

# 'Firefox' unexciting; 'Author, Author' satisfying

by Eric Truax  
Battalion Reviewer

Watching the commercials for Clint Eastwood's new film *Firefox*, one kind of expects two hours of tense, action-packed adventure. What I got, though, after shelling out three dollars the other night, was a very dull two hours and twenty minutes of movie which was slowly paced, had unconvincing dialogue and very little excitement. One begins to sense the movie is overlong about halfway through it—when you realize almost nothing has happened and it doesn't seem anything is going to happen anytime soon.

For those of you who don't know, Clint Eastwood's new movie (which he produced, directed, and starred in) deals with

an attempt by the Americans to waltz a pilot into the middle of Russia and have him jump into Russia's brand new, top secret, super-sophisticated MiG-31 jet fighter and fly it back to the good old USA. Except this isn't just any old super-sophisticated jet. It has a weapons system which is controlled by thought waves from the pilot. This thought control, plus the ability of the jet to do Mach 5, supposedly makes it about the niftiest thing around. The pilot's helmet has sensors in it to guide the weapons systems by thought commands.

Which is why Clint Eastwood is called in. His character is a former pilot, speaks fluent Russian and is "the best there is." Eastwood's character is a fairly

enigmatic person. Eastwood never really gives us a chance to really see who this person is and how he works, which is why I find it difficult to see what the U.S. Air Force sees in him. Why

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they would send in a troubled Vietnam vet who has breakdowns all the time complete with flashbacks to the Vietnam War simply because he is "the best there is," is beyond me.

Almost all of the sequences which could be called "action" sequences are really devoid of any form of excitement. A person gets kind of tired of seeing a jet zoom along at Mach 5 after a

while. There are a few scenes, however, in which you can satisfy your desire to see the Russians bite the dust (however unconvincing they may be).

*Firefox* is for Clint Eastwood fanatics only. It's a movie which makes you wonder why you spent your valuable time and money to see it; especially with the problems the Schulman Six had when it was playing. The projector was having a terrible sound problem. The sound was so awful it was a wonder there wasn't a horde of angry people demanding their money back. I only hope they repair it before subjecting any more people to it.

*Author, Author* is a movie which merits more favorable attention.

It is a movie which is, at times,

a very funny look at a person dealing with a situation which is not inherently funny. Al Pacino portrays a playwright trying to cope with getting his new play produced, an impending divorce and a horde of kids from previous marriages.

As far as I know, this is Pacino's first role in which he has something of a comedic character to play (at least a serious character in a somewhat com-

edic situation). Pacino was probably the best part of the whole film. Dyan Cannon never really seemed to me to belong anywhere. Her most memorable scene was where she was sitting in a fashionable restaurant with Pacino and washing pills down with champagne (they were aspirin; champagne gives her a headache). Pacino's kids are wonderful. They seem to be the only people he can relate to

while dealing with his new play's production and the actions of his wife, which he finally learns to cope with.

Although there were a lot of good moments in the film, it still was not totally memorable or very satisfying. If you have a couple of hours though, drop by and see it. It's worth it just to see Al Pacino deliver a brilliant performance in a role in which he appears to be totally at home.

# Goya's etchings to be shown on campus with film, lecture

by Susan Dittman  
Battalion Staff

The complete first edition of Francisco Goya's (1746-1828) etchings entitled "The Disasters of War" will be displayed in Rudder Exhibit Hall from June 28 through July 30.

The collection is being exhibited by the Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation of Houston and has been on a three-year, state-wide tour.

A special lecture on Goya and

"The Disasters" will be given by Terrell Hillebrand, director of the Blaffer Foundation, July 1 in Rudder Forum at 7:30 p.m.

"The Disasters" collection consists of 80 historical aquatint etchings which reflect the Spanish artist's reactions to the plight of his country's devastation during the Napoleonic wars of 1808 to 1814.

The series of paintings is divided into three distinct sections. The first portrays the mas-

sacres, stabbings, rapes and burials of Spain's bloody war against France. Next, Goya illustrates the grim famine of 1811 which caused the deaths of 20,000 Spaniards.

The third section reveals a world of fantasy in which Goya depicts vicious religious and political satires.

The Dutch artist, Rembrandt, was said to have had an influence on Goya's style, and

although Goya's themes differed vastly, he studied and became quite familiar with the master's work.

The "Disasters of War" series is considered to be among the finest of Goya's graphic creations.

A 29-minute film entitled "Goya" will also be presented with the exhibition. The film will be shown at noon Monday through Friday and 12:30 p.m. on Sundays.

# Rodeo to support scholarship: memorial to former student

by Terry Duran  
Battalion Staff

The second annual rodeo to support a memorial scholarship for a former Texas A&M student will be Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Brazos County Rodeo Arena.

Tommy Castenson was a senior at Sam Houston State University in March 1981 when he died after being thrown from a bull at a Fort Worth rodeo. In the summer of 1981, Castenson's friends and family held a rodeo in Bryan to support an endowed scholarship at Sam Houston in Castenson's name. Four Sam Houston students were awarded \$500 scholarships for the spring 1982 semester; more will be awarded on a semester-by-semester basis.

Betty Castenson, Tommy's mother, said Wednesday there are no set requirements for the scholarships.

"We're just looking for someone with the kind of character Tommy stood for," she said. Seven of 10 Castenson family

members have graduated or will graduate from Texas A&M, and Tommy went to school here one summer, she said. "We consider him an Aggie, too."

This year's rodeo will consist of five events: bareback riding, calf roping, team roping, barrel racing and bull riding. Entries will open Friday, from 9 a.m. to

2 p.m., at (713) 826-2112. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12. Beer and barbecue will also be available.

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