

SHARON GOES BACK TO BASICS

Ten years after her last decent movie, *Casino* – which earned her an Oscar nomination – **Sharon Stone** returns to the role that made her career, playing kinky novelist Catherine Tramell in *Basic Instinct 2: Risk Addiction*.

In **Michael Caton-Jones**'s London-set sequel to **Paul Verhoeven**'s 1992 hit, Tramell is again in trouble with the law, and Scotland Yard enlists top shrink Dr Andrew Glass, played by **David Morrissey**, to evaluate her.

Like detective Nick Curran, played by **Michael Douglas** in the first film, Glass becomes entranced by Tramell and is lured into another seductive game. In real life Morrissey is married to father of analysis Sigmund Freud's great-granddaughter, the novelist Esther Freud, while adding to the project's general kitschness are cameos from **Charlotte Rampling** and, believe it or not, the footballer and thrill-seeking sex addict **Stan Collymore**. In the meantime, Stone turns in a fine performance in **Jim Jarmusch**'s *Broken Flowers*, starring **Bill Murray**, released next month.

HOT NEWS FOR STEVE CARELL

The man who popped his leading-man cherry with *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*, **Steve Carell**, is to star in *Evan Almighty*, conceived as a sequel to **Jim Carrey** vehicle *Bruce Almighty* until Carrey declined to reprise his role as the TV reporter.

Evan will see the rival newsman that Carell played in the first film building an ark in preparation for a great flood, hinted at by the Almighty. Although *Bruce* grossed \$485 million worldwide, Carrey has now turned down every sequel offer since he made a second *Ace Ventura* film in 1995. The suddenly-hot Carell is likely to increase his \$500,000 *Virgin* salary at least tenfold for *Evan*.

Hazzardous workload

Seann William Scott (right), who plays Bo Duke in *The Dukes of Hazzard*, is producing and will star in *Book of Leo*, a comedy about a miserable man who tries to do everything he's ever

