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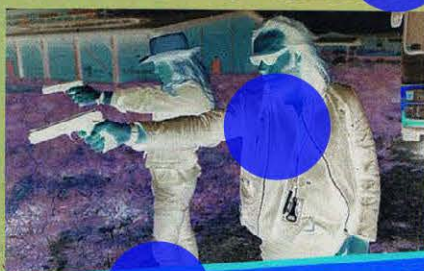
HEAVY METAL HYSTERIA... EVERY WEDNESDAY!

DIAMOND HEAD
TERRORVISION
BLIND MELON
IRON MAIDEN
SKYCLAD
WINGER

72
PAGES!

STEEL CITY HEROES RETURN!
DEF LEPPARD
DOWN FOR A DON VALLEY DUST-UP!

WOLFSBANE
GUNNING FOR GLORY!



THE BANDS
ON METAL'S
CUTTING
EDGE!



12-PAGE
POSTER
PULL-
OUT!



HOME FOR THE BLIND

Blind Melon know why W Axl Rose is mad!

■ **BLIND MELON**, support act to Guns N' Roses at Milton Keynes Bowl, May 29 and 30, release a new EP through Capitol on June 1.

The title-track is 'Tones Of Home', lifted from the nomadic US band's eponymous album. It's backed with three live songs: 'No Rain', 'Drive' and 'Soak The Sin'.

Blind Melon are currently in the middle of a UK tour, which climaxes with the two GN'R shows. The remaining dates are as follows: Glasgow King Tut's May 26, Manchester University May 27, Nottingham

Rock City May 28, Milton Keynes Bowl 29 and 30.

Singer Shannon Hoon contacted Mayhem this week to explain what Blind Melon are all about.

"Blind Melon's a bunch of guys who migrated west to LA in 1989. We were all from different places - Mississippi, Pennsylvania: I'm from Indiana. We met each other through the grapevine, although Brad (Smith, bass) and Rogers (Stevens, guitar) have known each other since they were knee-high to a grasshopper!

Blind Melon have been

crafting their brand of mellow Rock (which "rips everyone off evenly!", according to Hoon) for around 18 months.

"We're not so much of an overnight sensation as people seem to think. A lot of people think it's been easy for us, but there's a lot they don't know. I'm not about to explain it to them!"

The five-piece circulated a crudely-recorded four-track demo, "mainly for friends. We didn't play a lot of LA clubs - the politics aren't worth dealing with".

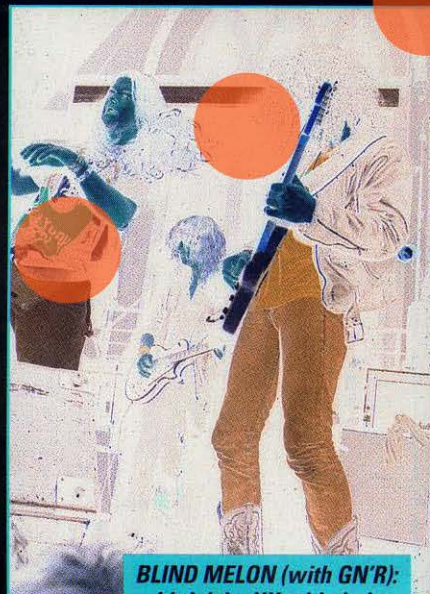
Nevertheless, a deal emerged with Capitol, and here they are supporting the biggest rock 'n' roll band in the world. Haven't they jumped the queue?

"I try to keep all that at arm's length. It congests your head. I'd like to think that people will listen to the music for what it's worth."

How do you get on with Axl?

"We trade smiles!" he chuckles. "But we've been friends for five or six years. He used to live in Indiana..."

Is he mad?



BLIND MELON (with GN'R):
hittin' the UK with their
mellow Rock vibes

"If I had to deal with half the stuff he has to deal with, then I'd be mad! I think everyone would!"

JASON ARNOPP

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAZE! GETTING OLDER BY THE MINUTE...

Claude Schnell, ex-Dio, May 27... Adrian Smith, ex-Iron Maiden, May 27... Scotti Hill of Skid Row, May 31... Steve West of Danger Danger, May 31!