

2009 Halloween movie playlist

Annemarie's



By Annemarie Schulte
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Best

The New: "Paranormal Activity"

Although it just came out two weeks ago, it's proving to be one of the scariest movies of the year. Made off a budget of only \$15,000 (astounding considering the special effects) this movie is terrifyingly creepy and it will leave you with goose bumps and an intense fear of falling asleep alone.

The Classic: "The Exorcist"

One of the best for so many reasons. Who can forget that girl crawling down the stairs upside down and the green projectile vomit? That image is ingrained in every American's mind and so much a part of living Halloween to its fullest.

The Creepy: "The Halloween series"

Possibly the best movie to watch on Halloween because the plot takes place ON Halloween night. It features a psychotic killer who murders his sister, years later comes back to murder more people, and this time he doesn't limit his victims to just family members. Note to all males: this is an especially good movie to watch with your girl (or just the girl you're trying to get to go out with you.)

The Close-your-eyes-it's-not-over: "Saw I-VI"

Most likely the most commonly seen series, they just keep on coming. The newest addition (Saw VI) is in theaters as of Oct. 23 and sure to be full of mind-bending twists and even more twisted torture devices. I still can't get the image out of my head of that girl searching for a key around all those syringes in the pit during Saw II. Jigsaw just can't give it up can he?

The One that will make your skin crawl: "Silence of the Lambs"

Take a serial killer who skins his victims, Buffalo Bill, and add Dr. Hannibal Lector's white mask (an icon for terror all over the world as well as those sounds he makes) and you've got a horrifying movie with a fascinating plot, practically made to watch on Halloween night.

Creepy 'Paranormal Activity' frightens audiences

By Brian Steele
The Clackamas Print

What would you do if your place was haunted? Well, that's a question a young couple in "Paranormal Activity" has to face when they move in together.

This story is a low budget film that has already thrilled people in theaters around the United States. The story is good and the characters are believable.

"Paranormal Activity" follows the couple as they go through their normal lives. Micah, the boyfriend, invests in a high-end camera to record the odd things that are going on in their house. Micah is kind of a jerk and takes the idea of a haunting less than seriously.

Through the camera, it shows that Micah and his girlfriend Katie are not alone in their house. Katie dislikes the use of the camera and understandably

so since the haunting gets worse as Micah provokes the being to get more on film. This causes the problem to happen more often and become stronger at night.

The movie is reminiscent of "The Blair Witch Project" because of the low budget and creepy story. The effects are great and shocking. If you liked "The Blair Witch Project" or you want to be frightened, I would suggest Paranormal Activity.



Photo illustration by Brian Steele Clackamas Print

'The Stepfather' murders families but proves quite predictable

By Carlos Calderon
The Clackamas Print

"The Stepfather," starring Dylan Walsh as the charming, suave and completely maniacal David Harris, brought in \$12.3 million at the box office on opening weekend.

During the opening credits, a pan around the room shows Harris's most recent victims; his wife and three stepchildren are lying on the ground motionless, dead, essentially leaving the audience with no uncertainty about the plot to the movie or who the killer is.

Harris leaves the crime scene behind very nonchalant, as if he did nothing wrong and sets off to find his

next victim in Portland.

Claiming to have recently lost his family in a fatal car crash, Harris immediately makes a connection with his next victim, recently divorced Susan Harding, played by Sela Ward, at a supermarket.

Through sweet talk and manipulation, Harris infiltrates the family and manages to get engaged to Susan in a blisteringly quick three months.

From then on, "The Stepfather" assumes the usual thriller/horror plots. Things don't go according to plan, and Harris has to quickly take care of the problems before he gets exposed. In the end his secret comes out, and it's a race to see who survives.

Besides that it was filmed in Portland there really is a whole lot to look forward to in "The Stepfather." It doesn't keep the audience's full attention; constant side chatter could be heard throughout the movie. It doesn't have a super-cast or even a big name for that matter unless you include Amber Heard, who played Baja in Never Back Down. Regardless of Heard's affiliation with this movie she only plays a minor role.

The title "The Stepfather" says it all, in that it focuses primarily and exclusively on the stepfather, David Harris. Instead of spending \$10 million at the theater, one might better off just waiting for the DVD to come out.



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