

Scary or Not?

Some filmmakers have what it takes to do horror movies right, but others miss out



Darkness Falls (top) and Final Destination 2 (above) are two scary movies in theaters now.

By Kimberly McPherson
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Classic scary movies have always touched moviegoers to the core. Especially movies such as *Poltergeist*, *The Exorcist*, *Halloween*, *Friday the 13th* and *Jason*.

Today's movies have changed to adapt with the times. Some of the classic movies spawned numerous sequels and spin-offs. Within the past two years, there have been some rather interesting scary movies. Some of the notable movies were *Thirteen Ghost*, *Signs*, *The Ring*, *Jason X*, *Resident Evil*, *Hannibal*, *Queen of the Damned*, *Ghostship*, *Fear dot com*, and "supposedly" the last installment of the *Halloween* movies, *Halloween: Resurrection*.

Some were sequels, while others were new additions to the horror movie vault. Movies such as *The Ring*, *Ghostship* and *Queen of the Damned* were the some of the most publicized movies. *The Ring* was about a tape that cause a mysterious death to all those who watched it. I gave it three of four stars because of the suspense and story line. *Ghost-*

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— Tandice Littlejohn

ship was about a mysterious ship that is haunted. I gave this one of two stars due to the fact that the plot barely kept me awake. *Queen of the Damned* was yet another vampire movie, with the awakening of the first female vampire (played by Aaliyah). I gave it two and half stars because of special effects and the decent story line.

So what is it that exactly makes a scary movie scary?

"The music! When watching a scary movie, the music make you scared because you can tell when something is about to happen," said TaShaun Long, a senior business administration major.

On the other hand Nick Sampson, a senior elementary education major, said, "I like scary movies

where there is no music, this way when something happens, you are surprised. The key thing is a good story line."

Likewise, Brand Hicks, a sophomore middle grade education major said, "A scary movie has suspense, action and a good plot." Hicks also said, "Twists and turns are good to keep me guessing."

This year, two new horror movies have caused moviegoers to flock to experience the element of surprise. These movies are *Darkness Falls* and *Final Destination 2*. *Darkness Falls* is about a town named Darkness Falls that hides a town secret, only to tell the fable of "the new tooth fairy," causing children to be scared of the dark. On the other hand, *Final Destination 2* is about the actions of a young woman with premonitions causing a "rift in death's design."

Tandice Littlejohn, a junior elementary education major, said, "Movies like *Final Destination* are scary because they are close to reality. If I can see myself in one of the characters, it seems more like real life."

Watch 'Antwone Fisher' will be an event to remember

By Ashley Dinelle Jones
ARGUS REPORTER

Review — *Antwone Fisher*
Most would go to see *Antwone Fisher* solely because Denzel Washington is in it, and it is a "black movie." I admit I was one of those people, but I left the movie having seen and felt so much more.

Antwone Fisher was strong and powerful from start to finish. The main character, played by newcomer Derek Luke, portrays the true story of a Navy sailor who, because of his childhood, is damaged socially and emotionally. This stays with him causing him to become stagnant as he tries to become a man. While on duty, he constantly fights and acts out violently. With the help of the psychiatrist, played by Denzel Washington, he turns his life around and becomes the man he needs to be.

Through watching *Antwone Fisher*, the character you see is a person who, through no fault of his own, is a loner in several ways. Relationships have ended negatively, so all he knows is fighting and defending and only trusting himself. It is only when you get him to finally open up and talk to him one-on-one that you realize what a compassionate and caring person he is and wants to be.

Antwone Fisher takes you through the emotional journey with shots similar to that of *Forrest Gump*. This allows you to see the dramatic and emotional side. It captures the spiritual side of life with a slow calmness. With the help of first-time director Denzel Washington, the audience will feel the emotions in the air, causing you to cry tears of joy and sorrow.

This movie shows how real life can get. It is an event to remember.

Can today's comedians compete?

By William Dobbs
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Do you remember the days of Richard Pryor telling jokes on stage in eight different octaves so you could get a feel for each different character he was portraying? How about the raspy delivery of Redd Foxx, the quick tongue of Robin Harris or the tight leather suits of Eddie Murphy?

Each of these comedians established themselves as strong stand-up comedians before venturing out into other things such as television, movies and even music (Eddie, please don't quit your day job!). The above mentioned four are considered by many as classic comedians, which makes pose the question for our generation — where is the funny? Who is our next generation comedian that will have enough staying power to become a household name like Richard Pryor was and still is?

Comedy back in the day was catered more to an older audience so the comedians dealt with more "adult-minded" issues. Heavy sexual content, profanity and unwanted crowd participation were big laughter and applause getters. Comedians back then also dealt with a number of social issues such as "Reagonomics," homosexuality and the growing AIDS scare.

In Murphy's *Delirious*, he touches on all of these issues, plus losing half of your money if you get divorced, and growing up poor with his brother and their version of "Mr. Bubble" in the bath tub. Richard Pryor and Redd Foxx were more storytelling comedians where a humorous story would climax into a hilarious punch line. Richard Pryor once joked about taking his children swimming and

being pushed in the pool. Knowing he couldn't swim, he called his kids for help who were on the side laughing and didn't take dad's drowning serious until he threatened their allowance.

Comedy today is catered to a much younger audience with even more sexual content, profanity and crowd participation. Where the likes of Harris and Foxx would tell you a joke, today's comedians such as Martin Lawrence and Bernie Mac add acting the joke out. Comedians in the past did this but the "new-school" comedians took it to the next level. While hosting Def Comedy Jam, Lawrence came out on stage in nothing but underwear, sneakers and a hat yelling to the audience "I wasn't ready!... But the show must go on!"

To hear Jamie Foxx's HBO Special *I Might Need Security* is one thing, but to see him run like the giraffes and dance in his circle when he's talking about "Africa" is something else. I believe the comedians of today brought a new energy to the field of comedy. In Mike Epps' movie *All About The Benjamins*, he uses quick wit and metaphors to help rapper Ice Cube recover some stolen diamonds as well as his winning lottery ticket.

I believe our generation is in pretty good hands when it comes to comedy. Because so many of today's comics site the likes of Murphy and Harris as influences on their comedy, it seems as though these old-school comedians' influence will last forever through our current comics and expand to new heights of comedic entertainment. Oh, and if anyone was wondering, my personal pick right now would have to be Lawrence. I hope you saw *Runteldat* and *National Security*. He's so crazy!

Elliott's latest shows her depth of talent

By Ashley Dinelle Jones
ARGUS REPORTER

CD review — Missy Elliott, *Under Construction*

Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott gets better and better every time she puts an album out. She is no rookie to the game. On her fourth album, she continues to show that she is never going to lose creativity or originality.

You can tell if you like an album by the number of times that you bob your head to it or the number of scratches that are on it. This is one of those albums. I was never bored.

The very beginning of this album has an intro of the chorus to her first single playing on radio stations called "Work It." It is one of those songs that you never get tired of, and it stays in your head because you want it to.

The intro is more that 30 seconds, so you get enough of it giving you enough of a chance to enjoy it.

Of course this album includes the surprise hit entitled "Gossip Folk," which only gets better with the video, Again there's more head bobbing.

Trust me, this album is nothing to skip over. Elliott is classy but says what is on her mind.

Elliott is a woman who knows what we are thinking and wanting to say. Don't ignore this album.

Campus Voices

Is America ignoring issues at home and focusing abroad?

"Yes, I feel that the United States needs to tend to their own business because you have to take care of home before you can take care of business anywhere else."



Marirhetta Harris
Junior, occupational therapy

"Yeah, because the United States has problems of its own. We spend all this money on a war, but we can't help the homeless. It just doesn't make any sense."



Jane Johnson
Sophomore, computer science

"Going to war seems unnecessary. There are other courses of action that could be taken before going to the extreme. It is very costly for us as Americans, and it's also increasing our financial debt as a country."



Travis Sloan
Senior, business marketing

"Personally, I think George Bush is the problem, not the people in the United States as a whole, because he is trying to get revenge for his father from Iraq."



Jermaine Thomas
Senior, mass communications