



"Can you please send me another copy of that C.D., I never get the C.D.'s because the production manager keeps stealing them and selling them for beer money!"  
Jon Weber, Variety editor on the phone to the A&R rep at Warner Bros.

## Blind Melon sees the Vegas lights at Huntridge "it ain't over till the fat lady dances"

By ARIEL  
FUNKY FRESH STAFF WRITER

The Huntridge. Sold out. It doesn't happen very often, but when it does, you'd better believe there's a good reason. And on Sunday night, there was a great reason. None other than Blind Melon made their return visit to Las Vegas. You know the guys. They have that "bee girl" in their video for "No Rain." Well, they packed the house and left hordes of people waiting outside in hopes of gaining entrance.

The evening started off with local band Boris Black who was chosen by Blind Melon themselves to open. Their set was action packed. The vocalist did an amazing impression of an off-balanced pogo-stick as he banged his head up and down

with vengeance. He must have been searching for aspirin after that set. People were jumping on stage to dive into the audience, probably landing on their heads. Someone even flung a bra on stage which was draped over one of their guitars.

Musically, they were pretty good. A lot of guitar, a lot of drum. Basically a rock band just doing their own thing while sounding a bit like Metallica and Van Halen (the old days). If the members of Boris Black are reading this, two questions. Why were you

guys spitting and pouring your drinks into the audience? Didn't you want them to stay in front?

After a short intermission, someone came on stage to say that Blind Melon were on next and asked that everyone remain

They opened their set with a very cool psychedelic song. The purple lighting added to give a haunting effect. Their set included "Sleepyhead" and "Drive" which came with the message "This is a song about being in control of everything you do and having friends around to help you."

As the night progressed, Hoon alternated from acoustic guitar to bongos and tambourine. The Huntridge was sweltering hot. The only relief came when Hoon dumped a bin of water and ice on the hot group. It was a lot of water! Possibly a bit too much.

The encore consisted of a Velvet Underground cover and the long-awaited "No Rain." Hoon started by singing accapella and to a different tune, but the audience immediately caught onto the lyrics and be-

gan screaming. Then the band joined in. Hoon held the microphone out over the audience as they sang the first half of the song. Just then a slightly overweight woman in a bee suit jumped on stage and performed a talentless rendition of the "bee girl's" dance. She was immediately pulled from stage and shown the door. That's right, it wasn't planned!

Hoon was once again mobbed by infatuous females who would not give him a break. He was grabbed and pulled. Poor guy! They could have ended the show there, but played one more song before they exited the stage. The show was very impressive and the audience was happy. It was a very fun night.

*This was supposed to be a picture of Blind Melon on stage at the Huntridge.*

*Unfortunately our idiot photographer John Quinlen was too busy trying to impress his extremely beautiful date and overexposed all of his photos. Another stellar coup for The Yell, good job Quinlen!*

safe, have a good time and stay off the stage. Well, obviously this request fell on deaf ears because many over-frenzied fans tried desperately to hug vocalist Shannon Hoon and dive from the stage.

## Leaders of the New School bring strong vibes to Vegas

By VAEDRA ROSEMAN-SOWERBY  
DOPE STAFF WRITER

L.O.N.S. is back with their recent release, *T.I.M.E. (The Inner Mind's Eye)*. This is an entire collection of some of the most powerful real hip-hop available today. The group, composed of **Busta Rhymes, Charlie Brown, Dinco D, and Milo**, explode with lyrics and beats that only the "Leaders" could generate.

The Leaders of the New School came to Vegas last week as part of a promotional tour for their latest L.P., *T.I.M.E.* In an interview with the group last Wednesday at the Las Vegas Hilton, they explained the philosophy behind the name of the C.D. According to **Busta Rhyme**, "Everything comes from the most concentrated ele-

ment which is the mind. Everything takes time and the only element that is as powerful as time is the mind. Time is infinite. The mind is equally as infinite." This is the basis for *T.I.M.E. (The Inner Mind's Eye)*.

The L.O.N.S. style is known around the country as one of the dopest in the hip-hop world. They have managed to capture that free-style appeal while maintaining a continuous flow of rhymes from one MC to the next. Each one of them writes his own part in the mix and all converge at the choruses to create a final product that sells itself. What you end up with is four different rap styles with one L.O.N.S. purpose. From the infamous rantings and ravings of **Busta's** to the smooth vocals of **Brown** this L.P. is well worth the money.

The first release, "What's Next?," combines traditional hip-hop, dancehall reggae, and even a little harmony to produce a dope mix. The beat is "hittin'" and gets the head bobbin' and the foot tappin'. The extra bass is free of charge and causes this track to groove.

The title track, "Understanding the Inner Mind's Eye," has a cosmic sound that corresponds to the

C.D. cover. In addition to the sound effects, the

hip-hop cuts that make you wanna break into the

East Coast Stomp that the "Leaders" made famous. If you like hip-hop you must check out this C.D. because with tracks as hype as the ones on this release, the shelves at your local music stores will be empty in just a matter of *T.I.M.E.*

Word! Only in the

Variety section can you find out about funk, punk and skunk. Funky Cold Medina, to your mom.



L.O.N.S. strike a pose at the L.V. Hilton. Photo Steve Hobbs/Rebel Stock

lyrics are deep and abstract simultaneously. The result is chill.

The C.D. is jam-packed with some 'dope'