

To turn on a thousand or more cats, cool or otherwise, requires a thumping good sound and at the JS Splashdown we had three groups with just that. A fourth group entertained one and all at the fair.

THE JS SOUND

APPLE ROCK CONSPIRACY

Philip—lead guitar; Naval—rhythm; Keith—bass; Irwin—percussion; Dinshaw—organ.

They insist on first names only: exception Dinshaw. Influenced by Led Zeppelin, Jethro Tull and Crimson King. Consider Jimi Page of Led Zeppelin and Ian Anderson of Jethro Tull as the leading artistes in the 'acid' scene today.

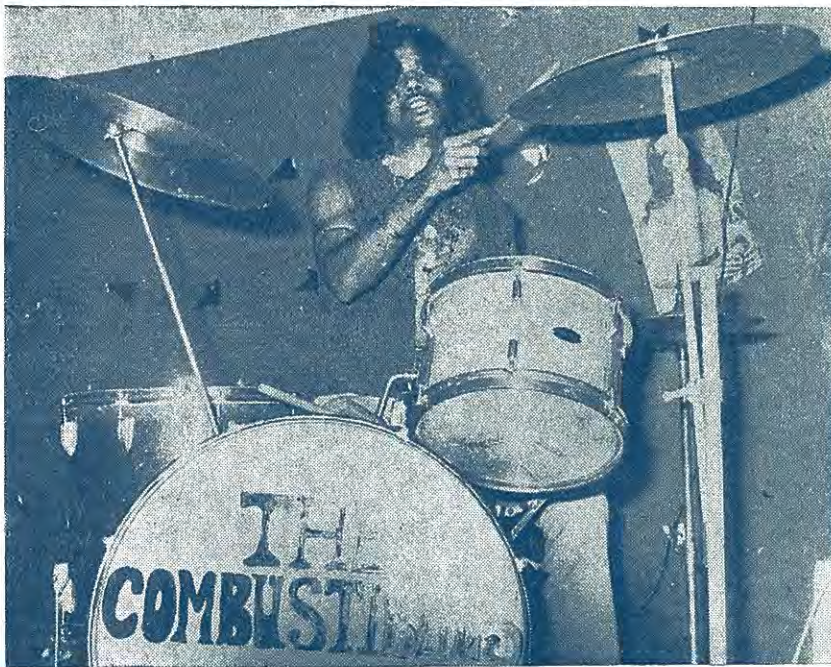
They sadly lack equipment—a comparison with well-equipped Bombay groups, but turn in a good walloping sound. Philip writes and reads music and is considered the best 'acid' lead guitarist in Bombay. Son of a well-known jazz musician, Chick Chocolate, Philip switched from playing with right to left hand when he developed a septic right finger. Irwin is



said Miranda. "Began hiring it, then saving up to buy and now have some Rs. 3,000 invested in high-powered gizmos. Like most Bombay groups, BB take Rs. 350 to Rs. 400 for a night's stand. "Which is till midnight but once we get turned on there's no stop-

"We had very little equipment,"

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Philip's brother. He considers Ginger Baker of Airforce's to be the greatest living pop drummer.

Keith (17) is a way-out improviser who often keeps a number going long enough to tire the group. He constantly switches his bass patterns and has strong things to say about bass guitarists who don't.

BUSY BEES

Allen Valentine (26)—lead guitar; Wayne Bridgenell (17)—bass guitar; Lloyd Dickinson (20)—rhythm; Mario Britto (18)—drums; Ronald Miranda (20)—vocalist.

They have a thing for Creedence Clearwater Revival, Beatles, Sha-



That crazy squatting turned-on figure is JUNGOO GAZDER of the RIOT SQUAD, who could be responsible for the happy pause in FARIDA VAKIL's playing at the JS stall.

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Not a small part of the COMBUSTIBLES heat is generated by BOBBY FURTADO on the drums. The sting in the BUSY BEES is largely in the hip-swivelling, gyrating, vocal, brilliance of RONALD MIRANDA.

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Not all the JS sound was at the Splashdown. Suddenly and unexpectedly there were the APPLE ROCK CONSPIRACY conspiring madly to have everyone who visited the Vanity Fair start dancing.

THE JS SOUND

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ping us." Vocalist Miranda, normally shy, is a wild showman, never still, once turned on.

COMBUSTIBLES

Everett Perry—vocalist; Lionel Taylor—lead guitar; George Taylor—bass; Nissen Ezekiel—rhythm; Bobby Furtado—drums.

Bearded Godfrey Uttanwalla took over as manager in 1967. "I've done a lot of things like interior decor (still do private jobs), flower arrangement and pop painting. There isn't enough in beat music (in India) to keep body and soul together. Nobody does it to make a living yet." Elsewhere, a person like Everett Perry would be making a real name for himself, said Godfrey. "He composes all our numbers. Mostly all our stuff on records now is his. He's got hundreds (of compositions). We've only put down four so far."

The Combustibles demand and get Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 an engagement; earn an average of Rs. 3,500 to Rs. 4,000 a month. We have about Rs. 25,000 worth of equipment and are still subscribing to it, so have to get the money back somehow or we've had it. Take just a while back; we were playing on the Dufferin at one of their shows and one of our Vox amplifiers fell into the sea—it was suddenly down there, 3,000 bucks worth. I managed to fish it out with a barge pole, but it was completely ruined.

Plans? "We hope to go to Bahrein. Hope." Spreading out four LPs for my inspection, he said: "This is the sort of thing we do. We love Creedence Clearwater, also Led Zeppelin. And Jethro Tull and the Cream, as you can see."

"Right now the demand is for more (pop music). We hope to keep going as long as it lasts. There's a limit to getting commercial—one gets sick of doing the usual thing. Get on to acid the likes and no one knows what's happening—well hardly 25%. It's bad. I suppose things will get better when TV comes in, but wonder how long that will be."

We've just done an LP with Polydor. Not named yet, I think 'Live Combustibles' or 'Combustibles Live.' One side our own, the other mostly Creedence and Cream. If you're too way out or too acidish you don't make it here, but the crowd is getting educated. Pop sales are pretty good as far as I know."

RIOT SQUAD

Ramesh Kar (20)—bass and Naresh Kar (20)—rhythm (they are twins); Trilok Gurtu (19)—drums; Jungoo Gazder (19)—vocalist; Burgess Kharsethu (24)—organist; Farida Vakil (19)—lead guitar and vocalist.

The group was started by Perriz Charda in February 1969—he was the drummer, but got so demoralized by the bad notices he had at the time of the last Simla Beat contest, particularly in JS, that he has quit. The Squad is a very popular Bombay group.