Going "CRAZIES" at the box office

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Various sources are reporting that Overture Films' remake of THE CRAZIES got off to a solid start in its first weekend of release, placing third on the box-office chart.

The Breck Eisner-directed film based on George A. Romero's cult classic is estimated to take in \$16.5 million in its first three days, for a solid per-screen average of \$6,672. (Final figures will be released Monday afternoon.) That puts it on par with the debuts of past modern reduxes like THE HILLS HAVE EYES and THE LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT, albeit below such better-known titles as THE TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE and DAWN OF THE DEAD. Paramount and Martin Scorsese's psychological thriller SHUTTER ISLAND won the weekend a second time, taking in an estimated \$22.2 million (down 46 percent from its first frame) for a total of \$75 million, on its way to potentially becoming Scorsese's biggest grosser ever (it'll pass GANGS OF NEW YORK and CAPE FEAR this coming week to place third behind THE DEPARTED and THE AVIATOR). The news continues to be not so good for Universal's fast-falling THE WOLFMAN, which dropped about 58 percent in its third weekend for an estimated \$4.1 million and a total of \$57.2 million.