

This week's DVDs

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory: Deluxe Edition

★
(Warner Bros., \$30.97)

WHO knows why this pointless remake became such a big hit? The sets are boringly identical to the 1971 version. And the songs — using awkward lyrics direct from the Roald Dahl book — are much weaker. Finally, Johnny Depp is so desperate to be different from the brilliant Gene Wilder that he's just plain creepy. Extras include how to dance like an Oompa-Loompa and a chance at a Golden Ticket.



Depp wigs out in "Charlie."

Beavis and Butt-head: Vol. 1, The Mike Judge Collection

★★★
(Paramount, \$38.99)

GETTING rights to all those music videos makes a season-by-season collection of B&B all but impossible. So fans of stupid, grunting, sub-frat boy humor will have to settle for this collection of some 40 cartoons and 11 videos with their obnoxious commentary, a Thanksgiving special, promos and more.

Remington Steele: Season Two

★★★ 1/2
(Fox, \$39.98)

PIERCE Brosnan was born to play James Bond. And he proved it via this witty drama about a debonair con man who teams up with a private detective (Stephanie Zimbalist) to solve crimes. This season brings Doris ("Everybody Loves Raymond") Roberts as their computer-savvy assistant, not to mention fan-favorite episode "Red Hot Steele." Genial fun.

Lady Sings the Blues

★★★
(Paramount, \$14.99)

AS Diana Ross explains in a new 23-minute documentary, she'd just left the Supremes and was worried about her future when Motown head Berry Gordy created this 1972 vehicle for Ross to tell the story of troubled blues legend Billie Holiday. Billy Dee Williams and Richard Pryor are good, but the real surprise is Ross. She's so magnetic that you can't believe this melodrama didn't lead to a real movie career.

—Michael Giltz