Antertainment

Snipes brings style, intensity to action movie

Thriller flies high

By Gerri Pare Catholic News Service

Passenger 57

A ruthless terrorist and his cronies hijack an L1011 in flight, not counting on the resourceful resistance of Passen-

ger 57 (Warner Bros.).

Director Kevin Hooks' fast-moving action yarn stars Wesley Snipes as anti-terrorist expert John Cutter, conveniently on board the jetliner when British terrorist Charles Rane (Bruce Payne) hijacks the plane with a little help from his friends.

From there on it's a battle of wits and weapons as to which one will endure and how many of the 200 passengers will live to tell about it.

Snipes brings style, intensity and a dash of gallows humor to his actionhero role and is well-matched with Payne, an ice-veined villain if ever there was one, who plays his part with nasty relish.

The hostage plot inevitably relies on escalating violence, but given the lifeand-death circumstances, it is not constant, mindless and made to look

glamorous and exciting. In fact, this is mostly standard fare for the genre with somewhat muddled developments and a weak romantic subplot between our hero and the feisty female flight attendant (Alex Datcher).

Because of frequent violence and some rough language, the USCC classification is A-III - adults. The MPAA rating is R — restricted.

