



"THE BEATLES ANTHOLOGY"

This sensational 1996 documentary about the greatest rock 'n' roll band of all time is even better on DVD (\$79.98, Apple). While the documentary fades out between different interview subjects in a quiet, graceful way, on TV, it also faded out to commercial breaks. You never knew when it was switching from a comment by John to a comment by **Paul** or simply to a jarring ad for breakfast cereal. This 10-hour, five-disc set has some great extras, including heart-breaking scenes of Paul, George and **Ringo** sitting on the grass and goofing around. Now where's "Let It Be"?

"WEST SIDE STORY"

"I AM TRYING TO BREAK YOUR HEART"

If The Beatles have you in the mood for music, snap up 1961's "West Side Story" (\$39.98, MGM). One of the greats, it's been given a lavish makeover (they even include the original shooting script). It's worth every penny just for the extras, but you also get the classic film in a gorgeous new print. If you'd rather rock, "I Am Trying to Break Your Heart" follows the band Wilco as it records its masterpiece "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot" (\$29.95, Ryko). It has plenty of drama, but I found it less compelling than **Billy Bragg** and Wilco's "Man in the Sand," the tumultuous story about the making of "Mermaid Avenue." (Nothing comes easy for these guys, I guess.)

"FRIENDS": COMPLETE THIRD SEASON

"DAWSON'S CREEK": COMPLETE FIRST SEASON

"Friends" was firing on all pistons by the third season (\$44.98, Warner Bros.). Here, you can see Ross and Rachel take a break, Chandler and Joey get a pet duck and **Ben Stiller** as a nice guy who explodes with anger. Slick, durable and dependable, this is as good as it gets for the gang. Meanwhile, "Dawson's Creek" began its run as a fairly reasonable drama (\$39.95, Columbia TriStar). The talented but small cast would soon work through every possible romantic combination (except, of course, Dawson and Pacey). But for a brief while, this soap was sincere and sweet.

"FAR FROM HEAVEN"

Todd Haynes delivered a masterpiece with "Far From Heaven" (\$26.98, Universal). It's still remarkable that he made a movie in the style of Douglas Sirk without any irony or wink at the audience. Haynes is simply saying that Sirk's melodramatic conventions are as much a valid genre as film noir or the Western. He proves it by telling the moving story of **Julianne Moore**, who finds out her husband (**Dennis Quaid**) is gay and her gardener (a terrific **Dennis Haysbert**) is the best person she knows. Except for one curse word, this could have been released 50 years ago — and that's a compliment.

"SECRETARY"

Maggie Gyllenhaal is the new secretary for James Spader in this unexpected comedy (\$24.99, Lions Gate). Gyllenhaal cuts herself intentionally and generally is unhappy, until she realizes her new boss enjoys dominance as much as she enjoys submission. What makes it work is the movie's attitude: this isn't a kinky comedy; it's a love story with a happy ending.

"STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE": THE COMPLETE SECOND SEASON

Like all the "Star Trek" franchises, DS9 took a season to shake down and establish its own identity. It found its voice by emphasizing the political intrigue that would be natural on a space station that serves as a meeting place for so many different alien races (\$129.99, Paramount). It's gorgeously packaged with the standard extras you'd expect for a lavish set.

"RED DRAGON"

The latest chapter in the saga of everyone's favorite serial killer (\$34.98, Universal) isn't as godawful as "Hannibal," which turned his relationship with Clarice into a goofy love story. But it's even less necessary since this story was told very well indeed by **Michael Mann's** "Manhunter," a quietly creepy movie that unnerved audiences by switching to the killer's point of view and making him achingly pathetic. (You wanted the guy captured or killed, but you couldn't help feeling sorry for him, too.)