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EXPLICIT CONTENT: Brutally honest, this show contains explicit language, brief nudity and sexual situations. Due to the mature and graphic themes, this show is not appropriate for sensitive individuals and young children.

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film

Body of Lies

Ridley Scott (*Gladiator*) directed this action thriller, based on the novel by *Washington Post* columnist David Ignatius, about a CIA agent (Leonardo DiCaprio) who tries to capture a terrorist in Jordan and has to rely on a CIA veteran (Russell Crowe). Both men have completely different views about how to capture the terrorist, which leads to a cultural and moral clash between them. Although a little bit too violent for me, *Body of Lies* is a great spy story mixed with a perspective on U.S. foreign policy involving who can be trusted in a time of war. **B+**

—Yvonne P. Behrens

Boogie Man: The Lee Atwater Story

Here in the liberal paradise that is Portland, Lee Atwater is not likely to be held in high regard. As an adviser and friend of Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush and Karl Rove, and nicknamed "The Darth Vader of American politics," Atwater was notorious as a brilliant but ruthless political operative whose no-holds-barred tactics led to the climate of mud-slinging and dirty tricks that continues to besmirch U.S. electoral politics today. *Boogie Man* makes a brave and unbiased attempt to find some redeeming humanity in this seemingly monstrous man, stressing his 11th-hour change of heart and the letters of apology he wrote to those he'd hurt in the political arena shortly before his death from a brain tumor at age 40. Opens Oct. 18 at Bagdad Theater. **B**

—Tony LeTigre

Boy A

This wrenching film, effectively shot with claustrophobic lighting in high-def digital video, follows 24-year-old Jack as he re-enters the outside world after a 10-year stint in prison for possibly helping another boy kill a teenage girl. He gets a new name and a new job and manages to score a simpatico girlfriend—all the while trying to maintain the secret of his notorious past. Proving the maxim that no good deed goes unpunished, Jack saves a girl's life and soon his real identity is out. Director John Crowley makes the melodrama moving, while Andrew Garfield is a marvel of nervous ticks and twitches as the haunted Jack. Opens Oct. 17 at Clinton Street Theater. **A**

—Gary Morris

Considering Democracy

It would be nice if people like Keya Lea Horiuchi were in charge of our national news media. In less than one hour of well-edited footage, she travels around the world to find out what people in other industrialized democracies think of the United States and outlines eight questions that we should ask our representatives to remind them that they work for the people, not for corporate lobbyists. Horiuchi uncovers disturbing facts unknown to many citizens—such as the fact that U.S. tax dollars go to 143 other countries in the form of military grants—and makes cogent suggestions for ways to improve our country without coming across as deluded or pedantic. Opens Oct. 20 at Hollywood Theatre. **A**

—TL

The Express

The inspiring story of college football hero Ernie Davis, who became the first African American to win the Heisman Trophy at a time when segregation was still rampant, is nearly forgotten. Rob Brown, whose career began with Portland queer filmmaker Gus Van Sant's *Finding Forrester*, delivers a beautiful portrayal of the football player with a bright future, and Dennis Quaid plays the Syracuse coach who becomes his mentor. A few too many football action scenes for a nonsports person. **A-**

—YPB

A Girl Cut in Two

You have to feel bad for the women in Claude Chabrol's films. As a veteran who got his start in the French New Wave alongside Truffaut and Godard, now with almost 70 films under his belt, Chabrol will always have a seat at the table of international cinema. Unfortunately, the modern queer viewer may find unpalatable the relentless heterosexual womanizing, with its disturbing undercurrent of semiviolent misogyny, exemplified by this film's two main characters: aging, adulterous author Saint-Denis and spoiled rich brat Paul Gaudens. Loosely based on the real-life scandal of Evelyn Nesbit, who was something like the Anna Nicole Smith of the ragtime era. Opens Oct. 17 at Hollywood Theatre. **B-**

—TL



Debra Winger (center, with Jerome LePage and Anne Hathaway) makes a strong comeback in *Rachel Getting Married*.