

# VITAJALZ

## THE UNBEARABLE LIGHTNESS OF BEING

The film version of Czech author Milan Kundera's acclaimed erotic novel set during the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968, hopefully opens soon in culture starved fredericton.

The long-awaited film was directed by Philip Kaufman ("The Right Stuff," "Invasion of the Body Snatchers"), and produced by Saul Zaentz, whose "Amadeus" and "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" won thirteen Oscars including two for Best Picture for the Berkeley-based producer.

"The Unbearable Lightness of Being," filmed in France and Switzerland, stars British actor Daniel Day-Lewis who attracted overnight attention with such widely differing roles as the homosexual punk in "My Beautiful Laundrette,"

and the effete Victorian snob in "Room With a View." As a compulsive womanizer who sacrifices his freedom in the West to return to his wife in Soviet-dominated Prague, Day-Lewis forms the film's starring threesome with France's Juliette Binoche and Sweden's Lena Olin, both making their American film debuts.

Jean-Claude Carriere, one of Europe's most acclaimed and respected writers, is co-screenwriter with Philip Kaufman. Sven Nykvist, long associated with Ingmar Bergman as a "painter with light," is the film's director of photography.

ANNE ONYMOUS

And For Excitement....

## No Man's Land

Coming Soon

Benjy Taylor is a rookie policeman who tinkers with high performance cars.

Ted Varrick is a wealthy young auto buff who steals them.

The last cop to pierce Varrick's operation was found with a bullet through his head. Now, Benjy has taken his place, working as a mechanic at a suspect Porsche repair shop. It leads to a world of easy money, exotic nightlife, seductive danger and surprisingly, friendship.

Benjy knew that to get close to Varrick, he would have to become an expert car thief.

He never suspected how much he would enjoy it.

Charlie Sheen, D.B. Sweeney and Randy Quaid co-star in the Orion Pictures release of "No Man's Land". The dramatic thriller was produced by Joseph Stern and Dick Wolf and directed by Peter Werner from a screenplay by Wolf. Ron Howard and Tony Ganz are ex-

ecutive producers. The music score is by Basil Poledouris.

The project began, says Wolf, with the realization that of friends who'd owned exotic cars, "several were now driving something else - though not by choice." As a writer/producer of "Hill Street Blues" and "Miami Vice," with excellent police contacts, he questioned why.

"According to the most recent statistics, there's a car stolen every twenty-nine seconds in this country," Wolf explains. "If your car is taken by a joyrider, it will probably turn up with a few new dings. But most auto thefts are committed by professionals."

Their objective, continues Wolf, is rarely the vehicle itself. "The real value is in the parts. There's a lively underground market in hardware and accessories for performance cars like Porsches, Mercedes and Supras."

More costly classics - like Rolls Royces and Lamborghinis



ENTERTAINMENT COMPETITION - PUT AN "X" WHERE YOU THINK THE HICKEY SHOULD BE. DANNY AND JULIE GET STEAMY.



"HEY, C'MON! NOT HANDCUFFS ON THE FIRST DATE!"  
"YEAH KID; IT'S TOUGH IN NO MAN'S LAND."

- are, oddly enough, less vulnerable. "The cars," says Wolf, "are too easily traced."

Most professionally stolen cars are taken to "chop shops", well-equipped private garages where the parts are divided into five or six different automobiles, making detection almost impossible. The carcass is then cut and discarded - and a brand new coupe or luxury sedan no longer exists.

Some rings have grown so sophisticated, notes Wolf, that their inventory is computerized. "If they don't have what you want in stock - say the left door of a black @ - Cabriolet - they'll steal one to order."

Technical advisor Michael Riley, who has been customizing and rebuilding Porsches for some twenty years, recalls one Los Angeles ring which operated out of a moving van. "They'd roll a stolen car into the truck, cannibalize it as

they sped along the highway, then drop the shell by the side of the road."

As he talked to members of the BADCATS (a police acronym for "Burglary Auto Detail Commercial Auto Theft") and other law officers, Wolf made another discovery.

"Most undercover cops are not the grizzled veterans you meet in the movies. They're generally raw recruits, straight out of the police academy who aren't known on the street and haven't yet developed mannerisms or attitudes which would give them away."

That led to fresh speculation. "What if a rookie cop, from a solid working class background, suddenly found himself in the fast lane... surrounded by the cars, clothes, women, excitement, money, and power which most young men fantasize? How would he react?"

The answer is personified in "No Man's Land" by Benjy Taylor, a.k.a. Bill Eyles (D.B. SWEENEY). In his transition from rookie cop to apprentice car thief, he finds Ted Varrick (CHARLIE SHEEN) smart, charming, funny and generous... hardly the accused "cop killer" described by his boss, Lt. Bracey (RANDY QUAID).

Benjy learns to jimmy a car door, disarm the alarm, hot-wire the ignition and drive off in less time than most motorists take the traditional way - aided by such ploys as the "shopping bag trick". He is exhilarated by the challenge of outracing cops and competing car thieves, sometimes simultaneously.

Phew! Rock 'n' Roll!

ANNE ONYMOUS