



Captain Chris Beldry (Alan Bates) remembers his first love, Margaret (Glenda Jackson) in "Return of the Soldier."



the movies
Dan Greenberg

Soldier's return to his manor home is exquisitely told

"Return of the Soldier" is a classy British film playing the Maple 3 in Bloomfield Township these days, and well worth your time. For all their misanthropic attitudes toward the non-English, as "Passage to India" vividly demonstrates, the British have a certain way with expression, particularly theatrical and filmic eloquence. It's well known that in times past, the British upper classes had a very poor attitude toward those beneath them in the social order. The issue of class is a major one in this film.

"Return of the Soldier" is a fine example of what the British do so well, masking the turmoil of heart and soul with surface elegance.

Based on the Rebecca West novel, the story tells of Captain Chris Beldry (Alan Bates) coming back from the front during World War I. Shell-shocked, and his first love, Margaret (Glenda Jackson), who is of the lower classes and, therefore, deserving of Kitty's contempt. All these remnants of life 20 or more years ago, he remembers.

HE DOES RECOGNIZE the servants, all old family retainers and admirably British (especially the butler). He also remembers his cousin, Jenny (Ann-Margaret), and his first love, Margaret (Glenda Jackson), who is of the lower classes and, therefore, deserving of Kitty's contempt. All these remnants of life 20 or more years ago, he remembers.

Enough of the plot line because a great deal of the film's attraction flows from the tension of discovery. On the surface the film is polished, sophisticated, quite stunning to view — the best British tradition and everybody has a terribly stiff upper lip. Beneath that reserve, the psychodynamics of class and personal conflict are boiling.

The film's smooth exterior derives from magnificent settings and the photographic processes utilized to create soft, warm, visually pleasing, nostalgic images so appropriate to the past. The acting and directing of "Return of the Soldier" are at the heart of the film's success, projecting the proper balance of jagged, psychological interiors contrasted with the exteriors.

The entire company, every bit part, each supporting role, has just the right impact on the superb performances of the four principals. Apparently Ann-Margaret wants to be known as a good actress and not just another pretty face.

SHE'S A BEAUTIFUL woman and a very accomplished actress in her pivotal role expressing a number of levels of love for her cousin and his wife. There's an added dimension to the film's tension as she portrays a beloved relative caught between the passion of an unrecognized wife and an ill husband.

Kitty Beldry matures, her understanding of the Captain's illness growing, and Julie Christie makes the role work, with the subtle glances and gradual movement from pretentious upper-class woman to loving, accepting wife.

Alan Bates and Glenda Jackson give bravura performances as well. It is the dynamic quality — properly restrained, of course — of their roles, along with those of Ann-Margaret and Julie Christie, that make "Return of the Soldier" such a fine romance.

what's at the movies

AMADEUS (PG). Superb rendition of Mozart's life with Tom Hulce and F. Murray Abraham. Directed by Milos Forman.

BROTHER FROM ANOTHER PLANET (Unrated but probably PG-13). Humorous and clever, as black extraterrestrial slave escapes and lands in Harlem. Marred by murky conclusion.

FANTASIA (G). Walt Disney's animated classic featuring a new digitally rerecorded Dolby stereophonic soundtrack.

HEAVEN HELP US (R). Rebellious students in strict Catholic High School, starring Kevin Dillon, Andrew McCarthy and Donald Sutherland.

THE KILLING FIELD (R). Must-see, intense story of brotherhood amidst the horrors of war in Cambodia, based on Pulitzer-Prize-winning article by New York Times correspondent Sydney Schanberg.

MISCHIEF (R). Typical high-school story, well-produced but too explicit for young teen-agers. Parents take the big rap for all that is bad.

MISSING IN ACTION II (No rating available). Chuck Norris still doesn't believe official reports about his son. Tune in next week.

1984 (R). Richard Burton's last film, a brilliant rendition of George Orwell's frightening vision of the future. Not to be missed.

A PASSAGE TO INDIA (PG). David Lean directed this story of love and class struggle in 1928 India. Based on E.M. Forster novel, with Judy Davis.

THE SURE THING (PG-13). Tasty, mature, entertaining comedy about college romance. Directed by Rob Reiner.

MOVIE RATING GUIDE

G General audiences. All ages admitted.
PG Parental guidance suggested. Some material may be suitable for pre-teenagers.

PG-13 Parents are strongly cautioned to give special guidance for attendance of children under 13. Some material may be inappropriate for young children.

R Restricted. Under 18 requires accompanying parent or guardian.

X No one under 18 admitted.

2 bottled reds are disappearing

Two red wine grapes in California are becoming increasingly hard to find bottled as a varietal wine. Both grapes are of Italian origin and their plantings in America go back to the 1870s or earlier when many immigrants settled in Sonoma County.

The immigrants turned the valley into the pre-eminent wine region of the state at that time. Most winemakers simply grew grapes for their personal consumption. A few began to make wine for sale to friends and neighbors, in some instances creating operations that became their livelihood.

They tended to grow what they and their fathers had grown in Italy: grenache, grignolino, barbera, charbono and the zinfandel that was already flourishing there. Wines were marketed in bulk to as far away as San Francisco.

Following Prohibition, when the California industry took some 30 years to develop into what it is today, these wines continued to be produced, some blended into jug wines and some under their own varietal names. Now, however, these are disappearing in the field, as well as the bottle. They are being replaced by French wine grapes: cabernet sauvignon, merlot, syrah and pinot noir.

THE DECREASING availability of two of them, barbera and charbono,

was recently called to my attention when, on separate occasions, I had opportunity to taste several in comparative environments. Considering how good they can be when well made, it is too bad that we have restricted ourselves in our red wine choices and now can only occasionally sample them. There are today but four wineries producing barbera and only two making charbono.

The occasion for tasting the barberas was a showing of several recent issues by the Sebastiani Vineyard of Sonoma, presently the most active producer of this wine. For the last several years Sebastiani has been making two issues each vintage, one a standard issue and the other a Proprietors Reserve. Since first being issued a couple of years ago, the 1978 Reserve has been a special favorite, offering deep, rich, earthy fruit with a strong backbone. Well balanced. It is a powerful wine and represents the true varietal flavor well. There is some available still locally at about \$8 a bottle.

The 1977 Reserve is readily available, but it is a somewhat less successful offering. The components on this seem not to hold together. However, the soon-to-be-released 1978 Reserve is as much a joy as was the 1976. Well worth waiting for.

Do not disdain the standard Sebastiani barbera issues either. At about \$2 a



wine
Richard Watson

bottle less, both the 1979 and 1980 issues are real grabbers. Massive depth, chewy wine is

and full of character, these wines are good value from a winery that can still make a first-class wine when it wants to.

LESS EASY to find are barberas from three other California wineries. Louis Martini has issued a fairly priced vintage for several years. Lacking the muscle of the Sebastiani wines, these tend to be a bit on the bland side, but show a hint of varietal character.

Heltz Cellars will occasionally produce a non-vintaged barbera made in the rustic Italian style, and Estrella River presently has a 1979 release available that is decent.

But for a real joyful experience, try any of the Sebastianis, especially the 1976 or 1978 Reserves. These are wines designed to support big foods and a hearty wine palate.

The other Italian grape capable of

Massive depth, chewy wine is charbono. Today, only Inglenook and Franciscan offer it and both are excellent representations. The latter's 1979 vintage has just been released, well aged and full of good flavor. The Inglenook now on the shelves is the 1977, a hearty and seasoned thing.

Both wineries use Napa grapes only, Inglenook its own and Franciscan a blend of three small holdings in the valley. Alas, we will never see a 1984 issue from Franciscan; I was recently told by Ken Robeson, its chief winemaker, that nearly all of that vintage went into its first-ever charbono nouveau, a pleasant little bottle, but a terrible waste of good charbono grapes.

Next time you want a change in red wines to accompany a meal of ribs, pasta or a big hamburger, try one of these. Don't be one of the growing majority who disdain unusual wine adventures. Perhaps we can thereby encourage a revival in wines such as these.

table talk

Jim Brady's to celebrate St. Pat's Day

Irish fare will be on the menu for three days of celebrating, marking the sixth birthday of Diamond Jim Brady's, as well as for St. Patrick's Day, this weekend at the restaurant at the Town Center in Southfield. Corned beef and cabbage, soda bread, green beer and Irish beer will be available, along with Irish entertainment, all day Friday, from 4 p.m. Saturday and 4:10 p.m. Sunday. Favors and birthday cake will be given to all guests. Spa Plan

low-calorie, nourishing food at Bakers Garden at the Fairlane Town Center in Dearborn. Entrees designed at less than 450 calories include Oriental Seafood Pasta and Baked Flounder Maitre d' in mustard sauce. Also available are a soup with tomato and tarragon, and a salad combining seafood and fruit.

Adam Award

The Cooper's Arms in Rochester has received the Adam Award from the American Dairy Association. The award commends restaurants for using real dairy products such as milk, butter, cheese, cream, sour cream, half-and-half and yogurt.

Hearing MRA

Jon M. Gould, owner of the Point East Restaurant in Jackson, is 1985 chairman of the board for

the 1,800-member Michigan Restaurant Association. Gould took over these new duties at the MRA's recent annual meeting at the Michigan State University Management Center in Troy. Treasurer is Michael C. Gibbons, vice president of operations and co-owner of Mainstreet Ventures, which runs eight restaurants in the Midwest and Michigan including Farmington Hills. Jerry L. Fournier of Tretco Inc., in Farmington Hills, is one of 11 men and women on the board of directors.

Service Award

Richard E. Gregar, president of three food services including Le Gourmet Inc. of Troy received the Distinguished Service Award from the Michigan Restaurant Association at its annual meeting and awards banquet in Troy. Le Gourmet handles food service at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy.

— Ethel Simmons

The California Spa Plan continues to provide



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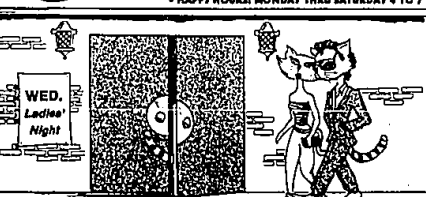
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