Good-bye, My Lady

The Video

February 1990 Release from Warner Home Video
Press Release supplied by Warner Brothers in 1990:

For immediate release: Consumers ask, WHV delivers ‘Good-Bye, My Lady,’ touching boy/dog tale with Walter Brennan and Brandon de Wilde, arriving February 28 on cassette, disc.

Movie that Brought exotic Basenji to Widespread Attention Sought by Breed’s Fanciers, Whose Letters and Calls made IT One of WHV’s Most Requested Titles.
Burbank, Calif. (December 13, 1989) – As the saying goes...the letters kept coming in. Hundreds upon hundreds, from dog lovers across the country. Now, the heart-warming, all-family film they ask for comes home February 28 on HiFi videocassette and the following month on CX laserdisc.

“GOOD-BYE, MY LADY,” the tender story of a Mississippi swamp boy’s coming-of-age after he finds, trains and grows to love a remarkable lost dog, makes its home video premiere that day from Warner Home Video (WHV), a subsidiary of Warner Bros. Inc., a Warner Communications company.

The movie’s pedigree is considerable. Its cast features three-time Academy Award® winner Walter Brennan (a veteran of more than 100 movies as well as TV’s “The Real McCoys”), Brandon de Wilde (“Shane,” “Hud”), Oscar® winner Sidney Poitier (“Lilies of the Field,” “Shoot to Kill”) and show-business veteran Phil Harris. Directed by maverick moviemaker William A. Wellman (an Oscar winner for the 1937 “A Star Is Born” whose other credits include “Wings,” “The High and the Mighty” and “Nothing Sacred”), it was based on a book by James Street, author of one of the most beloved stories of this type, “The Biscuit Eater.”

But the film’s real star, its legion of fans would say, is the wide-eyed Basenji pup that is the “lady” of the title. For 33 years ago, the movie “Good-bye, My Lady” played a major part in introducing and extending awareness of the exotic and valuable Basenji breed of nonbarking African hunting dogs in this country. And supporters of this beautiful breed let WHV know
through letters, calls and petition their desire to see this rarely-screened title released on videocassette.

“To so many of us who can trace our involvement with Basenjis directly to this film, this is truly wonderful news,” Sandra L. Bridges, President of the Basenji Club of America Inc., said following WHV’s decision to release the title. “Many thanks for the chance to enchant a new generation with this timeless tale of a boy, a dog and growing up.”

In “Good-bye, My Lady,” young Skeeter Jackson (de Wilde) and his crusty sharecropper uncle Jesse (Brennan) one day find a strange dog that doesn’t bark like other dogs do – but does cry and shed real tears. Boy and dog become attached to each other – and Skeeter manages to train the pup, which he names Lady, to become one of the best bird-dogs in the Pascagoula swamp territory. But the discovery of a magazine ad for a lost Basenji brings Skeeter to the brink of heartbreaking decision – and the threshold of manhood.

Filmed in Georgia, the Batjac production for Warner Bros. release co-stars Louise Beavers (“Imitation of life,” “Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House”) and William Hopper (TV’s original “Perry Mason”). The screenplay was written by Sid Fleischman (“Blood Alley”).

Except where specified, all WHV videocassettes are available in both VHS and Beta formats.

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From http://www.videodetective.com where there is a trailer for the video

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Plot: The focus of this heartfelt family film is Skeeter (Brandon de Wilde), a 14-year-old orphan who lives with his aged Uncle Jesse (Walter Brennan) in the swamps of the deep South. Their lives are brightened by a stray dog that Skeeter discovers and takes in. He makes the basenji his own, but eventually finds out that the dog is missing and its owner has posted a reward for its return. ~ Nicole Gagne, All Movie Guide.