

VICE THE PEOPLE

difficult for a band to
pieces after an important
their personnel decides
had were placed in
/ last year when Beki
e group, and it's taken
s for them to find a
ment, reorganise their
on, rehearse new
about beating the
road back towards

on . . .
he recruitment of Lia to
luties. She's had a range
session singer in Bristol,
he first 'group' line-up of
he's been involved with.
s the decision to bring in
e guitar section. He was
with the road manager
ad's past sorties in the
but has now branched
partnership as co-
Bateman, as well as

the Squad strategy was
l with Anagram, which
hart success with 'Black
That development has
fair share of both
ment, as Sooty

od', as the 'A' side and
n it, but at the last
ompany changed the
idn't consult us, they
ract to us, said that as
tapes they'd go ahead,
ve thought.

leep' as a song, but the
utting out 'New Blood'
tory of Vice Squad, and
ough to get where we

ave admitted, 'Black
ing up radio airplay,
Jensen, for whom the
ecord a session. It has
a more dogmatic kind
reaction on hearing
nd-Table being "Who
ad anyway? Why don't
t music, like George

g play that annoyed
agram press releases
ted Lia as a 16-year-old
a part of the pop
t treat people as 'real',
d doesn't consider the

d date at the Marquee
e year was a case in
that he had been
y to get confirmation
told that the person he
as 'unavailable', so the
he last minute.

ise to all the kids who
says Dave, "but
ut of our control."
ctivities of the band
y've got some healthy
ecord companies and
attracted by the
t appeal Vice Squad
cal direction that Vice



LIA: sweet but not sixteen

Squad had consciously cultivated?

Dave: "A lot of people have been picking up on what you've said in your review and perhaps the potential is there, but we didn't deliberately set out to write songs in that vein. It was more a question of reforming, being in-debt and having to come up with material so we could start paying the bills!"

"So in the end we wrote songs for ourselves, not the American market. If it comes to it we probably won't ever make it to the States again — we probably won't even get as far as Swindon!"

Perhaps the group don't totally appreciate the undoubted attributes they have between themselves. This time I think they've got luck and the right timing of their campaign working very much in their favour. The message is clear and simple, and best expressed by Shane — "come and see us, listen to our records, and make your own minds up."

Likewise the sentiments and ambition which will get Vice Squad where they want to go is direct and to the point.

Sooty: "All of us, as human beings, want it to be 'now or never', because we're not interested in sitting around and saying we could make it in four years time."

Mark: "Basically we've been through all the shit, spent a long time working ourselves to death while we had full-time jobs, so now we want some reward for that effort."

The tune might change, but not the song. May perseverance triumph.

DAVE MASSEY