

New releases help revive vintage rock

By Jill O'Brien
Staff Reporter

The Blues Brothers Band is back with Elwood's blessings. Their latest release "Red, White & Blues" (Turn Style/Atlantic label) won't disappoint any surviving fans who first witnessed the Blues Brothers — comics John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd — on Saturday Night Live.

album REVIEW

While original Blues Brother Elwood Blues (Aykroyd) raps about IRS on the title song, beneath the lyrics flows a current of serious rockin' R&B.

The blues ensemble is backed by "Mr. Fabulous" Rubin's trumpet, "Blue Lou" Marini's saxophone, "Slide" Johnson's trombone plus guitarists Matt "Guitar" Murphy, Donald "Duck" Dunn and Steve Cropper.

● Roger Daltry's "Rocks in the Head" (Atlantic) is evidence that old musicians never die, they just blast away.

You can't listen to Daltry without hearing phantom strains of The Who.

Old-time Who fans and first-time listeners will either be impressed at how Daltry carries off his first attempt at solo rock or they'll tire of too-much-the-same sound throughout the album.

However, the strength of Daltry's grinding vocals, which still dominate

Who songs on classic radio, remains ageless and unchallenged.

"Who's Gonna Walk on Water," a stab at politicians, rocks hard and heavy, yet, "Mirror, Mirror" is a gentle song about relationships. Both songs were written by Gerard McMahon, who supplies Daltry with background vocals, guitar and keyboards.

● On "Family Groove" (A&M Records), the Neville Brothers issue a strong pro-family statement, with a message for everyone.

Yet this release is a smorgasbord of rhythm and blues, a bit of soul, African ("Moraori Chant" with gospel overtones), rock ("Fly like an Eagle" accompanied by Steve Miller on guitar) and even a few lines of rap. "Let My People Go" is one of those songs worth listening to more than once — a song about crime and the victimization of children being summed up in the last verse.

Although the Neville Brothers have harmonized for more than three decades, because of the music's diversity, "Family Groove" is perhaps, one of the Brothers' best.

● On their debut album, "What Goes On," (Charisma) The Sighs deliver what their name implies — a relief from hard rock, rap and heavy metal.

Four guys from Massachusetts prove not all bands have to age 30 years to produce a good vintage record.

If you enjoy Tears for Fears, you'll like the sound of The Sighs.

Bobby LaRoche's lead vocals score big on every song, particularly on "Think About Soul" and the tender "Heroes are Made for Falling."



Courtesy of Paramount Pictures

Annabella Sciorra stars as Dr. Ann Hecker, a New York City psychiatrist who finds herself caught in the shocking aftermath of a patient's murder; and John Leguizamo stars as a young painter known as "Fast Johnny C," Hecker's patient who becomes the prime suspect in "Whispers in the Dark."

Whispers speak loudly

"Whispers In The Dark"



By Ingrid Youngquist
Staff Reporter

While psychological thrillers are definitely the thrill-seekers' genre of the '90s, "Whispers In The Dark" (Stuart, 13th and P streets) is perhaps the most mind-wrecking film in that category so far.

This erotic mystery-thriller begins by discomfiting the viewer and setting them up for one whole of a rollercoaster ride that twists and turns almost uncontrollably until seconds before the closing credits roll.

At the beginning of the film, viewers are introduced to Dr. Ann Hecker (Annabella Sciorra), a New York City psychiatrist who deals with patients who share with her their sexual fantasies, frustrations and experimentations.

These often explicit sessions successfully create the tension necessary to discomfort the viewer while simultaneously drawing them in for the ride.

Hecker is also adversely affected by the sessions, especially

those involving Eve Abergray (Deborah Unger). Abergray shares with Hecker her sexual fantasies involving bondage.

After hearing about Abergray's often violent sexual encounters with her alleged lover, Hecker is plagued by a recurring sexual dream based on the encounters.

movie REVIEW

A flattering comment directed at Hecker by an unknown man in an elevator turns into a relationship, which turns into a passionate love affair with Doug McDowell (Jamey Sheridan).

Then the viewer discovers McDowell is Abergray's lover.

This is just the beginning of the switches that whip the viewer into a frenzy.

Later in the film, Hecker discovers Abergray's nude, dead body hanging in the woman's entry-way.

Caught in the confusion after the death, Hecker is torn to discover that McDowell, the man who she has fallen in love with, is the leading murder suspect.

Also suspected in the murder is another one of Hecker's patients, Fast

Johnny C (John Leguizamo), an ex-con turned painter whose dark obsessions are reflected in his work.

Wreaked by her experiences, Hecker turns to long time friends Dr. Leo Green (Alan Alda) and his wife Dr. Sarah Green (Jill Clayburgh) for consultation.

While these two seem to be the only people Hecker can trust, they too come to betray her in an effort to protect her from potential danger.

Sciorra, who also starred as the wife and mother turned victim in "The Hand That Rocks The Cradle," once again puts forth an outstanding performance as the bright yet naive female who falls victim to circumstances beyond her control.

Also presenting praiseworthy performances are Sheridan and Alda.

But perhaps the most praiseworthy contribution to the film was that of Christopher Crowe who wrote the screenplay and directed the film.

This film is definitely not for the weak stomach or the weak hearted, but is meant for individuals seeking a blood-curdling, mind-wrecking two-hour ride.

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Danielle Steele novel becomes a Jewel

By Stacie Hakel
Staff Reporter

Danielle Steele returns to glimmer in the spotlight with her 29th work of fiction titled "Jewels."

Steele, the internationally best-selling author with such books as, "No Greater Love," "Heartbeat" and "Message from Nam," has brought another of her heart-felt stories to readers.

The story begins on the eve of Sarah Thompson's 75th birthday as she reminisces through the past, remembering all the obstacles she had

to overcome in her life.

Her memories track back to the '30s when she lived in New York, being raised in South Hampton and Manhattan.

Sarah marries, but the marriage ends in a disastrous divorce. She then becomes ashamed and goes into hiding.

After a year, her parents persuade the heroine into going to Europe with them.

She grudgingly accompanies them and meets various young men with whom her parents have arranged in-

troductions.

But Sarah becomes angry and disgusted until she meets William. William is the Duke of Whitfield and older than her, yet everything she always wanted.

They fall in love immediately and get married.

The couple finds a crumbling yet quaint chateau that they start to refurbish. But as the Nazi's come closer, William is shipped off to war the morning after Sarah gives birth to

See JEWELS on 7