

NEW RELEASES

TOP 40

ANITA BAKER "Soul Inspiration" (ELEKTRA)
MARIAH CAREY "Love Takes Time" (COLUMBIA)
DAVID CASSIDY "Lyn' To Myself" (ENIGMA)
LLOYD COLE "Downtown" (CAPITOL)

CURIO "I Can't Stay" (MOTOWN)
LAQUAN "Now The B-Turn" (4TH & B'WAY/ISLAND)
UB40 "The Way You Do The Things..." (VIRGIN)

ROCK

BLACK SABBATH "Feels Good To Me" (I.R.S.)
TOMMY CONWELL & THE YOUNG RAMBLERS "I'm Seventeen" (COLUMBIA)
FIREHOUSE "Shake & Tumble" (EPIC)
DAN FOGELBERG "Rhythm Of The Rain" (EPIC)
HUMAN RADIO "My First Million" (COLUMBIA)

JETBOY "Heavy Chevy" (MCA)
POWERMUD "Slaughterhouse" (REPRISE)
QUEENSRYCHE "Engine" (EMI)
STEELHEART "I'll Never Let You Go" (MCA)
SWEET F.A. "Rhythm Of Action" (MCA)
TROUBLE TRIBE "Tattoo" (CHRYSALIS)

ALTERNATIVE

BETTY BOO "Doin' The Do" (REPRISE)
BOOM CRASH OPERA "Talk About It" (GIANT/REPRISE)
CONCRETE BLONDE "Caroline" (I.R.S.)
DARLING BUDS "Crawdaddy" (COLUMBIA)

SARA HICKMAN "Blue Eyes Are Sensitive To The Light" (HOLLYWOOD)
HOTHOUSE FLOWERS "Movies" (POLYDOR)
PAUL LEKAKIS "Tattooed On Me" (REPRISE)
PET SHOP BOYS "So Hard" (EMI)

ALDEN (from page 7)

FM with Keith Sweat's *Make You Sweat*, and that is something I'm particularly proud of," Alden states of the cut that ELEKTRA has championed admirably over the long haul. "It goes to show you how commitment and dedication to an artist over the long term can pay off. We experienced the same payoff with *Faster Pussycat!*" Indeed they have, for *House Of Pain*, the Fast Cats' Rock Radio staple, has been popping up on mainstream playlists of late through hard work by the label. The sales have really kicked in as well; the record is soaring past gold and could, with ELEKTRA's famous commitment, end up near or on the platinum mark. "I've got to give credit to my staff because it's not a "me" situation around here," says Alden. "We're a team."

Alden and Krasnow have relied on a contingent of pros with workmanlike ethics and never-say-die constitutions, spearheaded by *Del Williams* - ELEKTRA's stalwart Senior Director of National Top40 promotion, whom Alden confesses "a lot of people have been trying to lure away as of late because he's such a top notch record person." But Alden isn't worried; he is confident that Williams is as committed to the ELEKTRA way of doing things as himself and Krasnow.

Rick methodically rattles off a list of his platinum plated subordinates: "Suzanne Berg, Louis Heidelberg and Leslie Doyle have done an

outstanding job with our Adult Radio, AOR and Dance divisions," he beamed of the leaders of the three respective divisions. Also singled out where Top40 titans *Lisa Frank*, *Maureen Guinen*, *George Silva* and *Jan Teifeld*, and finally *Linda Ingrisano* - the Video Valetorian responsible for garnering instant airplay for Deee-light's new *Groove Is In The Heart* video, which Alden said was put into MTV's strong rotation right from the start. "And can you believe Leshay!" Alden exclaims of his new Alternative Director, *Jon Leshay*, who has worked miracles in his short stint. "The guy has been here three minutes and he's got three bands in the top 10 already. Damn!" Even though Leshay has been under his red and black roof a tad longer than three minutes, Alden has a point. Since escaping from a trade publication only months ago, Jon has worked wonders helping boost the Pixies, Happy Mondays, and Heartthrobs into the radiant strawberry glow of the cutting edge charts.

So what's in store for the future for Rick Alden? "With Anita Baker's new single, *Soul Inspiration*, out soon, how can I think of such things?" he replies when an attempt is made to gode him into revealing any plans for world domination at the side of his mentor, Bob Krasnow. Yes, indeed, Rick Alden certainly has a lot of things on his mind and a lot of hot tunes on the charts. If he has his way, it will stay this way for a long time to come.

SYDNEY (from page 7)

charts in the late '70s. Those who have heard the helium-fueled snippet would surmise that the pairing of Youngblood and Zundel is an odd one, but one listen to the soulful phrasings and dazzling production on Youngblood gems like *Sit and Wait* belies that peculiar chemistry.

"It's really beautiful the way we manage to melt together in the studio creatively," says Youngblood in a somewhat Orwellian observation. "It's another example of a marriage of cultures that works!" That's one way to look at it. Objectively speaking, it's a gospel teaming of hi-tech dance laced with warm acoustic guitar and earthy rhythms that have become the tandem's calling card to the stars. Youngblood is proud of the fact he's pioneered a trademark of sorts: gut-string classical guitar interwoven with modern digital technology.

Whether it's the suave house sounds of *If Only I Could* or the melodic electric-driven rap *Don't Keep Me Waiting*, the densely clustered stylizations could only come from the riveting imagination of Sydney Youngblood, who is rapidly carving a niche for himself in the overly processed musical climate of today. The fact is, it's hard to ignore the Texan's skill while it's spinning off the CD player. But what really distinguishes the man (as well as energizes him) is his performance in a

live medium.

"That's what really sustains me - singing in a live context," he exclaims excitedly, obviously eager to prove his stage mettle on these shores. "God's given me a range I feel proud of, and the fact that I can sing in a number of different styles enables me to really bring the most out of my songs." Youngblood is cautious, however, about over-exploiting his versatility, eschewing fancy trappings and textbook chops for homecooked licks from his bandmates. Sydney prefers *feel* over clinical expertise, knowing that that special chemistry comes across on stage. That's why the members of his band are all friends.

"It's important to be able to go into the dressing room with your mates after a show and have a beer with them," he says, explaining his decision to play with old friends from Germany instead of "unfeeling mercenary session musicians." This man definitely wants to keep the spirit in the family, and in keeping with that desire, he's eagerly looking forward to singing a duet with fellow Mannheim resident *Chaka Khan*, a song he says he's going to spring onto the world on his next album.

Youngblood's own optimistic goodwill, glowing throughout his persona and spirit, is the resin that binds his group and material together. Youngblood is a pearl and all the world is his oyster. Take a peek inside and see what you've been missing.