

## Singing blues for love, not money

By Larry O'Connor staff writer:

In the course of a performance, Big Dave and the Ultrasonics can throw a lot at you. There's a saxophonist, a harmon-

There's a saxophonsut, a harmonical player, two guitarists, a bassist and a drummer. The band can play soulful houserockin' blues, uptown boogie and gutbucket blues when called upon.

But calling out for Dave can present a problem. The group only has four of them by the same first name.

has four of them by the same first name.

"When I first started working with these guys, it was kind of confusing at first," said bass player Todd Perkins, one of two Todds in the band. "We pretty much refer to each other on a last name basis.

"In the beginning, when I didn't know everybody, I would say 'harpplaying Dave,' sax-playing Dave. But there's two guitar-playing Dave. But there's two guitar-playing Dave. But there's two guitar-playing Dave Farzalo, sax and keyboard man Dave Salvator and harpist Dave Morris may be difficult at first.

AMONG THE Daves, though, there's only one Big Dave. He's

Dave Steele, whose throaty growl and stinging guitar licks reveal the heart of a bluesman. Better yet, he even talks like one. "You have to love it (the blues)," Steele said. "That's all. There's no money in it."

What inspires the blues in him? "Like everyone, it's women and money," he answers.

THIS IS a passion shared by other band members, who formed Big Dave and the Ultrasonies after three Daves (Steele, Farzalo and Salvator) and one Todd (Nero) moved from Erie, Pa., to Ann Ar-

moved from Erie, Pa., to Ann Arbor.
Those guys played in The Zip
City Blues Band, which performed
regularly in Eries only blues club,
the Docksider, Band members possess a wide knowledge of different
blues styles — Delta, Texas and
New Orieans — and incorporate it
into the final stew.
In a short time, Big Dave and the
Ultrasonics have made an immediate impact on the Ann Arbor and
Detroit club scene. Onstage, the
band serves up a searing brand of
urban blues

Please turn to Page 4



There's plenty of Daves and Todds in Big Dave and the Ultra-sonics, but there's only one person whose throaty growl and stinging guitar licks reveal the heart of a bluesman. That's Big Dave himself, Dave Steele.

## IN CONCERT

### MONKEY MEAT

Monkey Meal will perform Moto June 3, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Arbor, For information, call 998-2747.

BORN NAKED
 Born Naked will perform Tuesday,
June 4, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann
Arbor. For information, call \$96-2747.

# ● PERE UBU Pere Ubu will perform Wednesday, June 5, at the Blind Pig. 208 S. First. Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-8555.

e AL HILL Al Hill will perform Wednesday, June 5, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor. For information, call 998-2747.

• SYRANT

Syrant will perform with guests,
Mother Superior, Thursday, June 8, at
Paycheck's Lounge, 2932 Canlif, Ham-tramck. For information, call 874-0254.

ANGELA BOFILL
 Jazz arist Angela Bofillo will perform
with guests, Pieces of a Dream and Lonnie Liston Smith, at 7.30 p.m. Taursday,
June 6, at Chene Park Music Theatre in
Detroit. Ticketa are \$11.50 and \$16.50.
For information, csil 872-1000.

New DUNCAN IMPERIALS
 New Duncan Imperials will perform with guests, Strange Bedfellows, Thursday, June 6, at the Blind Pig. 208 S. First, Ann Arbor. For Information, call 998-8555.

TRINIDAD TRIPOLI
 Trinidad Tripoll Steel Band will per-form Thursday, June 6, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor, For information, call 936-2747.

• SIMPLE MINDS

Simple Minds will perform with guests,
Material Issue, 8 p.m. Friday, June 7, at
Clubland at the State Theater, 2115
Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets are
\$18.50 in advance. For information, call
99-MUSIC.

DUKE TUMATOE
 Duke Tumatoe will perform Friday,
 June 7, at Sullys, 4758 Greenfield, between Michigan Avenue and Ford Road,
 Dearborn, For information, call 848-5377.

SUN MESSENGERS
 Sun Messengers will perform Priday,
 June 7, on the Boblo Moonlight Cruise.
 The cruise departs the Detroit dock 11
 pm. and returns 1 a.m. For information,
 call 843-070 or 843-880.

MISS JONES
 Miss Jones will perform with guests,
Love Kings, Friday, June 7, at Lill's, 230
Jacob, Hamtramck. For information, call
875-6555.

BORAX
 Borax will perform with guests, Destruction Ride, Friday, June 7, at the Blind Pig. 208 S. First, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-8555.

WILLIAM CLARK
 William Clark will perform Friday,
June 7, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann
Arbor. For information, call 996-2747.

AVENUE
 Avenue will perform Friday, June 7, at
Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross, Ypsilanti. For information, call 485-5050.

## BLUES EXPLOSION John Myall & the Bluesbreakers, Bud-

dy Guy and Koko Taylor and the Blucs Machine will perform 7 p.m. Friday, June 7, at Chene Park Music Theater in Detroit. Tickets are \$18.50 and \$14.50. For information, call 872-1000.

HAPPY AS CLAMS
 Happy as Clams will perform with
 guests, Park the Karma and Voodoo Chili, Friday, June 7, at Paycheck's Lounge,
 2932 Caniff, Hamtramck. For information, call 874-0234.

HAPPY ACCIDENTS
 Happy Accidents will perform with guesta, Liar Head, Saturday, June 8, at Exit Club, 12 Mile and John R, Madison Heights. For information, call 544-1298.

# GEORGE BEDARD & THE KINGPINS George Bedard & the Kingpins will perform Saturday, June 8, at the Blind Pig. 208 S. First, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-8555.

DUKE TUMATOE
 Duke Tumatoe will perform Saturday,
June 8, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann
Arbor. For information, call 996-2747.

R.H. FACTOR
R.H. Factor will perform Saturday,
June 8, on the Boblo Moonlight Cruise.
The cruise departs the Detroit dock 11:
pm. and returns 1 am. For information,
call \$43-0700 or \$45-8800.

BAD RELIGION
Bad Religion will perform with guests.
Pit Bull and Cold as Life, Saturday, June
8, at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress,
Detroit. For information, call 961-MELT.

BEER ON THE PENGUIN
 Beer on the Penguin will perform with guests, Skeleton Crew, Saturday, June 8, at Lill's, 1930 Jacob, Hantramck. For information, call 875-6555.

CULTURE SHOCK
 Culture Shock will perform Saturday,
 June 8, at Cross Street Station, 511 W.
 Cross, Ypailanti. For information, call
 485-5050.

THE INCENTIVE
 The Incentive will perform with guests, Charm Farm and Majesty Crush, at Paycheck's Lounge, 2932 Caniff, Harntramck. For information, call 874-0254.

● KEITH SWEAT
Keith Sweat and The Rude Boys will
perform 8 p.m. Saturday, June 8. at
Chene Park Music Theatre in Detroit.
Tickets are \$25 and \$23. For information,
call \$72-1000.

ELVIS COSTELLO
 Elvis Costello will perform 8 p.m. Sunday, June 9, at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. Tickets are \$25. For information call \$67-6500.

Otis Clay will perform Saturday, June 8, at Sully's, 4758 Greenfield, Dearborn. For information, call 846-5377.

MILES DAVIS
 Miles Davis will perform 7:30 p.m.
 Sunday, June 9, at Chene Park Music
 Theatre in Detroit. Tickets are \$25 and
 \$20 For information, call 872-1000.

UGLY BUT PROUD

Ugly But Proud will perform with guests, Bad Luck Inc., Sunday, June 9, at St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. For information, call 961-MELT.



Indigo Girls performs Saturday, June 15, at Meadow Brook sic Theatre.

## **REVIEWS**

## **AGGRAVATION** — Treponem Pal

Treponem Pal might seem like a mystical name for a mysterious heavy metal band, and in reality it is. But it is also the French word for the virus that causes syphilis.

Treponem Pal is a perverse, industrial thrash band The group's latest release is "Aggravation." I think the properties of the style of music lites somewhere between the likes of bands like Slayer and Judas Priest.

The opening track, called "Test is War," is a grating, energy pack song that is guarranteed to rock any headbanger's socks off.

This is a band that comes from France, but you might likely guess it came out of the New York (try metal circuit by the sound of it.

Vocalist Marco Neves can hit some notes like nalis on a chalk board.

south motes the variety salvageable songs are in this nine-song package. "Out With No Flag" and "Sweet Coma" are pretty decent metallic pieces. One song in the package was not written by Treponem Pak. It is called "Baddacativity." It is a noxious, stentorian mix written and arranged for TP by the band known as Kraitwerk.



From a country internationally known for romance and elegance (tree sche). Treponem Pal Is proud to say it represents "the ugly reality of worldwide culture." Although members never explained this claim to any great depth, it does come through in their music.

They are striving to be a diverse and controversial thrash band. "Agravation" is a positive step in that direction.

Although their music might not be

direction.

Although their music might not be best suited for everyone, it might be just the thing for you serious metal-heads out there.

- Joseph S. Hoffmann

## **AWA YIO** - Ivan Lins

You're on a tropical beach in Branal. You have your toes in the sand, a
drink in your hand, and you feel
grand. In you head you can hear the
sounds of a samba'(calypso band.
The music on Ivan Lins' latest alburn called "Awa Yio" will send such
images running through your mind.
This is a true South Americanstyle delight, after a white you won't
even care that he doesn't sing a single lyric in English. If you want to
sing along its possible, just fake your
way through.
But you'll probably be interested
in knowing that the lyrics are included in both English and Spanish.
Ivan (pronounced Evon) Lins'
mission on this album was to exposmore people to the native caused
to the father caused on
elyrics, he provides a brief explanation of some of the myths, expressions and cultural beliefs of his native country.
Sure, the music has been commercialized just a tad, but you'll get the
basic idea.
The song "Meu Pals" ("My Country") is pleasurable ballad about the
tropical paradise where he grew up.
Throughout the song, he sings about
some of the popular characters of



Lins was born in Rio de Janeiro, the son of a Naval engineer. Via his father's military career, he ended up spending some formative years in Combridge, Mass, where his musical aspirations took shape. He speaks of this combination of cultural experiences in his song "America, Brazil — America, Brazil"— This is a very upbeat samba. "All together you will find it multicultural songs in this package. This one is a must for someone with a hankering for something nuevo y dirented (that 5 Spants for new and different).

— Joseph S. Hoffmann

- Joseph S. Hoffmann

## LOCAL

Here are the Top-10 songs on "Detroit Music Scene," which is heard 4-5 p.m. Sundays on WDTR-FM 90.9.

- "Honey Child," Chain Reaction
  "Nation of Strangers," Call Heroes
  "God Fearin" Man," Coastry Bob
  "The Search," Robb Ray
  "In Her Velley," Fook
  "Devryday's a Hollday," Dave Rave
  "Rushing the River," Bruce Nichols
  "The Road," General

# **EDGE**

**CUTTING** 

Here are 10 releases in beavy rotation "The Cutting Edge," which is beard p.m. to 4 a.m. nightly on CIMX-FM 88.7

- I. "Schubert Dip." EMF
  2 "The Future" a. "Rhythm Corps
  3 "Real Life," Simple Minds
  4 "Out of Time," R.E.M.
  5 "International "Material Issue
  6 "Why Do Birds Sing?," Violent

- 6. "nu, Femmes 7. "The La's," La's 8. "Strange Free World," Kitchens of Dif-

tinctions 9. "Doubt," Jesus Jones 10. "Mighty Like a Rose," Material Issue