

BLACK DUST TO COVER CLEVELAND

By Michael Perlandri

Black Dust, a new local Rock-N-Roll act, wants to penetrate the local rock circuit and record market, and is preparing a dozen songs to be recorded the later part of the year.

Black Dust is already gaining popularity among the local rock fans, with a reported sell-out at the Entertainer Lounge February 29th. Groups of people, most being young females, were being turned away and the door price was raised. The group has also developed a strong follow-

ing in local high schools where young girls scream and claw at lead singer Scott Sakska.

Ray Kusta, lead guitarist and leader of Black Dust says the group is putting together a visual showcase and discussing the addition of some new wave type visuals and effects. They're also making plans to record some demos with producer Raymond Paris of Accel Recording Studio. The group plans on playing the smaller rock clubs for the time being so the act can support and establish themselves within the local circuit and marketplace. The band feels it can come across with a respectable showcase

with a little bit of support.

A familiar face in the band is that of bassist Ray Conde, who has been a lead singer in other local acts and has studied voice at the Cleveland Institute under Mrs. Violet Weber, who sings and instructs the nationally famed Cleveland Chorus. Conde not only adds nice voice techniques, but puts out a driving bass sound for the group.

Conde isn't the only member with schooling. Lead singer Scott Sakska is studying voice at Valley Forge and drummer Art Carver is being tutored by well-known percussionist, *Jose' Ortiz*, who was seen playing a drum solo and giving Art some coaching at the Entertainment Lounge on February 29th.

Larry Kane, sax player for Wild Cherry, may be sitting in with the group sometime in March.

The next member of Black Dust is Henry Kelm, rhythm guitarist who has his own cheering section following him. Everytime Kelm steps up front and lightman John Verzi puts some lighting effects on him a section of the crowd yells, "Oh Henry!"

Sound effects and dynamics are controlled by Mike Cantino very nicely. Although John Verzi and Mike Cantino play an important part of making Black Dust look and sound good, there are three other crew men that go almost unnoticed. Karry Karr, John Kaizel, and Kevin Walters are the guys behind the lights, sounds, and glamour. They lug all the heavy equipment, they're always pressed for time, fight off jealous boyfriends and party all night with groupies.

It looks and sounds like Black Dust is off on the right track of their new career. Our Gang wishes them the very best of luck.



BLACK DUST - from top left to right: Harry Kelm-Rhythm guitar, Ray Conde-Bass guitar, Ray Kusta-Lead guitar. Seated front: lead singer Scott Sakska. Standing front: Drummer, Art Carver