Entertainment



Hollywood trip takes determination

JHAT DOES A TICKET from Detroit to Holly-wood cost?

"The bottom line is inner determination," according to Scott Spiegel, graduate of Groves High School in Birmingham, who co-authored the screenplay for Clint Eastwood's latest film "The Rookie," opening Friday throughout the metropolitan area.

ie." opening Friday throughout the metropolitian area.
Splegel, who was born in Detroit, spent a year at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington - Hills after his 1976 graduation from Groves. "That Is," he said, "when I began to take film sectiously."
His experience in those years in-cluded acting for Sam Ralmi and Bruce Campbell in their 1979 pro-duction "Within the Woods." He also

tolled on special effects for Raimi and Campbell's first well-known effort, "Evil Dead 1." As with many other dedicated young Detroit-area filimmakers, he worked at whatever jobs he could in those days. In Spiegel's case that meant clerking at a grocery store white producing short films.

"Cleveland Smith, Bounty Hunter" was a 10-minute parody of "Haiders of the Loss Ark" and "Toro, Toro" about a runaway grasscutter. Both were form films Spegge solo to IIBO in cable cardy days when a company and all programs. The cable system's enormous capacity for material created opportunities for many filmmakers. He also sold "Toro, Toro" to the U.S. Army.

SPIEGEL WRYLY remarked, "I

SPIEGEL WRYLY remarked, "I think they made a mistake and thought it was "Tora! Tora! Tora!"

(a 1970 film about the Japanese attack on Pear Harbor).

"I got a lot of mileage out of those
two films," Spiegel said. "They were,
also in a weird compilation, "Filmhouse Fever," a vignette piece where
a couple of guys go to watch films."
Spiegel appeared in Sam Raimi's
1983 production "Crimewave."
"Then I turned 'Cleveland Smith'
into the lowest-budget feature ever
ande. Josh Becker's "Thos Shall Not
Kill Except "which Spiegel
produced and co-wrote," It was invaluable hands-on experience alhaplam by three, "Spiegel said."
"Both Baim Raims asked me to
write 'Evil bead Il' which was shot
in '86 and '87." he said Another oneof Spiegel's shorts, "Attack of the
Helping Hand," was a film spool of
the Hamburger Helper commercials.
The title describes the plot. "Sam
Raimi liked it's so mech," Spiegel
said, "that he dropped it into 'Evil
Dead II."
"Everyone needs guidance and
eople to tell you how things are.

Dead II."
"Everyone needs guidance and people to tell you how things are done. But ultimately it's got to come from within." Spiegel said. In 1987, with that inner determination in high gear, he moved to Hollywood where he rewrote scripts for Bill Lustigs low-budget productions including "Hit List" with Jan-Michael Vincent.

"Rit List" with Jam-Michael Vincent.

NEXT HE MADE: "Night Crew"
with Charle Band at Empire Pleture. Filmed in two weeks on a
130,000 budget: "What I shot was
what I got" - "Night Crew" was
sold by Band to Paramount which
renamed it "Intruder" and cut It to
receive an R rating. "Ironically."
Spiegel Said, "my \$130,000 feature
was marketed under Paramount's
\$400,000 computer-generated logo."
Originally intended as an unrated
film, "Intruder" is about people
trapped in a supermarket and being
picked off by a horneidal maniae.
The special effects folks were Fangorial people, who featured a severe
hoad from the film on the cover of
Gorezone, one of the sci-fit lantasy
broth magazine.
The production of the sci-fit lantasy
broth magazine from their
racks. The negative publicity was
heightened when the uncut version,
which was selling well in England,
got pulled after the distribution company was fined \$500,000.



Scott Spiegel (above), who went to school in Birmingham and Farmington Hills, shares

screenwriting credits with Boaz Yakin for "The Rookie," directed by Clint Eastwood.

Why all this interest in horror/slahner stories among young filming the stories are stories and you have a so many others? "Ever since I was a so many others? "Ever since I was a kid I saw borror films with my dad."
Spiegel sald, "and I grew up during the monster craze of the 56s. There was also a lot of comedy in that era—and both comedy and horror are similar."
"They are both structured around a build and a payoff, the punchline of he gags or the special-effects impact of revealed horror," he sald.

Less as Strom's chef hit-person-Eastwood's new partner is David cherman (Charlies Sheen), a young

THE PUBLICITY generated by "Intruder" led Spiegel to working with Boaz Yakin, and the concept for "The Rookie" developed. "We wrote it together, and by this time I was

and decided to direct as well as star in the production.

"The Rookle" features Eastwood as a veteran cop whose partner is murdered by a villationus car thief, strom (Rau) Julia, whose bizarre girlfriend, Liesel (Sonia Braga), doubles as Strom's chief hile-person. Eastwood's new partner is David Roberts of Charles Sheen, a young man whose mission is to prove his bourage and reliability.

The all-star cast features Tom Skerriit as Davids father.

Spiegel and Yakin met with East-

wood for one major change on the script and a few minor ones. "He is so professional." Spiegel sald. "It was a thrilling moment because his knowledge of lim is just incredible. He made sure everything was to the letter. He knew exactly what he wanted."



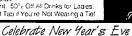


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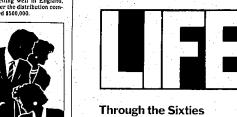
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