Short on highbrow, but high on entertainment

'Bourne Identity' hooks still another reader

By JOHN WARD
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

"The Bourne Identity," by Robert Ludlum, Marek Press, 523 pages, $12.95.

A fishing trawler is fighting a losing battle against raging winds and storm-tossed waves. Two men shoot it out on deck. One combatant is forced to the rail, where he is shot several times in the head and topples overboard. He drifts away, apparently dead. Seconds later, the ship is blown to kingdom come. And the book is only a page-and-a-half old. Just like that, the reader is off and running with Robert Ludlum's latest book, "The Bourne Identity."

Such violent doings are a trademark of Ludlum's books; you rarely get a chance to take a breath between killings. This might lead you to think of Ludlum as a "purple prose" writer, and you wouldn't be too far off the mark. Much of his material smacks of '30s-style pulp fiction, slightly upgraded for the intellectual '80s. The similarities are there: graphic violence, cliffhanger chapter endings, a damsel in distress and a hero in constant peril. All of which add up to a book which is immensely readable.

Ludlum's books are getting to be a habit. You can expect one to come out nearly every spring. You may expect it to be roundly blasted by "name" critics from coast to coast. Most important, though, you may expect it to become a best-seller from the moment of publication. ("The Bourne Identity" hit no. 1 on the New York Times list in three short weeks.)

book review

"The Bourne Identity" is the newest example of what I call the Ludlum Stock Formula: 1) Three-word title beginning with "the"; 2) One lonely hero, with no one to turn to for help; 3) Some sort of mysterious, faceless conspiracy out to get the lonely hero.

Jason Bourne is the man who was shot in the first paragraph of this review. He doesn't die, but revives on a Mediterranean island, his memory gone. Suffering from amnesia, Bourne is bothered by several clues to his past life: excellent physical condition, high intellect, prowess in the martial arts, and a microfilm implanted in his hip that leads him to a Zurich bank account and several million dollars.

Money isn't the only thing Bourne finds in Zurich. Shortly after leaving the bank, Bourne is attacked in the first episode of what becomes a regular occurrence. For some reason, people are trying to kill him. Naturally, this only makes him more determined to discover his lost identity.

The CIA is mixed up in Bourne's life, along with several terms he can't place: Delta, Cain, Medusa and Treadstone. There's also Carlos, a real-life international assassin, who becomes the primary villain of Ludlum's tale. It's all pretty topical, and slightly confusing when the author mixes in a bit of Freudian mumbo-jumbo to explain Bourne's amnesia.

Ludlum's forte is not in explanation, but in entertainment. If the reader took a moment to reflect on the implausibility of a Ludlum plotline, he'd close the book in a flash out of respect for his sanity. Fortunately the author knows exactly what his public wants, and he gives it to us — in spades.

Carlos' presence in the story is an amusing sidelight. Ludlum strips away the mystery surrounding the real-life character and fleshes him out as a cold-blooded assassin, with an equally sinister army of killers. This is only the second time in nine books that Ludlum has ever resorted to fact in his story. The other instance was "The Chancellor Manuscript," which explored the death of J. Edgar Hoover. According to Ludlum, Hoover didn't die from natural causes; he was assassinated by a group of high government officials (the conspiracy angle again).

In writing spy novels, Robert Ludlum falls short of the highbrow machinations of a Graham Greene or a John le Carre. He's more on the straightforward level of a Frederick Forsyth. And while his overall story patterns seem to resemble each other more and more with each successive novel, there's no denying his ability to hook a reader to the very last page. Robert Ludlum does that better than anyone.

Photo by Stel Varias

Bassoonist Mark Dutkevitch (graduate-music) is one of a group of School of Music students who have been given the opportunity to read a concerto movement with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra during its residency this week.

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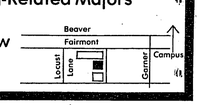

U-031

THE TUBE

Wednesday Evening

6:00 (3) WEATHER-WORLD
(5) I LOVE LUCY
(6) (8) (10) (22) NEWS
(9) JOKER'S WILD
(11) SANFORD AND SON
6:30 (3) OTHER SCHOOL SYSTEM 'Different Ways of Learning'
(5) CAROL BURNETT AND FRIENDS Guest: Jim Nabors.
(6) NBC NEWS
(8) ABC NEWS
(9) TIC TAC DOUGH
(10) (22) CBS NEWS
(11) ODD COUPLE
7:00 (3) MACNEIL-LEHRER REPORT
(5) M.A.S.H.
(6) (8) (22) DAILY NUMBER
(9) FACE THE MUSIC
(10) TIC TAC DOUGH
(11) HAPPY DAYS AGAIN
(22) MATCH GAME
7:01 (6) NEWLYWED GAME
(8) P.M. MAGAZINE
(21) FACE THE MUSIC
(11) DEAN MARTIN SHOW
9:00 (3) DIFF'RENT STROKES When Jethro Simpson discovers an old will under which Willis and Arnold will inherit a lot of money, he presents himself as their only living relative. (Pt. I. of a two-part episode; Repeat)
(8) CHARLIE'S ANGELS Sabrina, Kelly and Bosley have just welcomed new angel Kris Munroe to the team when Charlie calls from Hawaii to say he has been kidnapped and will be killed unless the angels fly to the islands. (Repeat; 2 hrs.)
(11) KUNG FU
9:30 (6) HELLO, LARRY Temporarily unemployed—and too old to host a disco show—Larry goes into a holding pattern as a flying traffic reporter.
10:00 (5) (8) NEWS
(3) FROM HERE TO ETERNITY Sergeant Holmes survives the bungled attempt on his life by Major Holmes, whose fate he holds in his hands when he is ordered to file an official report on the incident. (60 mins.)
10:30 (3) NEVADA FALLOUT: THE HOT YEARS This film chronicles the 'hot years' of above ground nuclear bomb testing during the 1950's.
(9) MEET THE MAYOR
(11) NEW YORK, NEW YORK
11:00 (3) MACNEIL-LEHRER REPORT
(5) M.A.S.H.
(6) (8) (10) (22) NEWS
(9) BENNY HILL SHOW
(11) PRISONER: CELL BLOCK H
11:30 (6) ABC CAPTIONED NEWS
(5) KOJAK
(8) THE TONIGHT SHOW Host: Johnny Carson. Guests: Crystal Gayle, Fernando Lamas. (90 mins.)
(9) AMERICA HELD HOSTAGE
(11) NIGHT AT THE RACES Harness Racing From Roosevelt Raceway
(10) (21) (22) CBS LATE MOVIE 'BLACK SHEEP SQUADRON: The 200 Pound Gorilla' Sgt. Andy Micklin is promoted and he's torn between accepting what he's offered and refusing to become what he has always despised—an officer. 'PSYCHIC KILLER' 1975 Stars: Paul Burke, Jim Hutton.
(11) ODD COUPLE
12:00 (5) LOVE BOAT—BARETTA Love Boat—'Legal Eagle' A divorced man falls for his ex-wife's attorney. Baretta—'Runaway Cowboy' Baretta has gained evidence to bring a ruthless extortionist to trial, only to discover that the judge trying the case is the blackmailer's latest victim. (Repeat; 2 hrs., 15 mins.)
(4) SOUND OF PROGRESS
(9) MOVIE -(DRAMA-SUSPENSE) ** "Destructors" 1967 Richard Egan, Patricia Owens. Agent for U.S. government intelligence investigates robbery at a firm which has just perfected a laser gun-ray. (2 hrs.)
(11) THREE STOOGES
1:00 (5) L.A.T.E.R.
(11) TWILIGHT ZONE
(9) MOVIE -(DRAMA) **½ "Crime School" 1938 Humphrey Bogart, Dead End Kids. A crusading commissioner finally turns a reform school of the worst type into a 'real' reformatory, and gets the boys on the right track for the future. (109 mins.)
(4) TOMORROW Host: Tom Snyder. Guest: Grace Slick, former lead singer of the Jefferson Starship. (60 mins.)

PRESS RELEASE

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(5) ALL IN THE FAMILY
(6) (22) PRICE IS RIGHT
(8) TIC TAC DOUGH
(9) DATING GAME
(10) (21) JOKER'S WILD
(11) NYPD
7:58 (6) NEWSBRIEF
8:00 (3) SHAKESPEARE PLAYS 'Henry IV' Part I. Anthony Quayle and John Finch star in this drama about the English monarch. (2 hrs., 30 mins.)
(9) MOVIE -(DRAMA) *** "Moses" Part III Burt Lancaster, Anthony Quayle. The story of Moses beginning with his childhood. (2 hrs.)
(8) REAL PEOPLE A visit to a school for major league baseball umpires, a look at three female cyclists traveling across the country, and Byron Allen goes skiing on grass. (60 mins.)
(6) EIGHT IS ENOUGH Jonnie's boss wants special favors in return for assigning her to cover choice news stories. (60 mins.)
(9) BASKETBALL Boston Celtics vs New York Knicks
(10) (21) (22) THE DAY CHRIST DIED Based on Biblical record and historical interpretation, the special is a dramatic reconstruction of the politically troubled city of Jerusalem at the fateful time when Jesus of Nazareth enters the city to face the events which changed the course of the world. Stars: Chris Sarandon, Colin Blakely. (3 hrs.)
11:45 (3) DEAN MARTIN SHOW
(5) DIFF'RENT STROKES When Jethro Simpson discovers an old will under which Willis and Arnold will inherit a lot of money, he presents himself as their only living relative. (Pt. I. of a two-part episode; Repeat)
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12:30 (5) HELLO, LARRY Temporarily unemployed—and too old to host a disco show—Larry goes into a holding pattern as a flying traffic reporter.
(11) NEWS
1:30 (10) (22) NEWS
2:00 (5) JOE FRANKLIN SHOW
(11) MOVIE -(MYSTERY) * ½ "A Quiet Place To Kill" 1973 Carroll Baker, Jean Sorel. A sensational triangle leads to murder, and then the involvement of the teenage daughter of the murdered victim. (2 hrs.)
2:30 (10) (22) NEWS
2:40 (5) RAT PATROL
3:00 (9) MOVIE -(MUSICAL) ** "The French Line" 1954 Jane Russell, Gilbert Roland. A wealthy girl in Paris is romanced by a Frenchman. (2 hrs.)
(10) THOUGHT FOR THE DAY
3:45 (5) GONG SHOW
4:00 (11) BIOGRAPHY
5:00 (5) NEWS
5:22 (2) MOVIE -(WESTERN-DRAMA) **½ "Column South" 1953 Audie Murphy, Joan Evans. Young lieutenant tries to protect the Navajos against an intolerant captain. Against treason and treachery, he fights against the Union. (97 mins.)

Liberal Arts enrollment declines

Continued from Page 1

"The situation is really not much different than it was years ago," Paulson said.

Many liberal arts students plan to attend graduate or professional school, while others wish to prepare for careers in social work or journalism, he said. Other students simply want to receive a well-rounded education.

University Provost Edward D. Eddy said enrollment is only one factor in determining the amount of funding a college receives. Cost of lab equipment and instruction, for example, may remain stable regardless of enrollment, he said.

However, money from the Provost's Revolving Fund is given to a college when its enrollment increases rapidly, Eddy said. The money is withdrawn if enrollment drops the next year, he said.

"These days we can't be certain that the interest in business, for example, is going to persist," he said. "It would be a risky move on the part of the University to commit itself heavily to a continued enrollment bulge in business."

Undergraduate enrollment in the College of Business Administration was 3,589 last term — an increase of nearly 1,000 students since Winter Term 1970. The college was forced to close its doors during the academic year 1978 to students wishing to transfer from other colleges.

William S. Decker, assistant dean of students in the College of Business Administration, said job opportunities in the business field have attracted many students to the college. Students are becoming increasingly job-oriented, he said.

Another college which has experienced a surge in undergraduate enrollment is the College of Human Development. In Winter Term 1970, 1,453 students were enrolled in the college, but last term's enrollment showed 2,634 students.

Arthur Carter, assistant to the dean of Student Affairs in the College of Human Development, said the increase is partly because of student interest in human services such as counseling, law enforcement and child welfare.

Many students have also been attracted to the college with the rapid growth of the hotel and restaurant business and the health fields, Carter said. Job opportunities for baccalaureate nurses have especially increased, he said.

Carter said undergraduate students in Human Development have shown a greater interest in gaining management and research skills.

"In the early '70s, students were saying they want to help people," he said. "Now they're saying they still want to help people, but they also want management skills."

More students — especially women — are entering the College of Science. Winter Term 1980 enrollment was 2,855, which is an increase of over 700 since 1970.

Norman Freed, associate dean for resident instruction in the College of Science, said enrollment in the college has probably reached a plateau, although the demand for science courses has increased because of engineering students.

The number of women students enrolling in science increased from 474 in 1970 to 1,146 last term. Freed said many of these women are enrolled in biological science, but more are choosing computer science.

"Women had always been told that science is an unfeminine field," he said. "I think this archaic attitude is changing."

The College of Arts and Architecture grew slightly in enrollment since 1970 when its undergraduates numbered 1,032. Last term's enrollment was 1,291.

William McHale, associate dean for resident instruction in the College of Arts and Architecture, said enrollment rose rapidly in the early 1970s before leveling off and then dropping slightly.

The college gained some students since last year when art and music education majors were transferred from Education to Arts and Architecture, he said. Limits on the number of architecture students also affects enrollment.

The College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation experienced overall growth since 1970. Last term undergraduate enrollment was 585, and in Winter Term 1970 its enrollment was 487.

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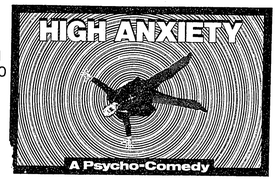

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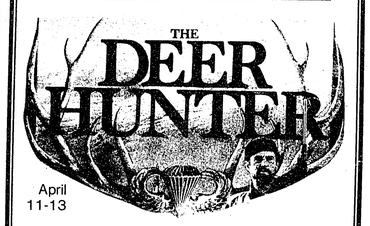

April 11-13

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