THE A LIST

Pick bits for the week of July 26-August 1



legendary status among sharp-eared blues aficionados who sought his whereabouts. Then Black Top Records founder Hammond Scott tracked Parker down and helped him produce an excellent comeback LP. Bobby's hardedged brand of R&B blends gritty blues and James Brown influences. Parker is no longer MIA, but he's still a POL—"Prisoner of Love." 9:30 p.m. Blues Saloon, Western and Thomas, St. Paul; 696-2277. (Dan Emerson) ALSO SATURDAY

FOETUS/CHAVEZ/BARDO POND A big din tonight at the Ave. I've never been a great fan of slim Iim Thirlwell/Foetus, but his latest, Gash, has got some cool NIN-style production touches, plus the usual lot of apocalyptic roadside attractions. Expect serious bombast. Japanese expatriate noise punks Ultra Bide and arty East Villagers Halcion open. (Music at 6 p.m. \$7/\$9 at the door.) A better bet is next door in the Entry, where you'll find a gig for guitar-noise connoisseurs of varying stripes. Matador Records headliners Chavez (featuring ex-members of Live Skull, Bullet LaVolta, and Skunk) have a heavy, fingernails-on-the-blackboard grandeur that's taken me awhile to appreciate on record. But our NYC correspondent Paul Lukas assures us that live, they're the best thing since Glide dental floss, so we'll defer to his judgment. Philadelphia's amazing Bardo Pond, on the other hand, won me over immediately with their Bufo Alvarius, Amen 29:15 (Drunken Fish), a set of heavy, spooky psychedelia with trance grooves that suck you in like a jellyfish and then slowly dissolve your skin. Freddy & the Dreamers and John's Black Dirt open. \$5. First Avenue/7th Street Entry, 701 First Ave., Mpls.; 338-8388. (Hermes)