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AMERICA'S ROCK MAGAZINE

# CIRCUS

VOL 27 #1

PUSHING THE LIMITS

Blind Melon's  
SHANNON HOON  
Remembered



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**BY DAN DAVIS**

Like many fans of Blind Melon, I was devastated by the news that lead singer Shannon Hoon left this world.

Hoon, 28, was found dead by his soundman in the

ing from the media how well the Melons were doing; mostly on the strength of their hit "No Rain" from their double platinum plus debut. At the same time I was concerned at the stories of how the ever mischievous Hoon kept getting

one curiously asked me what Shannon was like I always said he was a great guy and a disaster waiting to happen, unfortunately I was right on both counts.

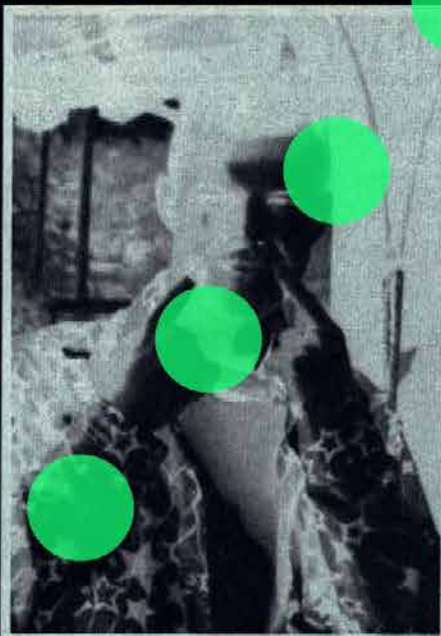
The last time I saw Shannon was at the first show of

## MEMORIES OF SHANNON HOON

band's tour bus in New Orleans on October 21, 1995. Although not officially released by the coroner's office, Hoon reportedly died from an accidental drug overdose and was presumed to be dead for hours before he was discovered. The band ironically was returning to New Orleans for the first time since completing work on *Soup* which was recorded there. Blind Melon was scheduled to perform a show just hours later at Tipitina's, a popular New Orleans nightclub.

I first met Shannon in 1991 when the then newly signed Blind Melon were opening for the band I was tour managing at the time, Law and Order. We quickly became friends as anyone who met Shannon found easy to do. When Blind Melon were asked to open the MTV 120 Minutes Tour with B.A.D., P.I.L., and Live in March of 1992, the band called me up and asked if I would tour manage them.

After the band and I ended our "working" relationship, I took great pride in hear-



**Shannon Hoon 1967 - 1995**

in hot water.

When I interviewed Blind Melon guitarist Rogers Stevens this summer we spoke about and semi-joked about Shannon's vices. After all, they were no secret to any after he checked into rehab earlier this year.

Rogers said Shannon was "clean" and I took great solace in that. Whenever some

the *Soup* tour on September 19th, 1995 in Asbury Park, New Jersey. We made plans to hook up when the band came into New York for a couple of shows. We sat on the same tour bus, near the bunk he died in, and talked about life in general. I told him to take care of himself because I didn't want to hear he died a premature death and have to write his obituary. Once again, I was unfortunately right on both counts.

Shannon is survived by his five month old daughter, Nico Blue Hoon, his girlfriend Lisa Crouse and his mother Nel. A private funeral was held in his hometown of Lafayette, Indiana. Blind Melon had not announced their future plans at press time.

Anyone wishing to contribute to an education fund for Shannon's infant daughter can do so by sending their donations to: Nico Blue Hoon, c/o Shapiro & Company, 9229 Sunset Boulevard., Suite 607, Los Angeles, California, 90069.

I'll miss you Hoondog...

✓✓

