

Diversions

'Platoon' offers honest emotion, captures realism of Vietnam

By SCOTT WARD
Managing Editor

"Hell, someone once said, is the impossibility of reason. That's what it feels like here, Grandma—hell."

Such is the opening line of "Platoon," an Orion Pictures release that opened in Lexington Friday night.

And it's the line that sets the movie's mood — powerful, gripping, raw, real. Real not in the sense of "what it was like to be there" — as with any war, it would be impossible for someone who wasn't involved to have any idea what it was like to be in Vietnam — but real in the sense of honest emotion and drama unfolding on the screen.

From the opening shots of Chris Taylor (Charlie Sheen) coming off the troop transport a "cherry" to the brutal, bloody last scenes of the movie, "Platoon" keeps its viewers

riveted to the screen and the storyline throughout its entire two hours.

"Platoon" is like many of its Vietnam movie predecessors in that it covers much of the familiar ground, such as the politics of the draft, military authority versus actual authority, ruthless killing in the name of war versus murder, and the brutal randomness that decides the fates of soldiers and individuals.

But "Platoon" excels in that the movie concentrates more on what the war does to the characters than what the characters do in the war. And more than that, it presents its case believably.

"Platoon" is currently one of the top money-makers at the box office, and it's easy to see why. It's been a combination of excellent marketing and an excellent movie.

The American Legion was invited along with the press to a special screening last week, and everyone left mesmerized.

MOVIE REVIEW

"Platoon" is simply an excellent effort all-around.

Tom Berenger and William Dafoe turn in outstanding performances as staff sergeants Barnes and Elias, respectively — the forces of evil and good portrayed in the movie. Both actors rose to the occasion of the demanding script and character portrayals.

They cloud the issues of right and wrong to the extent that viewers are left wanting to be convinced of something at the end of the movie but incredibly uneasy with their decision.

But it is Sheen who shines above the rest. His resemblance to his father, Martin, is remarkable, and his brother Emilio Estevez seems like a bad family parody in comparison. Charlie Sheen, in his first major

film role, exhibits remarkable poise, ability, emotion and overall integrity on the screen.

He handles the difficult screenplay with ease and grace.

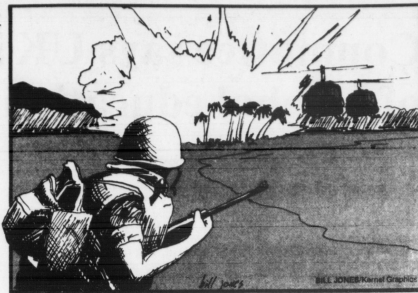
And the screenplay itself is without a doubt the main reason this film has come across so well.

Written by Oliver Stone, who actually served in Vietnam, the script — especially Sheen's monologues as he writes letters to his grandmother — has a lyrical quality about it that sounds, at times, almost like poetry.

The film is also loaded with symbolism — some of it obvious, some more subtle — that gives the viewer a lot to think about long after the movie is over.

At times, however, the screenplay is its own worst enemy.

The monologues tend to tell what the movie has already said and, at



statements illustrate Stone's commitment to his movie and can be easily dismissed considering the film's overall impact.

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Andy Dumstorf
Sports Editor

Sports

Lady Kats clawing for national respect against No. 2 Tigers

By C.A. DUANE BONIFER
Staff Writer

Players usually like to keep a good rapport with their coaches.

But when the players don't live up to their part of the contract, the coach gets upset.

Just ask the Lady Kats. After completing a successful two-game home stand, the Kats left for Mississippi last week with high expectations.

But UK dropped two big Southeastern Conference games by a combined total of 28 points.

The losses dropped the Kats to 1-4 in conference play, 11-8 overall. For all practical reasons, the losses also put UK out of contention for the conference title.

"It's hard to explain why we played the way we did on the road," said senior center Debbie Miller.

Miller's play was essentially nonexistent during the second half of the road trip, as she managed to score only three points against Mississippi State.

Coach Terry Hall wondered why her team performed the way it did on the road, too.

"I was real disappointed with the way we played on the road," Hall said.

So when the Lady Kats got off the bus Saturday, the coach sent her

team straight to the Memorial Coliseum courts for practice.

"Practices have been very grueling," Miller said. "Coach Hall is real disappointed in us as basketball players because people haven't been playing up to their potential as basketball players."

With the conference title all but lost, Miller said what UK has to do now is "show people we are a good team."

"I think everyone on the team is looking forward to proving that we aren't a bad basketball team," she said.

And 8 tonight could be the time for the Kats to prove they are a "good team" when they go up against the undefeated Auburn Lady Tigers in Memorial Coliseum.

Joe Ciampi's club will carry a perfect 18-0 mark and a No. 2 national ranking into Memorial Coliseum.

And if there is a bad time to play Auburn, this may be it.

The Lady Tigers are coming off a 99-44 massacre of the Florida Lady Gators Sunday night at Auburn.

"They're probably going to be one of the toughest team we have faced yet," Miller said.

But Hall doesn't think her team will be intimidated.

"They've played several other top-ranked teams, so it shouldn't bother them," she said.



DEBBIE MILLER

If the Kats are to get back to their winning ways at home, Miller said UK will have to cut down on its miscues and play a solid 40 minutes of basketball — something that has been very elusive for UK this season.

And that may not be easy, considering that Auburn likes to execute full-court pressure for the entire game.

Miller, along with forwards Bebe Croley, Pam Shirum and Shannon Freeman, will have to work extra hard underneath.

UK comes up two inches short of the Lady Tigers' front line, which averages 13.1 points and 5.8 rebounds a game.

To counter Auburn, Miller said she expects the Kats to continue their fast-paced offense.

"I think our running game is the greatest part of our game," she said. "If we can get it going, I think we can run with anybody."

Low score plagues gymnastics team

By WARREN HAVENS
Contributing Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. — UK's gymnasts headed west for the Cactus Classic with hopes of continuing their uphill scoring pace.

Instead, low beam scores hampered the Cats' point production, and they dipped to a sixth-place 174.7 finish.

Arizona captured its own invitational Friday evening, outdistancing second-place Utah State, 184.5 to 181.70. Minnesota placed third with a

178.85 and was closely followed by Denver, 177.6, and Brigham Young, 175.45.

UK coach Leah Little was disappointed in her squad's low score. But she took solace in the other teams' low scores.

"At least the scores were consistently low," Little said.

Success in college gymnastics is not determined by a win-loss record at the end of the season. The team's scoring average at the end of the season is what qualifies it for the NCAA Championship.

"I had hoped that we could have accumulated a higher score out (there)," Little said. "I anticipated receiving a higher score out (there) because the scoring is traditionally higher. It was disappointing."

The Wildcats, 0-7, hope to gain their first meet win of the season Sunday in Memorial Coliseum when they take on Illinois State.

More importantly, however, Little hopes the team can better its team score in an effort to improve its season team average.

Stars & Stripes beats Australians

By HOWARD ULMAN
Associated Press

FREMANTLE, Australia — Stars & Stripes moved to within one race of bringing the America's Cup home, pulling away to a 3-0 lead over Kookaburra III yesterday by beating the Australian boat easily in the moderate winds the Aussies had wanted.

The end of the best-of-seven series could come tomorrow. U.S. skipper Dennis Conner, expecting stronger winds, called a lay day today, which also gave Aussie skipper Iain Murray a chance to fine-tune his golden-hulled boat and his crew's gray spirits.

It was a move that only seemed to delay the inevitable — a return of the silver trophy to its homeland of 132 years.

Stars & Stripes' 1-minute, 46-second victory was so easy that the American boat's crew members acted as if they were on a pleasure

cruise rather than on a chapter in yachting history. They joked and took snapshots of each other and at one point, Conner gave tactician Tom Whidden a chance to steer the boat.

But nothing they did kept them from controlling the race for the third straight day. Not even moderate winds of 12 to 18 knots — the speed Murray sought — stood in their way.

"We do seem to be peaking now," Whidden said.

Few obstacles remained in Con-

ner's path toward vindication for his 1983 loss to Australia II, the only time America didn't win the America's Cup.

On the last leg, the beaten Aussies got another jolt. A Kookaburra chase boat sped alongside the 12-meter yacht to tell the crew a bomb threat had been received by Sydney police.

Syndicate Chief Kevin Parry said the crew was given the option of evacuating the boat, even though he was told the call almost certainly was a hoax.

UK tickets available

Staff reports

A limited number of student basketball tickets for tomorrow night's game against Auburn and the Feb. 11 contest against Tennessee are available today and tomorrow.

Student guest tickets can be purchased between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at Memorial Coliseum. Guest tickets are \$6 apiece, and students must have a validated ID card and an activity card. Tomorrow's game gets under way at 8:05 p.m. at Rupp Arena.

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SPECTRUM

Staff and AP reports

Punxsutawney Phil sees shadow

PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pa. — A plump, pampered groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil predicted at least six more weeks of winter yesterday when he was pulled out of an electrically heated and lighted burrow and reportedly saw his shadow.

Despite an overcast sky at sunrise, Phil's handlers from the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club claimed that he glimpsed a faint shadow.

Groundhog Day folklore has it that if a groundhog sees its shadow, six weeks of winter follow. If it doesn't, spring is just around the corner.

Novelist Alistair MacLean dies at 64

MUNICH, West Germany — British novelist Alistair MacLean, whose popular thrillers of war and adventure included *The Guns of Navarone* and *Ice Station Zebra*, died yesterday in a Munich hospital. He was 64.

William Collins and Sons, the writer's publisher in London, said MacLean suffered a stroke three weeks ago while visiting a friend in Munich and died in a hospital of heart failure.

MacLean wrote 29 books, beginning with *HMS Ulysses*, based on his five years of wartime sea duty with the Royal Navy. His novels sold in the millions of copies and many were made into films, including *Where Eagles Dare*, *Breakheart Pass*, *When Eight Bells Toll*, *Puppet on a Chain* and *The Guns of Navarone*.

Early votes favor Aquino's charter

MANILA, Philippines — President Corazon Aquino won a decisive victory yesterday as Filipinos overwhelmingly endorsed her proposed constitution and another 5 1/2 years of her leadership, unofficial returns showed.

Filipinos backed the draft charter by a 4-to-1 margin nationwide, according to the unofficial count by the private National Movement for Free Elections. Only in the northern Luzon Island stronghold of former President Ferdinand E. Marcos did a majority of voters appear to have rejected the proposal.

Final, official returns from the Commission on Elections were not expected before next week.

The private vote count showed an approval margin of more than 80 percent — 5,374,617 to 1,294,656 — with 27 percent of the 86,703 precincts reporting nationwide.

Shiites threaten to kill two hostages

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Pro-Iranian kidnappers said yesterday they will kill Americans Terry Anderson and Thomas Sutherland, who have been hostages since 1985, if the United States makes a military attack on Lebanon.

Lebanon's justice minister said the kidnappers had "arrested" Terry Waite. The Church of England envoy left his Beirut hotel Jan. 20 to negotiate for the freedom of the two Americans and other foreign captives in Lebanon.

Another group made the same threat last week against three American teachers and an Indian faculty member taken from Beirut University College on June 24. The abductors have said since that they will kill the four men unless Israel releases 400 prisoners by midnight Saturday.

Comics fight teen suicide, drug use

BINGHAMTON, N.Y. (AP) — Cartoonist Johnny Hart's "The Wizard of Id" and "B.C." comic strips have joined a New York State Police campaign of posters, leaflets and pamphlets against teen-age suicide and drug abuse.

One drawing shows the king from "The Wizard of Id" carrying a picket sign with the message "Start Your Own Revolution, Take a Friend Off Drugs."

In a pamphlet dealing with suicide, "B.C." characters are shown carrying off a smoking volcano above the heading "Together, You Can Move Mountains."

"We're happy to do this. Rarely can you take a laugh-a-day-type thing and turn it into a message," said Hart, whose characters appear in about 2,000 newspapers in almost a dozen countries.

Similar locally produced fliers and pamphlets are in use in Colorado, Utah, Texas, California and Washington state, officials said.

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Animals

Continued from Page 1

UK has been heavily involved in biomedical research since the Medical Center was built in the early 1960s, Nonneman said.

Lab animal research benefits both humans and animals. Nonneman said. Diseases that affect animals and humans' health have been cured through lab animal research.

But the fact that animal research benefits animals as well as humans is ignored by the media and the animal rights groups that want to do away with lab animal research, Nonneman said. Such groups make "conscious and concerted" efforts to gain the media's attention.

Some examples of research that UK is conducting include:
 -The development of models of Alzheimer's disease in old animals to help determine the disease's cause and how to treat it.
 -A study to understand the role that "trace elements may play in the development and growth of cancer."
 -Studies on nerve and limb re-

generation. Such work, which is aided by research of some reptiles, could help paraplegics regain the use of some of their body parts if the spinal cord could be regenerated, Nonneman said. Such research could also help improve the chances of full recovery of dexterity of limbs that have been severed and reattached.

The new Centralized Animal Care Facility, scheduled to open by June, will primarily house rats and mice used for microbiological, cancer and other types of research, said Dr. Edward Timmons, who will be in charge of the new facility and who serves as director of UK's Division of Laboratory Animal Resources.

Some rabbits and pigeons used for behavioral research will also be kept there, he said.

The University's research facilities range from being fairly up-to-date to being "ultra-modern," Timmons said.

The year-old Sanders-Brown Re-

search Center on Aging is the most modern of the structures. Right now, the Medical Center is the only UK facility that is completely accredited by the American Association for Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, Nonneman said.

The organization inspects and accredits institutions that voluntarily ask to be inspected. UK's goal is to have all of its buildings accredited in about two years, Nonneman said.

So far, UK has only sought accreditation for the Medical Center. The University is awaiting completion of the centralized facility, the Gluck

Equine Research Center and a few other buildings before seeking accreditation, Nonneman said.

Because of the expense in bringing inspectors to campus, it is more economical to wait and have all buildings inspected at once, he said.

The Sanders-Brown center, the pharmacy building and the Tobacco and Health Research Institute could be accredited now. About half of the psychology department's facilities in Kastle Hall could be approved ac-

creditation organization, Nonneman said.

"We have done extremely well" in gaining support for building programs and facilities, Timmons said. "We have received very strong University support for construction."

UK's facilities and programs are better than they were a few years ago, Nonneman said. Money flowed in along with the push to improve facilities.

There's no doubt change is coming, he said. "But we're not playing catch-up."



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Even if you didn't start college on a scholarship, you could finish on one. Army ROTC Scholarships pay for full tuition and allowances for educational fees and textbooks. Along with up to \$1,000 a year. Get all the facts. BE ALL YOU CAN BE.

Don't delay. The two year scholarship boards will convene February 9th, 10th, and 11th. Stop by Barker Hall on the UK campus or call 257-2696 for more information.

ARMY RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS

Sonny's REAL PIT BAR-B-Q

TUESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL

(Every Tuesday)

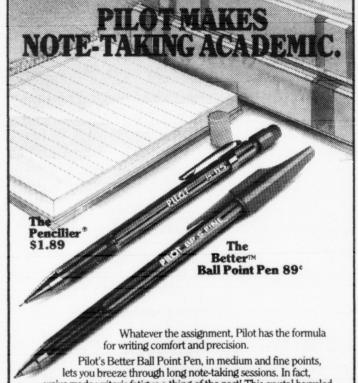
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Whatever the assignment, Pilot has the formula for writing comfort and precision. Pilot's Better Ball Point Pen, in medium and fine points, lets you breeze through long note-taking sessions. In fact, we've made writer's fatigue a thing of the past! This crystal barreled veteran of the campus has a ribbed finger grip for continuous comfort and is perfectly balanced for effortless writing. Best of all, you'll never throw it out because it's refillable.

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DELIVERY



UK COUNSELING AND TESTING

301 Frazee Hall
257-8701

READING TO REMEMBER
Feb. 10 and 12, Tues. and Thurs., 1-1:50, 306 Barker Hall

TIME MANAGEMENT
Feb. 9 and 11, Mon. and Wed., 3-3:50, 306 Barker Hall

NOTETAKING
Feb. 10 and 11, Tues. and Wed., 7-7:50, 307 Complex Commons

ORGANIZING TO REMEMBER
Feb. 9 and 11, Mon. and Wed., 1-1:50, 306 Barker Hall

Register and pay \$10 enrollment fee for all classes in Rm. 201 Frazee Hall.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Deadline: March 6, 1987

The University of Kentucky will award approximately 200 merit scholarships for 87/88. All student (undergraduate, graduate and professional) are eligible to apply. The award is for one-year, in-state tuition.

Undergraduates: Must be full-time on the Lexington campus (adult students over the age of 25 may be part-time) and have a minimum gpa of 3.3. Applications are available in your dean's office or from the Academic Affairs Office, Room 7 Administration Bldg.

Graduate Students: Contact the Associate Dean's Office, Room 321 POT.

Professional Students: Contact your dean's office.