

...es," recalled Place, who  
 my for her role.  
 er it was like "being a little  
 i imagine what you want  
 and then all of a sudden  
 saying, 'We love you.'"  
 lay, Shout! Factory is re-  
 15 episodes of the series  
 two seasons on a 38-disc  
 nter for Media curator  
 aid the timing of the se-  
 ct.  
 ways, it is a good explo-  
 e America was in the bi-  
 ar," he said. "The show  
 of the Watergate era,  
 ntry is still very intro-  
 g to understand what  
 ar didn't conceive the  
 sser in mind, it's hard to  
 e else playing the fraz-  
 e who sported long,  
 id dressed as if she was  
 1.

a bipolar character, but it took me  
 while to discover it."  
 The series was a hard sell for Lear.  
 Writers, Lear said, "just didn't  
 understand how this could be funny."  
 Then writer Ann Marcus came in,  
 and "she got it," Lear said. And so did  
 Joan Darling, one of the series' main  
 directors.  
 "If we didn't have Joan, it wouldn't  
 have been this," Lasser noted.  
 Despite Lear's track record, the  
 broadcast networks turned it down.  
 "It didn't have a laugh track, and  
 networks wanted one," Simon said.  
 "Others wanted it to be a weekly se-  
 ries."  
 The adult subject matter also  
 made the broadcast networks skit-  
 tish. So Lear sold the series to inde-  
 pendent stations.  
 "You were part of the 'Mary Hart-  
 man, Mary Hartman' network be-  
 cause it was the only show that was  
 pulling all these stations together,"

ous breakdown on "The David  
 kind Show."  
 Lasser's gut-wrenching perform-  
 ance — the 11-minute breakdown was  
 shot in one take — is almost shock-  
 ingly intense.  
 "That was planned from the be-  
 ginning, that she going to explode at  
 some point," Lear said.  
 Lasser recalled she was asked,  
 "What do you think should happen  
 next? I remember I said, 'I think she  
 has to have a nervous breakdown.' I  
 don't know how much anyone can en-  
 dure like that."  
 It was also hard for the cast and  
 crew to endure the pace of the series.  
 "There was a lot of pressure,"  
 Place said. "We did 35 scenes a day.  
 We were totally wasted to the core."  
 After two seasons, Lasser said, "I  
 couldn't do it anymore."  
 susan.king@latimes.com



"FROZEN" has  
 lion in annual g

**BOX OFF**

Estimated sales

- Movie (Studio)
- 1 The Hunger Catching F (Lionsgate)
- 2 Frozen (Disney)
- 3 Thor: The (Disney)
- 4 The Best (Univers)
- 5 Homefr (Open F)
- 6 Deliver (Disne)
- 7 The B (20th)
- 8 Black (Fox)
- 9 Phil (The)
- 10 Las (CE)

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**EDIE ADAMS' SERIES RELEASED ON DVD**

Broadway musical-comedy star Edie Adams ("Wonderful Town") came to national attention as a regular on husband Ernie Kovacs' innovative comedic series in the 1950s. Shortly after Kovacs died in a car crash in January 1962, Adams returned to television headlining her own 1962-64 ABC musical-variety series for ABC, "Here's Edie," which was subsequently retitled "The Edie Adams Show." It earned five Emmy nominations. The 21 episodes have just been released on a DVD set, "Here's Edie: The Edie Adams Television Collection." The show's highlights are Adams' musical numbers and the eclectic roster of guest stars, including Duke Ellington, Rowan & Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Peter Falk, Michael Redgrave and Zsa Zsa Gabor. The episodes also feature her famed Muriel Cigar commercials.



**EDIE ADAMS'** variety show played host to numerous notables of the 1960s.

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