

s c e n e



The Allman Brothers will be appearing July 29 at the Thomas & Mack Center. Tickets are \$18.50 per.

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By David Wild

(ED. Note; all the albums listed in this review are rated on a five star system)

SEVEN TURNS — The Allman Brothers Band, Epic ET 46144
— 3 1/2 stars (all formats)

Last year the former kings of Southern Rock reunited along with a few new members for an excellent tour that didn't receive the attention it deserved. Now for its first new album in nine years, the Allman Brothers Band has reteamed with producer Tom Dowd — who produced "Eat a Peach" and "Live Fillmore East," among others — with fine results.

Though Greg Allman doesn't contribute much in the writing department this time around, his singing is as soulful as ever on tracks like "Good Clean Fun" and "It Ain't Over Yet." And guitarist Dickey Betts is in top form throughout this bluesy album.

STRAY — Aztec Camera, Sire 1-26211 (all formats) 3 stars

Rodney Frame — the leader of Aztec Camera — has won praise as a songwriter from no less than an authority than Elvis Costello. Yet, the band has never made much of an impression on this side of the Atlantic.

"Stray" may not be the album to change that sorry state of affairs but it's certainly a likeable piece of work. Highlights include "Over My Head," a torchy gem, and "Good Morning Britain," an inspired, hard-rocking collaboration with former Clash leader Mick Jones.

LOFTY'S ROACH SOUFFLE — Harry Connick, Jr., Columbia 46223 (all formats) 3 stars

Connick's good looks and wonderful Sinatraesque crooning on the hit "When Harry Met Sally" soundtrack may have made him a crossover star, but it's as a jazz pianist that he really shines. This straightforward instrumental trio session is Connick's best effort yet. Drummer Shannon Powell and bassist Ben Wolfe both provide excellent backing, and Connick works his keyboard magic on an impressive batch of original compositions.

THE BEST OF BADFINGER, VOL.2 — Badfinger, Rhino R2-70978 3 1/2 stars (all formats)

Don't go looking for Vol. 1 of hits by this underrated '70's pop rock band, because it doesn't exist yet. Most of the group's best known material including "Day After Day," "No Matter What," and "Come and Get It" is tied up in legal problems with Apple, the group's old Beatles-run label. Until those classics come out, this collection of later tracks is a fine reminder that Badfinger was not simply a bunch of Beatles clones, but a wonderful band in its own right.

ON COURSE — Christopher Hollyday, RCA 3087-2-N, 3 stars (all formats)

There's no shortage of talented young jazz traditionalists on the

scene these days, but this 20-year-old alto saxophonist has the chops to stand out from the pack. Heavily influenced by sax greats Charlie Parker and Jackie McLean, Hollyday seems to be on the verge of finding a voice all his own.

Paradise Alley:

Four clubs in one

by Debbie Tubbesing

"Paradise Alley" is the name of Sylvester Stallone's 1978 movie. It is also the name of one of the hottest nightclubs in Las Vegas.

Built over the summer of 1988, Paradise Alley celebrated its grand opening in November of that year. During the last two years, the club has expanded, evolved, and now offers a variety of entertainment to suit the ever-changing tastes of the public.

Last year, Paradise Alley changed its format from all rock to a mixture of rock, top 40, and comedy. It is also a good place to relax.

Sunday is Comedy Night. It is not a duplication of the comedy clubs on the Strip. Instead, the comics are hip and rock oriented. On Tuesday, "The Battle of the Bands" serves as a showcase for local bands and talent. Radio Stations KLUC and KOMP sponsor Wednesday and Thursday nights respectively. There is a four band showcase late night Wednesday through Saturday with different touring bands booked every week.

As part of the ever changing atmosphere, one can find a "different" club at Paradise Alley throughout the day. From the 3p.m. opening to 9p.m., it's a "sports" bar with a game room and relaxed environment. From 9p.m. to around 2a.m., top 40 music is mixed by a DJ. After 2a.m., it's rock and roll and live entertainment. Of course, at 8p.m. on Sundays, it's a comedy club in the coolest sense.

The Paradise Alley building is located at 6390 W. Sahara. The concert phone number is 871-SHOW and the regular number is 362-ROCK. However, be forewarned. This is a place where it is possible to start out in one club, enter another club, and end up in yet another club without ever leaving the building.