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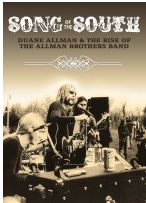
DVDs for 09/05

User Rating: ●●●●● / 1

Poor Best

Hits: 37

Song of the South: Duane Allman and the Rise of The Allman Brothers



Now they are part of the American music consciousness, the band that tours forever, the band who put the South in Southern Rock and taught all those new jam bands that it's the same song for an hour or more as long as you've got the musical chops to make it interesting for the audience. There was a time, though, when the Allman Brothers Band was being just a musical footnote in, of all things, the history of white soul music. That was the path they were taking – strictly middle of the road – until lead guitarist and driving force decided he was going to play the music in his head and nothing else. The results, as this great documentary proves, changed the world and is still changing it today, 42 years after Allman died. **3 ½ stars**

Blandings Series 1



Given the popularity of dramas like Downton Abbey and Upstairs, Downstairs, it would be easy to forget that the British also have a very silly side. Thank goodness, this delight now out on DVD remind us just how funny the upper crust can be. The show stars Timothy Spall as Lord Clarence Emsworth, the befuddled head of Blandings Castle who is determined to making sure his prize pig is constantly being fed than to the crumbling empire that surrounds him. He has an almost as befuddled son named Freddie (Jack Farthing) who is scatterbrained he drives his jaunty automobile into the same tree almost every episode. Thankfully, the dour matriarch of the clan, Lady Conny (Jennifer Saunders) is on hand to keep things stay as properly British as possible. It's all played frightfully seriously, which makes it even funnier to watch. **3 stars**

Sinbad: The Complete First Season



Thank goodness for special effects, because if they didn't cram as many effects shots as possible into every episode of this otherwise dreary series there would be no reason to watch. The show follows the rise of a low-level thief/con artist named Sinbad (Elliot Knight) who, after being blamed for the murder of a high ranking official's son, is forced to flee under a curse that forbids him from staying on land for more than a single day at a time. He stows away on a ship, which is subsequently sunk by a special effect water monster, leaving Sinbad to lead on a series of increasingly silly adventures. The stories are pedestrian and lack any of the sense of wonder or magic audiences would expect from a tale like this. The result, Elliot Knight, is equally awful. **½ star**

Revolution: The Complete First Season



Picture the frustration you feel when you go to turn on a light or you laptop and nothing happens. Nothing. The same goes for your cell phone and every electrical device you own. Now imagine everybody in the world experiencing the same thing at the same time. Forever. That's the premise of this NBC series set in the world 15 years after the end of the Civil War. Civilization has crawled up from the ashes, in a manner of speaking, and divided itself into those who can build homesteads and those who have the power to dominate the world. The hope is a rumor or a power source that can restore the world or destroy it, depending on who finds it first. Although the story gets a bit overblown at times, the cast does a great job of making even the silliest ideas work. Billy Burke is particularly effective as the swashbuckling, yet still reluctant hero of the show. **3 stars**

2nd Serve



There have been enough sports related comedies made in the past few decades to almost establish them as their own film genre. When that happens, you can put 2nd Serve at the bottom of the list. It's the story of a former tennis stud named Owen Match (Josh Hopkins) who gets kicked out of his high paying job at a private club and is forced to teach at a public facility. It's a plot that's been used over and over again, and director Tim Kirkman does absolutely nothing original with it. The result is a film that is not only dumb and unfunny, it's also predictable.