

PHOTO BY KIM GOTTLIEB

Stephanie O'Brien keeps a photo of three crew members from the original Halloween holding the masks worn by Michael Myers.

Halloween evolves over 40 years

TAYLOR SEXTON

Arts & Features Editor tsexton@unca.edu

No seat within the darkened theater sits untouched, the audience holds a collective breath as the *Halloween* theme song begins to play on screen, knowing exactly who's about to appear. Even after 40 years, Michael Myers still holds the same effect over a captive audience.

The Halloween franchise began in 1978, featuring Jamie Lee Curtis as teenager Laurie Strode, who watches all of her friends get killed and becomes Michael Myers' fixation for the night. Though the franchise has many parts, 2018's Halloween is 40 years in the future and shows the hard life Lorie has lead from her traumatic experience that fateful night 40 years ago.

Twenty year old actor Drew Scheid plays the character 'Oscar' in the contemporary *Halloween* movie and expressed his excitement to be a part

of such an iconic movie franchise.

"It still does not seem real, it's still very surreal, like a dream," Scheid said. "It's overall been an honor to be chosen for this really cool experiment. I think they took the franchise in a different way and it was just cool to be a part of that experiment and I'm excited to be a part of the *Halloween* family."

Scheid admits he didn't even know that he was auditioning for the *Halloween* movie, due to the fact that the franchise used a false production company name and false movie title. It wasn't until Scheid received a call from his agent saying he's gotten a callback for an in-person audition that he even knew what movie it was for.

"I had auditioned for it and most auditions, you don't get like 99 percent of the auditions, so I just didn't even think about it. And then a month and a half later, she called me and was like 'hey, remember that thing you auditioned for? Turns out that's *Halloween* and they want you to drive down to

Charleston for the in-person callback," Scheid said.

When Scheid found out he had landed the role of Oscar, he said he felt nothing but immense joy and excitement to be working with actors such as Jamie Lee Curtis and Director David Gordon Green.

According to Scheid, the shooting process for the movie started in January and went to February and the teenagers worked about only six days total, shooting separately for the most part. Even though they worked apart, they all still managed to become close friends, playing the board game Catan after shooting every day in each other's hotel rooms.

"They were like, 'oh, you guys are all playing friends, so you should be friends.' So they had us there for the entire month of January and we just went to set everyday and got to watch all this scary stuff and hung out, went to restaurants and it worked because we're all really good friends still,"

Scheid said.

Scheid describes his character, Oscar, as a major party animal.

"He loves to get down. It's his senior year of high school, it's Halloween, he's just in his own *Superbad* type of movie. He's just trying to get drunk, find the party, find the after party and find any girl who will talk to him," Scheid laughed.

Oscar, unfortunately, meets his untimely end at the hands of Michael Myers, who impales his head through a fence

Scheid admits it was frightening to be killed by Michael Myers and he now understands why people in scary movies fall all the time.

"You just kind of fall when you're this scared," Scheid laughs. "When you're this immensely terrified and someone you don't know is coming up to you in the middle of the night, your body just can't control itself."

Scheid's scene with Michael was all

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22