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This issue's rating system: **Girls gone ...**

★★★★
to medical school

★★★
fishing

★★
wild

★
to Kentucky

FILM/GRADE RATING/TIME CAST WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW LOCAL TIMES

opening this week >>

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| <p>Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs Grade: ★★</p> | <p>Rated PG for some mild rude humor and peril. 93 min</p> | <p>Featuring the voices of: Ray Romano, John Leguizamo, Denis Leary, Queen Latifah, Simon Pegg</p> | <p>PLOT: The sub zero heroes are back. Scrat is still trying to nab the ever elusive nut, while maybe finding true love. Manny and Ellie await the birth of their mini-mammoth. Diego the saber toothed tiger wonders if he's growing too soft and Sid the sloth gets into trouble when he creates his own makeshift family by hijacking some dinosaur eggs. On a mission to rescue the hapless Sid, the gang ventures into a mysterious underground world, where they have some close encounters with dinosaurs, battle flora and fauna, run amuck and meet a relentless, one eyed, dino-hunting weasel named Buck. COMMENT: There are more action and cuddly creatures for kids to love in this third adventure than in the animated franchise's first two installments. For parents, it's more of the same, a "Yawn of the Dinosaurs" adventure with some new faces and places but the same central characters rehashing the themes of the first two movies.</p> | <p>3D: 1:00, 3:50, 6:30, 9:00 2D: 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00</p> |
| <p>Public Enemies Grade: ★★½</p> | <p>Rated R for gangster violence and some language. 130 min</p> | <p>Johnny Depp, Christian Bale, Marion Cotillard, Channing Tatum, David Wenham</p> | <p>PLOT: No one could stop John Dillinger and his gang. No jail could hold him. His charm and audacious jailbreaks endeared him to almost everyone -- from his girlfriend Billie Frechette to an American public who had no sympathy for the banks that had plunged the country into the Depression. But while the adventures of Dillinger's gang -- later including Baby Face Nelson and Alvin Karpis -- thrilled many, J. Edgar Hoover made Dillinger America's first Public Enemy Number One and sent in Melvin Purvis, the dashing "Clark Gable of the FBI." COMMENT: All the pieces would seem to be in place for an epic gangster drama: director Michael Mann, who has an affinity for complicated criminals; stars Johnny Depp and Christian Bale, who are famous for immersing themselves in their roles; and a thrilling true story of brazen bank robbers on the run. Trouble is, "Public Enemies" feels rather stagnant. It looks terrific with its period details and costumes, rich production values and striking high-definition cinematography. But until the final third, the film maintains a low-key, steady pace when it should be percolating with unbearable suspense.</p> | <p>12:40, 3:00, 4:00, 6:20, 7:20, 9:40, 10:40</p> |

<<currently playing

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| <p>The Hangover Grade: ★★½</p> | <p>Rated R for pervasive language, sexual content and some drug material. 110 min</p> | <p>Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms, Zach Galifianakis, Heather Graham, Justin Bartha</p> | <p>PLOT: Two days before his wedding, Doug and his three friends drive to Las Vegas for a blow-out bachelor party they'll never forget. But, in fact, when the three groomsmen wake up the next morning, they can't remember a thing. And they can't find Doug. With no clue as to what transpired and little time to spare, the trio must retrace their hazy steps and all their bad decisions in order to figure out where things went wrong and hopefully get Doug back to L.A. in time to walk down the aisle. COMMENT: As they nurse their pounding heads and retrace their steps, they stumble down an increasingly absurd, and surprisingly dark, path. And because it all turns out to be so unpredictable, we feel like we're solving a mystery right along with them. The director and screenwriters take this idea to bold new heights -- or depths, depending on your perspective -- with a comedy that stays weird and wild for the first two-thirds, only to disappoint in the final act.</p> | <p>1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 10:10</p> |
| <p>My Sister's Keeper Grade: ★★½</p> | <p>Rated PG-13 for mature thematic content, some disturbing images, sensuality, language and brief teen drinking. 103 min</p> | <p>Cameron Diaz, Abigail Breslin, Alec Baldwin, Jason Patric, Joan Cusack</p> | <p>PLOT: Director Nick Cassavetes collaborates with screenwriter Jeremy Leven (The Notebook) for this drama about a pair of parents who resort to unorthodox methods in order to save their young daughter's life, only to find their decision coming back to haunt them in a manner neither could have ever foreseen. Desperate to save their daughter's life at any cost, Sara and Brian conceive another child in hopes that the baby will be a genetic match. But that decision raises a series of moral and ethical questions that rapidly begin to erode the foundation of the once-happy couple's relationship. Incensed upon learning that she was brought into this world for the singular purpose of prolonging the life of her ailing older sister, the young girl (Abigail Breslin) ultimately decides to sue her parents for emancipation. COMMENT: "My Sister's Keeper" is a shameless weepy, one of the most manipulative and fundamental of genres, but it also raises some surprisingly difficult and thought-provoking ethical questions. Cassavetes tugs at the heartstrings, which has become a trademark in much of his work, providing opportunities to yank out the hankies early and often. But he also wisely refrains from demonizing any of these characters for their choices and lets us draw our own conclusions.</p> | <p>1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50</p> |
| <p>Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian Grade: ★★</p> | <p>Rated PG for mild action and brief language. 105 min</p> | <p>Ben Stiller, Amy Adams, Hank Azaria, Owen Wilson, Steve Coogan</p> | <p>PLOT: Ben Stiller returns to the role of night watchman Larry Daly in this sequel to the 2006 family film "Night at the Museum." This adventure takes the action to Washington D.C., where things at the Smithsonian aren't quite as quiet as one might think. COMMENT: This is one of those sequels in which "bigger" is supposed to mean "better," in which more characters, more sight gags and more adventures are supposed to add up to more fun. They don't. The follow-up to the enormous 2006 hit "Night at the Museum" heaps on the historical figures and crams them into not one but two museums, with the end result feeling crazed, scattered and desperate.</p> | <p>2:10, 7:40</p> |
| <p>The Proposal Grade: ★★</p> | <p>Rated PG-13 for sexual content, nudity and language. 104 min</p> | <p>Sandra Bullock, Ryan Reynolds, Denis O'Hare, Malin Akerman, Mary Steenburgen</p> | <p>PLOT: When high-powered book editor Margaret faces deportation to her native Canada, the quick-thinking exec declares that she's actually engaged to her unsuspecting put-upon assistant Andrew, who she's tormented for years. He agrees to participate in the charade, but with a few conditions of his own. With an impromptu wedding in the works and an immigration official on their tails, Margaret and Andrew reluctantly vow to stick to the plan despite the precarious consequences. COMMENT: All the romantic comedy conventions are shamelessly on parade in "The Proposal," trampling on our brains and turning them into mush. Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds are both well suited for snappy banter and they play off each other with some nice friction off the top.</p> | <p>12:50, 3:30, 6:40, 9:30</p> |
| <p>Transformers: Revenge Of The Fallen Grade: ★½</p> | <p>Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi action violence, language, some crude and sexual material, and brief drug material. 150 min</p> | <p>Shia LaBeouf, Isabel Lucas, Rainn Wilson, Megan Fox, Josh Duhamel</p> | <p>PLOT: The battle for Earth has ended but the battle for the universe has just begun. After returning to Cybertron, Starscream assumes command of the Decepticons, and has decided to return to Earth with force. The Autobots believing that peace was possible finds out that Megatron's dead body has been stolen from the US Military by Skorpinox and revives him using his own spark. Now Megatron is back seeking revenge and with Starscream and more Decepticon reinforcements on the way, the Autobots with reinforcements of their own, may have more to deal with than meets the eye. COMMENT: A joyless cacophony, an insistent and seemingly endless onslaught, "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen," director Michael Bay's follow-up to the 2007 smash "Transformers" plays more like a parody of a Bay movie. You name it, it gets shot up, blown up or otherwise obliterated in a massive fiery ball, from suburban homes and cars to aircraft carriers and even an Egyptian pyramid. Along the way, our sense of sanity and humanity also get destroyed, as we feel as if we are being held captive by these walking, talking, shape-shifting robots -- both the good guys and the bad.</p> | <p>12:20, 1:20, 2:40, 3:40, 4:40, 6:10, 7:10, 8:10, 9:40, 10:30</p> |
| <p>Up Grade: ★★½</p> | <p>Rated PG for some peril and action. 106 min</p> | <p>The voices of: Edward Asner, Paul Eiding, Christopher Plummer, John Ratzenberger.</p> | <p>PLOT: Carl Fredricksen spent his entire life dreaming of exploring the globe and experiencing life to its fullest. But at age 78, life seems to have passed him by, until a twist of fate (and a persistent 8-year old Junior Wilderness Explorer named Russell) gives him a new lease on life. COMMENT: The title is deceptively simple, which is fitting, because the latest achievement from Pixar Animation is deeper and more complex on every level than it would initially appear. This is a classic B-movie exotic adventure, but it's told through the most high-tech, gorgeous 3-D animation. It's also a mismatched buddy comedy, but the buddies are a curmudgeonly 78-year-old man and a tubby 8-year-old boy -- who wind up together in a flying house, traveling to South America.</p> | <p>1:40, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20</p> |
| <p>Year One Grade: ★½</p> | <p>Rated PG-13 for crude and sexual content throughout, brief strong language and comic violence. 97 min</p> | <p>Jack Black, Michael Cera, Oliver Platt, David Cross, Vinnie Jones</p> | <p>PLOT: Jack Black and Michael Cera headline Harold Ramis' Stone Age comedy about a pair of lazy hunter-gatherers who embark on a wild journey through the ancient world after being banished from their primitive village. COMMENT: Making a solid summer comedy starring Jack Black, Michael Cera, David Cross and Hank Azaria should be so easy, a caveman could do it. Somehow, despite the presence of those reliable actors and the highly advanced skills of comic veterans Harold Ramis and Judd Apatow behind the scenes, "Year One" manages to be a dud. A few amusing moments and gags pop up here and there, but more often the script feels flat, with a needlessly heavy reliance on scatological jokes.</p> | <p>4:45, 10:15</p> |