

Roy Scheider is the close-mouthed hero who tests a new high-tech weapon, a do-everything helicopter called Blue Thunder.



the movies Louise Snider

'Blue Thunder' raises noise level but that's about all

Fasten your seat belts and put on your earplugs for "Blue Thun-der" (10. This movie puts you on a fast-track through an aerial obstacle course and does it with a roar.

The gimmick is a helicopier that does everything but prepare a choeolate mousse. It hooks like an armored cockroach that files, Visualize a sel-if monster, like Mothra, only with electric cannon, turbine booster and super surveillance equipment. That's Blue Thunder.

Thunder What is the purpose of this lethal, high-tech weapon? What clies but crowd control in Los Angeles, (You know how lesty Angelens can get, what with the smog and the traffic jarms.) The sophistication of the helicupter, however, bears an inverse relationship to the sophistication of the blin, which is sophismorite by any standards. Since the whole premise of this movie is action at any price, characters and rational behavior are left to frond for themselves. Action is king. There are helicopter duals, car chases, shootust, beatings and a hit of voquerism thrown in for good measure. The close-mouthed, square-jawed and, of course, misunderstood hero is Vietnam veteran and police helicopter pilot Frank Murphy (Ruy Scheider). He's been assigned to test Blue Thunder.

(Roy Schender). He's been assigned to test filter Thunder.

THE VILLAINN AHE not dope dealers, terrorists or spies but a bunch of sinister Federal agents. They brought the chopper to Los Angeles for the local police to test because it was designed, initially, to thwart any terrorists violence at the '84 Olympics in Lid.A. Now for the sinster part. The Federal agents conspire with top city officials to deliberately sit up trouble in the barrlo so that fliue Thunder can be tested in a real-life situation.

A key figure among these instigators is another helicopter pilot, Colonel Cochrane (Malcolm McDowell) Cochrane and Murphy knew each other in Vietnam and hate each other's guts.

Murphy discovers what Cochrane and the others are up to. They discover that Murphy has discovered their plans. It's war, after that. Murphy races to get a tape he's made of their conversation to a televison station. Cochrane and cohorts throw everything they can at Murphy indeplied in the licipers and planes crashing and missiles exploding, takes place over the second most populous city in the United States, a city which, incidentally, looks deceivingly be held to the property of the conversation to the place many agittime shots.

non-nencopter's video and audio surveillance equipment and computer hockup with various data banks is the warning that Big Brother has the capability of intruding, manipulating and terminating our lives.

THIS NOTION, HOWEVER, is quite secondary to the main thrust of the film, which is a showcase for the talents of stuntmen and special effects personnel. After all, it's not every movel that has a missile striking a barbecue shack and sending accres of chickens dropping from the skies.

This is the only bit of humor in "Blue Thunder," which is schizophrenic in its worship of machinery and its seeming concern for people — touchingly referred to as "civilians."



Candy Clark is the pilot's sometime girlfriend in the so-tion drama "Blue Thunder."

New talent will perform at Detroit 'Night of Stars'

"A Night of Stars," showcasing new Detroit talent, will be presented in two shows, at 9 p.m. and midnight, Satur-day in the Promenade Room of the Fill Building, 2310 Cass, one block south of the Fisher Freeway in Detroit.

Headlining the entertainment will be W.T. Williams, drummer, producer and writer. He has played with such per-formers as TFO, Detroit Emeralds, Sea Wind, Ray Pocket Jr., the Dynamic Su-periors and Carolyn Franklin. His style

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WAKRIVALS! 4 ITALIANO SKIHS. .38:

is a collage of contemporary funk, jarz, fusion, gospel and blues. Williams has a new release on the Queen label titled "How You Golga to Play Me." A loo featured will be Jasmin, a contemporary rock group, which has a soon-to-be-released single on the Queen label, "Do You Love Me and "Could it Be Love."

For more information, call James Brown at 982-3400. The event is presented by Thrust Production Company Inc.





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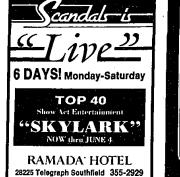
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