins experiencing strange events regarding a cabin on the property that may be haunted.

"Thomas Kinkadee's Christmas Cottage" - Film examines the inspiration behind the painter's renowned work, "The Christmas Cottage."

"Flying: Confessions of a Free Woman" - Documentary examines the world of female life and sexuality today in six 60-minute episodes.

"Opium: Diary of a Madwoman" - A physician addicted to drugs becomes involved with a patient at a mental institution.

"The Perfect Holiday" - A young girl asks a department store Santa to help find a new husband for her divorced

mother.

Nostalgia on DVD

Sony is releasing the complete series of "I Dream of Jeannie" on 20 discs for \$174.95.

Walt Disney is releasing "Walt Disney Treasures, Wave III." Priced at \$32.99, each set contains two discs. The titles due out are "The Mickey Mouse Club Presents: Annette," "The Chronological Donald, Volume 4" and "Dr. Syn: The Scarecrow of Romney Marsh."

Mill Creek has just released two different "Howdy Doody"

sets. The five-disc set contains 40 episodes, including the final one where Clarabelle speaks, for \$29.98. There's also a two-disc, 20-episode set for \$14.98.

Finally, Paramount has repackaged three critically acclaimed films for its "Academy Award Winning Classics" line - "Sabrina," "Roman Holiday" and "Sunset Boulevard" into two-disc sets for \$24.99 each.

New to Blu-ray



Blu-ray titles in the stores include a trio of new releases. Topping the list is "Hellboy II" (two discs, \$39.98), "Star Wars: The Clone Wars" (\$35.99) and "This Christmas" (\$38.96).

Title releases arriving this week include "JFK" (\$34.99) and "Black Christmas" (\$29.98).

While from TV, we get the critically acclaimed "Band of Brothers" (six discs, \$99.98) as well as the first season of "Chuck" (three discs, \$49.99), the third season of "Supernatural" (three discs, \$79.98) and the complete "Firefly" series (three discs, \$89.98).

Coming attractions

"Tropic Thunder," "Sis-

terhood of the Traveling Pants 2" and "Wall-E" (Nov. 18); "Hancock," "Meet Dave," "Space Chimps" and "Fred Claus" (Nov. 25); "Step Brothers" and "Wanted" (Dec. 2); "Dark Knight" and "Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who" (Dec. 9); "The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor" and "Mamma Mia" (Dec. 16); "Burn After

Reading," "Space Buddies" and "The House Bunny" (Dec. 23).

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