

Music Makers

By MIKE KALINA

Baldwin Man RCA's 'Whizz

RCA Records has a lot of faith in a 21-year-old Baldwin musician named David Werner. The company feels, in fact, that Werner "seems destined for recognition as one of the outstanding new recording artists of the mid-70s."

But a serious look at Werner's debut album — "Whizz Kid" — reveals that he has quite a long way to go before he even approaches superstardom. The biggest flaw on the album is the production,



DAVID WERNER
Goes on record.

which ranges from mediocre to puerile. The arrangements are lackluster and stand in the way of Werner's fine singing and equally fine lyrics.

Many may find the material too derivative from the styles of Bowie, Reed and the like, but those who are into the styles of the glitter-rock musicians will probably enjoy "Whizz Kid."

Despite the album's many rough edges, Werner's talent does shine through. His vocal versatility cannot be denied, nor can his songwriting ability; it's unfortunate that both of these assets weren't enclosed in a more impressive vehicle.

Incidentally, another Pittsburgher — Gary Link — played bass on the album.

IF JONI MITCHELL were as pretty as she sounds she'd be a goddess. She has unbelievable control over her voice and she emits the kinds of sounds about which poets write rhyme.

Her concert last Thursday

at the Syria Mosque was a pleasant affair, with Joni doing primarily newer material, rather than relying on hits of her past (this, however, may have disappointed some fans who came to hear her sing tunes with which they were familiar).

I tried to talk to Ms. Mitchell but was told by one of her road managers that she never gives interviews.

"She's been burned in the past," was the reason they gave for her shyness with reporters.

THEY SAY imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, so station 13-Q should be flattered that KQV is calling itself 14-K nowadays.

Very original.

PAPA JOHN CREACH (of Jefferson Airplane fame) lays down some funky fiddle lines and some heavy blues vocals on his new album, "Papa John Creach and Zulu" (Grunt Records).

This is an incredibly strong album with each cut as good as the next — something unique with today's LPs. The arrangements and the material are captivating and help to make this one of the most well rounded rock LPs to be released in quite some time.

Creach, a Beaver Falls native who has been fiddling around for about a half century or so (he's in his 70s), was astute enough to find a backup group as strong as Zulu when he was set to cut

Best-Selling Records

- SINGLES
1. Seasons in Sun Terry Jacks
 2. Rock On David Essex
 3. Spiders and Snakes .. Jim Stafford
 4. You're 16 Ringo Starr
 5. Lord's Prayer..... Sister Janet Mead
 6. Last Kiss Wednesday
 7. Joker Steve Miller
 8. Let Me Be There .. Olivia Newton-John
 9. Junole Boogie .. Kool and Gang
 10. Come and Get Your Love .. Redbone

- ALBUMS
1. Tales from Topographic Oceans Yes
 2. John Denver's Greatest Hits .. John Denver
 3. Planet Waves Bob Dylan
 4. Hotcakes Carly Simon
 5. Joker Steve Miller Band

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