

IP WHAT'S THE WORST THAT COULD

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FLAIL INVITED (FC13) SUN, 11:10, 11:30, 12:00, 2:55,

# BOOKS Memoirs capture heart and soul of Motor City

Motor City Memoirs Photography by John Sobczak Edited by Jennifer Thomas Vanadia; \$29.98, Lorien Studio

By ALICE RHEIN STAFF WRITER arhein@oe.homecomm.net Blar while arhein@ce.homecomm.net With Detroit's 300th analver-sary just around the corner, you may be wanting to pick up a memento or two to commemo-rate the event, or perhaps give a clebratory gift to others. If you've taken a look at the bookstore bookshelves lately, you might have noticed there's a number of books dedicated to Detroit. Dave Coulier and artists Ken and Ann Mikolowski.

### numo. Detroit. Slice of history

Slice of history Motor City Memoirs is a bit different than the history books and sepia photo albums out there. The 210-page book is as much an art book as it is a small slice of history. Biomfield Township photog-rapher John Sobezak captured the images of more than 60 native and famous Detroiters including actress Julie Harris, astrunaut Jerry Linenger, come dian Dave Coulier and arts. Ken and Ann Mikolowati. And Waterford writer Jennifer

MOVIES

Bloomfield Township photographer John Sobczak captured the images of more than 60 native and famous **Detroiters Including** actress Julie Harris, rock musician Ted Nugent, astronaut Jerry Linenger, comedian

Thomas Vanadia reveals the essence of each person's memo-ries of Detroit in short, but polgnant narratives. Together, the result is a beau-tifully cardled book that tells the contomporary history of Detroit through the eyes of these who have lived it. Ernis Harwell talks about what a great baseball town it was when he first came to announce for the Tigers in 1960. Martha Reves tells about her rise from singing in a Methodist thurch to brief atint as a secretary at Hitsville USA to

becoming one of the '60s most popular Motown stars. Jeff Daniela gives a humorous take on his visit to the Tigors dugout and his encounter with an historic urinal where, per-haps, Ty Cobb once relieved him-self. Mitch Ryder's memories are a bit estoric, ao non might expect, and give a delightful edge to the book's tapestry. In addition to the first-person stories, Motor City Memorie also include a biography of each indi-vidual, which is a learning expe-rience in itself. Who know Lily Zomlin once studied medicing at rience in itself. Who know Liby Tomlin once studied medicine at Wayne State University? Or that musician Stowart Francke's father was the mayor of Sagi-naw for much of the 1960s?

### Striking photos

Striking photos Sobcraft's striking black-and-white photos are what makes this book really stand out. Even if you don't know the person, his photos captures the personality. And without fanfare and hur-rinh for Detroit, *Motor City Mem-*oirs captures the heart and soul of a town that's earned its chance to boast about its cre-ative output. ative output.

## Film tackles emotions of man discovering he's HIV positive

the virus. Farley's comments on the quality of his first film are refreshingly sincere. "I was in Royal Oak passing out filter, asking people to see the movie," he said. "People would ask me fit was good... "Is it good? I don't know. I'm too close to it," he said. "To me, it's not good, it's not bad... it's mine."

The film isn't perfect of course Budget was just \$30,000. Some budget was just \$30,000. Some transitions are confusing. Still, the believable characters, quali-ty editing and compelling story-line overshadow the flaws.

E A public screening of After April, shot throughout Michigan by a Michigan film crew, is being held at 10 p.m. Monday at the Main Art Theatre in Royal Oak.

### The cast

The cast After April was filmed last year throughout Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties – in Madison Heights, Detroit, Waterford, Ferndale, Rossville and Warren. At its first preview at the Star John R Theatre in Troy last month, 700 people attended.

Troy fast month, 760 people attended.
The cast includes many newer comers, from Michigan, like:
Farley who is already working on another script, a comedy
Director and editor Brian Evans, an LA. film school graduate and current Detroiter who directed Tainfed — another independent movie by Am I Wrong Productions (as is After April);
Associate producer Thomas Manaell, an aspiring animator and actor who was also the primary boom man
Theater actor Michael McK-

Theater actor Michael McK-iddy, who was a good choice for the lead role of Patrick

the lead role of Patrick Angela Duffy who was asked to portray the leading role of Patrick's pretty and convincingly loyal griffriend even before the script was complete Stephany Slongo, who elo-quently stars as the dreadful April and was also featured in Tainted

April and was also featured in Tainted Greg James; a realistic bingeing drug user in one of the film's more interesting scenes. He was also in Tainted and had a role in television's ER and the VH1 movie Meatloaf. Viewers will wish James' role was bigger. Ethan A. Jordan who has performed at Mike Riddley's Comedy Casile and a graduato of Spece Howard in Southfield. Jor-dan's portrays a fantatic role as a slick, likable, charismatic Detroit drug-dealer with his own political ideas and whose ironic personal ethics keeps him from selling heroin to kids. Roles like April, portrayed by

selling heroin to kids. Roles like April, portrayed by Slongo, and her postic but still loathsome pimp Skinny played by Corey Martin, may be mini-mal but the talent and script are strong enough to keep both in viewers' minds after the film's end

end. Martin, drummer in the Detroit band Wild Bunch and Witches, said this is his first film project that's been actualized. "(Farley) gave the cast tons of

# freedom, they were really trust-ing," he said of the team effort. "A theatrical self-mockery." was how Martin described his style as the well-spoken pimp. It worked. His brief bar scene is one that should have been longer, his character was enjoy-able to watch.

### Filming

Filming Filmed in some rougher areas of Dotroit, there were a few awk-making when actors portraying prostitutes were almost drawn into, Local residents trying to the the source of the source of the teep their neighborhoods free cast the dealers harassed the cast the underwork was for in dark the underwork dwas neight the topic that Farley original-but triends, actors and acquari-nenes like the idea - although interest in the source of the source or although. Then again, striving for a write

really dida". Then again, striving for a writing carcer wasn't something the thought he'd ever do either. As a child he wanted to be a firefighter like his father; a fire marshall in Warren before succumbing to Lou Gehrig's disease. Farley graduated from a fire academy but dropped out of the EMT program not liking the medical demands.

demands. So has continued to write and in January will leave for Emer-son College in Boston where he was necepted to study as a play-wright. "Years ago I had the story in my mind .... I knew a girl who ran with some shady people and I often wondered about her past, and what would or could happen to her."

and what would or could happen to her." Working at a hospital lab, Far-ley saw blood samples that were HIV positive. He wondered about the people whom the blood belong to, and how they would react when learning the news that they've been infocted. The movie itself is about the man's emotions as he initially learns he's a carrier, the blame he points, the hope and hopeless-ness he agremences, the blame he points, the hope and hopeless-ness he agremences the revenge he seeks and the redemption of his formerly wild but loving girl-friend.