

Movie Scene

War Games: One of the best



David Lightman (Matthew Broderick), a Seattle high school student, demonstrates his home computer's ability to alter Jennifer's (Ally Sheedy) school grades in "War Games."

By TOM NEWALL
War Games (Markville Cinema Two) is one of the year's best films and one of the summer's most profitable releases. It tells the story of David Lightman (Matthew Broderick), your average teenager, whose only interest is the world to which he escapes through his home computer.

Through his telephone and his machine program, David travels on vast networks, "talking" to others like himself. He taps into his school's computer bank, cheerfully altering subject grades, he copies new video games and, then, one day, inadvertently, David "accesses" himself into the Defence Department's war games computer, Joshua, and challenges it to global thermonuclear war.

What was a game suddenly becomes a terrifying reality and the movie emerges as a heart stopping thriller.

That it works so effectively can be credited to a fine cast, crisply directed by John Badham and the superlative set decoration and photography by four time Oscar nominee William Fraker.

Matthew Broderick has only this spring won Broadway's Tony Award as best supporting actor in Brighton Beach Memoirs and is, Eddie Murphy aside, the hottest new star in movies today, following excellent work in Neil Simon's Max Dugan Returns.

He makes David believable from start to finish and he is ably assisted by Dabney Coleman as Dr. McKittrick, the Defence Department's expert on NORAD's complex

computer warning system. Remember Nine to Five? Coleman is a reliable, accomplished actor. Then, too, there is the immensely talented stage actor John Wood, another Tony Award Winner, in 1975, and one of the National Theatre's great figures, in his first film part, that of Dr. Falkin.

That War Games comes together, however, is the result of John Badham's direction; the man who, in June, brought us Blue Thunder, the helicopter movie-of-the-year. Again he keeps a firm hand on a well scripted story and keeps us on the edge of our seats once the race with Joshua gets underway.

The film was released early in the summer and has only now reached Markham, so you're best advised to catch it soon as it won't be around much longer. You won't be disappointed!

NOW PLAYING
Markville Cinema 1 — Revenge of the Ninja (R), a violent adventure film; Markville Cinema 2 — War Games (PG); Markville Cinema 3 — Hercules (AA) — a remake of the Steve Reeves "classic"; Markville Cinema 4 — Easy Money (AA) — Rodney Dangerfield's movie, a pleasant escapist comedy; Thornhill Cinema 1 — Nightmares (AA) an indifferent horror film about possession and death; Thornhill Cinema 2 — Mr. Mom (PG) — one of the summer's most successful comedies where mother goes to work and dad stays home to bring up the family;

Entertainment

A weekly guide for your night out

New family drama

Parents with young viewers will applaud TV Ontario's newest family drama treat, Code-name Icarus — Richard Cooper's highly intelligent and literate spy thriller premiering Friday, Oct. 14 at 7 p.m.

Convincing in its scientific military background and exciting in its dramatic confrontations, the thought provoking five-part series is about exclusive education at an establishment called the Icarus

Foundation. The sinister men who run the foundation hope to use the world's most gifted children for a scientific project that could mean the end of the world.

It is into this web of intrigue that young Martin Smith is drawn. Because of his genius, he is invited to study at Falconleigh School, which specializes in teaching academically outstanding children.

Under the school's influence, Martin's work in pure research takes on a greater significance than he first realizes. As he slowly becomes aware of the implications of his work, Martin has to decide who is friend and who is foe. Bluff and double bluff continue to the end of this exciting story.

Barry Angel plays Martin Smith and Jack Galloway has been cast as Andy Rutherford, a naval intelligence officer investigating the mystery.

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