Reviewer makes Hamburger Helper out of Hamburger Hill

by mike horvath

staff writer latest addition to a grow- jungle near the Laotian ing list of movies that at- border that served as the tempt to realistically depict site for one of the the Vietnam War. It is kind bloodiest battles of the of nice, I suppose, to go to war. a film and see what war is to fight in one.

hours. Any longer would wrong. make Ollie North a Irvin shows, at great pacifist.

The film centers on what Army logistics simply called "Hill 937", a Hamburger Hill is the mound of dirt, mud and

It also follows fourteen about without ever having men in the 101st Airborne Division who have to fight It is especially nice if that battle, portraying all you see this movie, a as cogs in a gigantic graphic presentation of bureaucratic war machine fighting in the Ashau whose purpose was Valley during 1969. I say misguided, heavy handed, it is nice only because you and in director John Irvin's are subjected to it for two final analysis, ultimately

length, the problems fac-

ed by the soldiers both in battle and within ranks. Personal and racial disputes resulting from battle tension and fatigue are numerous, but also expected.

Script writer John Casabatos (of Heartbreak Ridge fame) makes the characters personable from an impersonal level, illustrating the fear resulting from fighting a kind of ubiquitous enemy that most of the time could not be seen at all.

Irvin filmed documentaries on the war during the 1960's for the BBC, so he possesses a pretty good idea of the graphic

a scathing attack on war in God's Gift, Blue's Desire,

which is about conviction and belief, and the deeply-

Throughout, the band's

talent as musicians create

a lush sound which makes

inscription on the liner

If that isn't enough, the

each tune memorable.

moving I Can't Cry.

violence inherent to battle. This quality has carried over to his film making with grisly perfection. The battle scenes here are in a word, horrorific.

You want realism? You got it. People are killed, maimed, and otherwise blown to pieces with increasing regularity. The action here rivals the best scenes in Platoon, with less emphasis on dramatic tension in favor of pure firepower.

There are some problems, however, mainly concerning the plot and characters. Perhaps Casabatos decided realism meant little, if any,

storyline. If that is the case, it is all right. Life does not have a script any more than war does, but a film should have basic elements that set the framework for the story.

Here, they are few and far between. Casabatos instead uses the story for sermonizing, attaking every major issue, from the press, to the "long hairs", to the strained set of moral and political values that plagued U.S. involvement at every angle.

As for characters, forget it. The ensemble cast, featuring Anthony Barille, Dylan McDermott, and Tommy Swerdlow, look enough alike to be family. When names and faces are finally connected, the bodies are either in bags or resting comfortably in an evac hospital.

A movie like Hamburger Hill usually gets some negative reaction from either side or both sides of the left and right ideology. In this case, though, the movie takes neither the liberal nor conservative point of view.

It takes, rather, a very practical one: This is what Vietnam was like; it should never happen again.

SPEEDO>

TURNTABLE

The Silencers A Letter From St. Paul RCA

task to pull off.

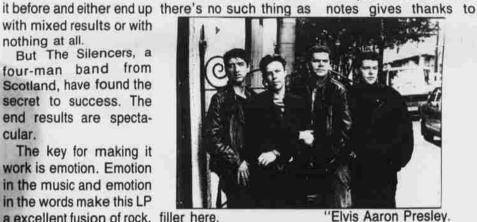
with mixed results or with nothing at all.

But The Silencers, a four-man band from Scotland, have found the secret to success. The end results are spectacular.

The key for making it work is emotion. Emotion in the music and emotion in the words make this LP a excellent fusion of rock, filler here. folk, jazz and blues com-

bined with great examples of songwriting. This unique experience The attempt to merge begins with the opening

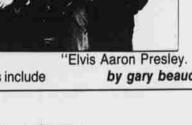
intelligent lyrics with number, Painted Moon, a strong musicianship has bluesy statement on the always been a difficult Falkland Islands war of 1982. This keeps the pace Many bands have tried for the entire album,

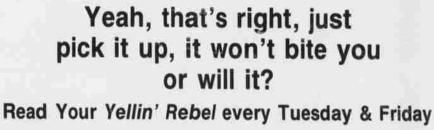


Other selections include



'Elvis Aaron Presley. by gary beaudry







Back to School Specials

All UNLV Items in store 25% off Regular price Also — SHOES

Nike Air Jordan	\$85
Nike Men's Air Trainer\$	63.75
Nike Women's Air Trainer	\$56
Nike Air Max	
All Other Nike Shoes and Apparel	15%

AUIA Shoes 20% OFF Regular Price SANCONY Shoes 20% OFF Regular Price **BROOKS Shoes 30% OFF Regular Price** ASICS Tiger Gel Shoes 15% OFF Regular Price Men's and Women's Spedo Swimsuits 1/2 Price

Located near the UNLV campus These and other specials continue through the month of September.

840 E. TWAIN, # . LAS VEGAS, NV 89109 . (702) 369-6555

SPORTS

SHOP