



Rock on, Rockets

"Rock and roll is here to stay, it will never die
It was meant to be that way though I don't know why.
We don't care what the people say, rock and roll is
here to stay."

—Danny and the Juniors 1957

In case you've forgotten (or never heard) 1950's rock and roll, Rick and The Rockets have resurrected it for the 70's. The band, wearing white socks and ducktail haircuts, plays songs like "At the Hop", "Lil' Deuce Coup" and "Blue Suede Shoes."

The Rockets began when Kent Atthorpe got a Conoco uniform that had belonged to someone named Rick. Kent rechristened himself Rick Conoco (pronounced Ko-no-ko) and joined with Carl Circo, Tim Hartin and Kent Davy. As their popularity grew they added "Fingers" Starkweather and Tim Sindelar. This year Kyle Davy and "Rosy" rounded out the crew.

"Rosy", their first girl singer, got a standing ovation for her debut rendition of "Norman" and "Tan Shoes and Pink Shoelaces."

Rick proudly noted that each member of the group played an important part in the performance — except one. "Sindelar," Rick sighed, "is so inept that we should get rid of him." "But unfortunately," he cried, "we can't because he owns the piano."

According to Circo the Rockets want "to go back to the days when guys sang of girls and cars and went to the malt shop after school." "We're going to revive that sharp, clean sound," he exclaimed, "that lets you hold hands and fall in love with your girl in the back seat of your hot rod."

Like their heroes — Danny and the Juniors — the Rockets "don't care what the people say" about rock and roll or anything else. They pimp or

make fun of hippies, straights, psychedelic music, their girls, Greeks, freaks, other people's girls, football, their landlord and each other.

"Some Rocket fans think we talk nasty about them too," Rick admitted, "but what do those idiots know?"

The group, who Hartin claims are now "famous



throughout the world and South Dakota" also write some original songs. The theme song was first. It was soon followed by "Blast Off" and "Come Mary, Come." The Rockets say all three will soon be out on the Nosecone label.

Future plans include several dances and probably eviction from their house. Harting said the band would go on a nationwide tour of Kearney and Columbus in the near future. If anyone wants to hire the Rockets for a dance or concert, Rick invites them to call the Police Department for the group's address and phone number.



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