

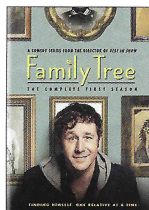
Remar) create Dexter's code (i.e., he only slays other killers) and now consults for Miami PD in the case of a serial murderer nicknamed the Brain Surgeon (for reasons that become obvious after you see the first victim). There's also a potential apprentice for Dexter to mentor, and maybe even a chance at a real family life of his own, although it's hard to envision a happy ending for a man with so much collateral damage on his conscience. Compiling all 13 episodes from 2013, extras include behind-the-scenes featurettes. Likely to satisfy faithful fans, this is recommended. (S. Axmaker)

Family Tree: The Complete First Season

★★★

HBO, 2 discs, 216 min., TV-14, DVD: \$29.98

Christopher Guest brings his mockumentary/improv comedy approach to HBO with *Family Tree*, which stars Chris O'Dowd as Tom Chadwick, a recently unemployed and divorced thirtysomething who is distracted from his self-pity when he inherits a box of memorabilia from a distant great-aunt and sets out to track down the backstories of his ancestors. What he finds, inevitably, is a roll call of eccentrics, underachievers, and pursuers of stunted dreams, but it all unfolds in the droll, underplayed manner that makes Guest's feature films (including *Waiting for Guffman* and *A Mighty Wind*) such a delight. The first half of the season plays out in Great Britain, but then Tom's sister, Bea (Nina Conti)—who travels everywhere with an opinionated hand puppet that channels her repressed opinions—and best mate Pete (Tom Bennett) join him to follow the trail to America. Some familiar faces from Guest's movies show up along the way, including Michael McKean (as the dad who spends his days watching painfully unfunny—and completely made-up—old British sitcoms), Ed Begley Jr., Fred Willard, Bob Balaban, and Guest himself. Compiling all eight episodes from the 2013 debut season, extras include deleted scenes, four faux Britcom scenes, and music clips from the show. Recommended. (S. Axmaker)



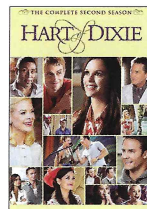
(Cory Monteith, who died in July 2013) has a new career—while gifted newcomers are filling in the ranks as underclassmen. *Glee* is still teenage melodrama in the extreme—with fantasy elements in which students break out in lavishly staged pop music productions that mirror their emotions with equal parts style and literalism. Amidst all the hugging and tears, diversity has never been so adorable, with breakups of every sort—boy/boy, boy/girl, girl/girl—as well as new couplings. Mr. Schuester (Matthew Morrison) finally marries Ms. Pillsbury (Jayma Mays), while Cheerios cheerleaders coach Sue Sylvester (Jane Lynch) continues to bring the laughs. The characters deal with everything from bullying to a shooting, although the rousing, creative production numbers remain the show's *raison d'être* (and for those who want to skip the soap opera, there's a "Glee Jukebox" option here). Compiling all 22 episodes from 2012–13, additional extras include "making-of" featurettes, interviews, and deleted scenes. A strong optional purchase. (T. Fry)

Hart of Dixie: The Complete Second Season

★★★

Warner, 5 discs, 929 min., not rated, DVD: \$59.98

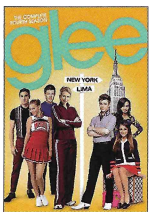
The first season finale of this CW-aired romantic comedy ended with Lemon Breeland (Jaime King) being jilted at the altar by hunky George Tucker (Scott Porter) after the latter decided he was in love with Dr. Zoe Hart (Rachel Bilson), whom he found in bed with local lothario Wade Kinsella (Wilson Bethel) when he burst in to break the news. If that sounds a little on the breathless-and-wacky side, such are the soap opera antics of small-town Southern life in BlueBell, AL. Despite an all-too-familiar premise—Zoe wound up in the little burg as a general practitioner after her dream of being a big-time surgeon in New York City fizzled—*Hart of Dixie* is often heartwarming. The story arc for the second season is anchored by Zoe's uncertainty about choosing between George and Wade, as well as continued interactions among other prominent citizens, including Lemon's father, the cranky Dr. Brick Breeland (Tim Mathe-son); mayor and former NFL star Lavon Hayes (Cress Williams); and Zoe's on-and-off friend, the gossipy Annabeth Nass (Kaitlyn Black). Compiling all 22 episodes from 2012–13, this is an optional purchase. (T. Fry)



Glee: The Complete Fourth Season

★★★1/2
Fox, 963 min., not rated, DVD: 6 discs, \$59.98; Blu-ray: 4 discs, \$69.99

As in seasons past, lessons are learned and issues are faced—with song, dance, humor, and drama—by the attractive talented kids in William McKinley High School's New Directions glee club. A handful of characters have graduated—Rachel (Lea Michele) and Kurt (Chris Colfer) are in New York, and Finn



Here's Edie: The Edie Adams Television Collection

★★★
MVD, 4 discs, 720 min., not rated, DVD: \$49.95

This four-disc set rekindles a powerful childhood crush on Edie Adams, wife



of Ernie Kovacs and an accomplished actress, singer, comedienne, and entertainer in her own right. I remembered little of the variety show, which alternated weekly with *The Sid Caesar Show*, but Adams' commercials for Muriel Cigars ("Why don't you pick one up and smoke it sometime?") left an imprint on my adolescent libido. *Here's Edie* (later *The Edie Adams Show*) was an unconventional variety series that while not nearly as groundbreaking or subversive as her husband's TV forays was still engagingly off-center. One indelible bit: Adams does a striptease to David Rose's well-known tune "The Stripper"—intercut with Weegee photographs that make it appear as if his subjects are reacting to her sultry dance. The home video release of vintage variety shows is always welcome, especially in the case of a long-buried treasure such as *Here's Edie*. Compiling the complete 1962–64 run of all 21 episodes, the series features time capsule glimpses of legendary musicians and entertainers (Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Lionel Hampton, Sammy Davis, Jr., Bob Hope, Bobby Darin), as well as stars of their time (Allan Sherman, Eddie Fisher), and even baseball great Maury Wills. Among the more uniquely compelling moments here are a clip of Sir Michael Redgrave performing the "St. Crispin's Day" speech from *Henry V*, and another featuring Peter Falk as a New York cab driver who reflects on how much the president is worth. Extras include musical numbers from several of Kovacs' TV shows (including Adams' signature Marilyn Monroe impression, in which the blonde bombshell performs "The Ballad of Davy Crockett"), a 1965 Muriel promotional film, and a booklet. Recommended. (D. Liebenson)

The Hollow Crown: The Complete Series

★★★1/2

Universal, 4 discs, 528 min., not rated, DVD: \$44.98

Shakespeare's "Henriad"—the tetralogy of plays covering the period 1398–1422 in English royal history—is sumptuously mounted in this four-film PBS-aired series produced by the BBC. Each was filmed in locations connected with the actual events by three directors—Rupert Goold for *Richard II*, Richard Eyre for *Henry IV, Part 1* and *Part 2*, and Thea Sharrock for *Henry V*—and they feature many of Britain's most esteemed actors in supporting roles, including Patrick Stewart, David Suchet, James Purefoy, John Hurt, Julie Walters, Alun Armstrong, Geraldine Chaplin, Iain Glen, and the late Richard Griffiths. The leads are taken by Ben Whishaw as Richard II, Rory Kinnear and Jeremy Irons as a young and older Henry IV, Tom Hiddleston as Prince Hal (later Henry V), and Simon Russell Beale as Sir John Falstaff. Easily the most successful of the quartet is *Richard II*, in which Whishaw

