

Deathtrap a thrilling delight

If one word was needed to describe director Sidney Lumet's latest film, *Deathtrap*, it would be delightful.

This comedy-thriller is a delightful adaptation of an Ira Levin play which has been running on Broadway since the early 1960's, and 20 years on Broadway is a sure sign of quality.

And the quality in *Deathtrap* is apparent.

Deathtrap is stylishly done by Lumet, containing a perfect ba-



lance between electrifying suspense and titillating humor.

This film adaptation captures the essence of Levin's Broadway wit. It is filmed as if it were being staged especially for the camera, adding the depth of a complete set.

Each scene of the play was meant to mock the contrived nature of Broadway thrillers. It accomplishes this by emphasizing every detail and action, re-

moving the stiffness that plagues many films.

Lumet selected several actors with stage experience in order to capture the Broadway mood on film.

The acting in *Deathtrap* is first rate, especially Michael Caine's performance as Sidney Bruhl — a famous mystery writer who would *kill* for another hit following several dismal failures.

Placing Caine in the role of Bruhl is perfect casting on Lumet's part. Caine's slightly British accent, coupled with his experience in both comedies and thrillers, adds considerable depth to the role.

His starring role in *Sleuth*, which is very similar to *Deathtrap*, didn't hurt when it came to making this film either.

Lumet also knew what he was doing when he chose Dyan Cannon to play Bruhl's dingy wife.

Only the wacky Dody Goodman could have played the role better, but Cannon's performance is reminiscent of Goodman in her younger days.

Being perfect for the role is something that cannot be said about Christopher Reeve, who plays a young would-be mystery writer.

While Reeve's acting is without flaw, another actor — one who does not carry such a screen image (Superman) —



Clifford Anderson, played by Christopher Reeve, rehearses with Sidney Bruhl, played by Michael

Caine, a scene from a play they are collaborating on in *Deathtrap*. The movie is playing at Plitt III.

would be much more fitting for the part.

Despite this, the film succeeds in what it set out to accomplish.

The film is laced with subplots, all revolving around the manuscript of a sure-fire hit play titled (of course) "*Deathtrap*."

While I knew several important details of the film before seeing it, *Deathtrap* was made, and written, in such a way that it didn't matter.

Levin's mastery in originally creating these details is skillfully reproduced by screenwriter Jay Presson Allen, who also wrote the script in Lumet's critically acclaimed *Prince of the City* last year.

Deathtrap, like *Prince of the City*, should give Lumet another hit to add to his impressive directorial portfolio. Lumet's films include the Academy Award-winning *Network*, as well as *Dog Day Afternoon* and *Ser-*

pico. This film, like Lumet's others, is entertaining and provides the audience with many surprises.

Since one of the finest aspects of *Deathtrap* is the electrifying suspense, it is best if you forget whatever you may have heard about it when you go through the doors.

The less you know about the film before you go, the more you will enjoy it when you see it.

— Bill Robinson

Seniors have last big weekend

by Cindy Manicom
Battalion Reporter

As the end of the semester draws near, Texas A&M senior class members are invited to join together one last time to celebrate graduation in the traditional Aggie spirit of Senior Weekend, which will be April 30 through May 1.

The annual celebration, planned and sponsored by senior class officers, includes the senior bash, banquet and Ring Dance. Tickets for any of the events may be bought at the door or beforehand at the MSC

The weekend begins with the senior bash, April 30, 8 p.m. to 12 p.m., at the Texas Hall of Fame. Music will be provided by Jerry Nail and the Armadillo Express. Tickets cost \$5 per couple.

box office. All proceeds from ticket sales will help pay for the class of '82 gift to Texas A&M.

The weekend begins with the senior bash, April 30, 8 p.m. to

The senior banquet, May 1, 6:30 p.m., will be in Duncan Dining Hall. Tickets cost \$10 per couple. Tickets are limited to 200 couples, on a first-come, first-serve basis.

12 p.m., at the Texas Hall of Fame. Music will be provided by Jerry Nail and the Armadillo Express. Tickets cost \$5 per couple.

"The owner would not let us reserve the whole building, but the idea is that the majority of the people there will be seniors," James Bond, senior class vice president, said.

The senior banquet, May 1, 6:30 p.m., will be in Duncan Dining Hall. Tickets cost \$10 per couple. Tickets are limited to 200 couples, on a first-come, first-serve basis.

It is a good idea to buy banquet tickets early because there are rarely any left to sell at the door, Bond said.

Brian Bartels, senior class historian, said the main course will

be chicken cordon bleu, rice and green beans amandine. There will also be fruit cups and tossed salad before the entree, and rolls, coffee, tea and assorted deserts.

Finally, the senior Ring Dance on May 1 will highlight the weekend. The dance will last from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. The Ed Gerlach Orchestra will play in the Rudder Exhibit Hall, while Doppelganger plays in the MSC 224. Tickets cost \$20 per couple.

Tickets for Ring Dance pictures will be sold April 26 through 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the MSC. Pictures will be taken the day of the dance

Finally, the senior Ring Dance on May 1 will highlight the weekend. The dance will last from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. The Ed Gerlach Orchestra will play in the Rudder Exhibit Hall, while Doppelganger plays in the MSC 224. Tickets cost \$20 per couple.

from 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m., and again from 7:30 p.m. until 1

a.m., in Rudder Auditorium.

Anyone who has their photos taken prior to 6:30 p.m. will receive a free 8 x 10 picture with any package they purchase.

Pictures may be picked up in the MSC on May 7 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., or on May 8, from

10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Photos may be delivered by mail for \$1 extra.

In addition, photographers will take pictures at random throughout the evening. Students may order from proofs of these pictures when they pick up their Ring Dance photos.

YOU DESERVE THE BEST!

SPECIAL STUDENT RATES!

Al's

FORMAL WEAR

CULPEPPER PLAZA

1609 TEXAS AVE.

693-0947