

Poetry in motion: The Restroom Poets - from left, guitarist Jason Magee, drummer Ben Lorenz, and bassist Brian Poore — recently scaled down to a trio.

Poets from page 6A

"Lyrics really are poetry. Poems are dense. You can't just
get the meaning out of the first
try. When you do make a connection, even though it might
not necessarily be the one that
was intended, it was a struggle
to get it, "said Magee. Then, he
added, it's satisfying.
Besides their lyrics, the
band has a reputation for being
musically challenging.
"I think they are more musically intense. Somebody who's
really into music" will like the
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The Restroom Poets' intensity is one that is often under fire by fellow bands. Drummer Lorenz said that they've been called everything from "cheesy college rock" to "not alternative enough."

Actually, the Restroom Poets are going for the "power cock trio sound." In mid-1993 the band scrapped their lead guitarist and strapped on ax on Magee.

"We're more energetic and tighter as a three-piece; we don't have someone who will space out in their own little

lead guitar world," Magee said.
Currently, the Restroom Poets are working on an album at PR Music in Detroit. However, it wan't be released anytime soon due to "the powers that he." Lorenz said. They wouldn't claborate any further. In the meantime, current and future fans will have to settle with their live show for bootiegs, which they encourage). "If anybody likes rock n'roll, rise to the challenge and be happy to see us," Lorenz said.

said.

The Restroom Poets with special guests Train of Thought perform at the Blind Pig. 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor, at 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19. For more information, cull 996-8555. They will also play Friday, March 4, at Cava Java, 1101 S. University, Ann Arbor 431, during the Detroit Musicians Alliance benefit at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. (313-961-MELT). Contact the Restroom Poets at P.O. Box 7764, Ann Arbor 48104.

'War Room' looks at Clinton campaign

SPECIAL WHITEN

Actor John Malkovich would
make a great James Carville, that
is if the real thing weren't such a
captivating performer himself.
With his high forchead, deep-set
eyes and Southern accent, he
would look right at home in the
uniform of a flamboyant Civil
War general.

War general.

Carville's war, however, is fought in Bill Clinton campaign headquarters, where he and George Stephanopoulos miracticusly dodge the bullets of scandal while trying to lob a few greades into enemy camp. "The War Room," a new documentary about their unconventional exploits, is a fascinating and entertaining portrait of American politics in action.

After watching the movie, which plays exclusively at the Main Art Theatre in Royal Oak, you may be convinced that the wiles of these two men alone steered Clinton into the White

House.

Stephanopoulos, a handsome,
31-year-old Rhodes scholar,
coaches the Arkanasa governor on
key points in rally speeches, right
down to pauses, asldes and inflections. When election night results
point toward landslide, he calls
the shots about where each member of the first family will stand

during the acceptance speech.
Carville, a veteran in the political arena, wisely reads the signs
from a bank of television screens
in the cluttered makeshift offices
they call the "war room." He
swears back at a George Busspeech harping on Clinton's character and breaks into an alligansmile when Perot stumbles into a
mine field with women's issues.
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'Don't Look Back' and 'Monterey Pop'' set the standard for
rock documentaries in the 190s,
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music effectively, especially the
Fleetwood Mack standard 'Don't
Stop Thinking About Tomorrow'
that became Clinton's anthem.
The President-to-be shows up
more than expected, dressed in Tshirt and fiddling with the rim of
his baseball cap during a telephone interview. Much of the
time we experience him on the
other end of telephone calls where
we only hear the advisers' side of
a conversation.

While the movie focuses on the

While the movie focuses on the action in the war room, key news conferences and speeches from Clinton, Bush, Paul Tsongas and Gennifer Flowers keep things in

MOVIES

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1960s, keeps the movie simple. He uses music effectively, especially the Fleetwood Mack standard "Don't Stop Thinking About Tomorrow" that became Clinton's anthem. The Presi-dent-to-be shows up more than expected, dressed in T-shirt and fiddling with the rim of his baseball cap during a telephone interview.

historical perspective. Unused footage from the Kevin Rafferty documentary "Feed" also appears early in the film when the Clinton campaign gets off to a slow start at the New Hampshire primary.

Don't blink or you'll miss it, but local news anchor Bill Bonds even appears in "The War Room," refereeing the now-fa-mous debate between Clinton, Bush and H. Ross Perot.

One of the most interesting sequences in the film shows Carville's efforts to leak a supposed Bush impropriety to the press. The adviser thinks he has proof that the President used a South American printer for campaign materials, and though the lead goes nowhwere, it illustrates Car-

ville's ferocity at manipulating the media.

Though the campaign occurred almost two years ego, the documentary is no less polignant today. It was nominated for a Best Documentary Feature Oscar, but perhaps the most impressive reviews have come from the people on Minn.

Now in stressful White House positions, they say that watching their passion in "The War Room reminds them what they got into politics for in the first place.

If you have a comment for John Monaghan, call him at (313) 953; 2047, mailbox number 1866 on a Touch-Tone phone, or write him care of Street Scene, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcroft, Livonia 48150.

SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan.

B DETROIT FILM THEATRE
Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200
Woodward, Detroit. Call 833-2323
for information. (\$5)
"Faraway, So Close" (Germany, 1993), 7, 9.45 p.m. Feb. 18-19, 1, 4, 7 p.m. Feb. 20, Many of the same characters from Wim Wender's 1986 classic "Wings of Desire" appear in this sequel. Equally astonishing visually, it employs the same premise of angels mingling in modern-day Germany, yet it carries a different message since the fall of the Berlin Wall.

M KINOTEK

Capitol Theatre and Arts Centre, 121 University, Windsor. Call 519-971-5160 for Information. (\$4.50)

"In the Realm of the Senses" (Japan-1976). 9 p.m. Feb. 19-21. The still-controversial Japanese import about obsessive love and sex, based on the 1936 case histo ry of a woman who actually went out of her senses with desire.

MAGIC BAO THEATRE CAFE
22918 Woodward, Ferndale, Call
44-3030 for information. (\$4)
"Outrageous Animation" 8 p.m.
Feb. 17. A collection of bizarre
contemporary animation from
around the world, including such
provocative titlet as "The Toilet,"
"Erection," "Lupo the Butcher"
and "Inside Job."

and "Instactool".

MAIN ART THEATRE

118 N. Main (at 11 Mile), Royal
Oak. Films play through at least
Thursday. Call 542-0189 for information and show times. (\$5.50; 34
students; 35 twilght/maintee)
"Schindler's List" (USA-1933).
Stephen Spielberg may finally get
his Academy Award for this atory
of Oskar Schindler (Liam Neeson), a war profiteer and Nazi croy
who saved the lives of more
than 1,000 Jews during the Holocaust.

than 1,000 Jews during the Holo-caust.
"Six Degrees of Separation"
(USA-1994). Based on John
Guare's award-winning play, a savvy young man (Will Smith)
poses as Sidney Poilter's son to cajole his way into the home of a Fifth Avenue couple (Donald Sutherland and Stockard Chann-ing).

"The War Room" (USA-1993). A behind-the-scenes look at the 1992 Clinton campaign focuses not on the candidate but on his team of election advisers, led by the charismatic James Carvell and George Stephanopolous. Vet-eran documentary filmmakers D.A. Pennebaker ("Don't Look Back") and Chris Hegedus direct-

■ MAPLE THEATRE 4135 W. Maple, Bloomfield Township, Call 855-9090 for in-formation. (\$5.75; \$3.95 matinee; \$2.95 twilight)

"The Snapper" (England/Ire-land-1993). When 20-year-old Sharon announces to her work-ing-class parents that she's preg-

ing-class parents until and neighbor-hood react in some most surpris-ing ways. The second film adaptation of a Roddy Doyle's trio of book about Dublin life ("The Commitmenta" was first) is a disarmingly funny movie highlighted by Colm Meaney's

performance as Sharon's ram-bunctious father.

"In the Name of the Father"
(Britain-1994). In this true story,
Daniel Day-Lewis plays an Irishman falsely accused of bombing a
pub near London in 1975. The
brilliant story of miscorriage of
justice is co-written and directed
by Jim Sheridan, who teamed
with Day-Lewis on "My Left
Foot."

"Schindler's List." See Main Art Theatre listing above.

E REDFORD THEATRE 17360 Lahser, Detroit. Call 537-1560 for information. (\$2.50)

"A Damsel in Distress" (USA-1937). 8 p.m. Feb. 18; 2, 8 p.m. Feb. 19 (organ overture begins a half hour before show times). Ge-shwin penned the music for this light-as-sir romp set in London. Fred Astaire pursues heiress Joan Fontaine, while George Burns and Gracie Allen provide the comic re-tilef. The score includes "Nice Work if You Can Get It."

Artist from page 6A

it looks good in black and white, you know you've been successful," said Wirth. "Doing video was good because it taught me, you have to tell a story. That's was good because it taught me, you have to tell a story. That's how I see my paintings, as one frame of a story."

Groove Gallery director Dawn Hulme is hooked on Wirth's sto-

"I saw his work and fell in love with it. I really like his compos-tion in which he involves a funny cartoony character. I love his col-or. He uses deep but vibrant col-

or."
Dennis White of Charm Form has always liked Wirth's artistic endeavors especially the video he did for the 1993 winners of the Detroit Music Award for best

modern rock band.
"I really liked the paintings
Chris did on the tables at 3-D,"
said White. "Although I'm not as

familiar as I should be with Chris' new works I plan on checking them out now that they're begin-ning to receive such acclaim."

After producing music videos, industrial photography and com-mercials for several years, Wirth returned to art, working 14 hours

a day for the past 12 months.

"Art always was my main inter-

and the second second second second









HANDBELL CONCERT

Friday, February 25, 1994 8:00 P.M. Metropolitan United Methodist Church 8000 Woodward Ave. at Chandler, Detroit, MI

5 Handbell Choirs Participating, Over 400 Bells Directed by Wm. H. Griffin

First English Lutheran and Christ Church of Grosse Pointe, Orchard Lake Community Presbyterian Chapel Bells, Harbor Bells of W. Bloomfield and Epworth Bell Choir of Metropolitan United Meth. Ch., Det.

Tickets - Adults \$7.00, College students \$5.00, Youth \$3.00 available at the door

Convenient, well lighted, secured FREE parking