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KONFRONTATIONS

Fk it – we're off! Yup, BLIND MELON singer SHANNON HOON and guitarist ROGERS STEVENS are the first victims ever to walk out on the Big K!'** feared Konfrontations! What pushed 'em over the edge? After all, it's only a bit of fun, guys!

The Walt Disney corporation ask your permission to make a feature-length cartoon detailing the adventures of your Bee Girl mascot. Do you let them?

Rogers Stevens: "I'd do it for the money, sure! We've had offers for the Bee Girl doll and from Raisin Bran, who wanted to use our song 'No Rain'. I'm really glad that we didn't accept any of those offers, so maybe we'd turn down Walt Disney after all."

"But a Felix The Cat-style version of the Bee Girl, where she whored herself out on street corners – that would be interesting!"

MTV are making a documentary on drugs in Rock. They ask you to appear in it, speaking in favour of legalising drugs. Do you do it?

Rogers Stevens: "Yeah. In the words of Gore Vidal, I don't accept the authority of a government that tells me what I can and can't put in my body. That doesn't mean that I'd say drugs are alright for everybody, but I think we should have the choice."

Shannon Hoon: "There are people who can handle drugs, and there are people who can't. I've been in and out of them, and it's made even adapting to everyday reality a real bitch for me. I think that by legalising it you'd be giving the power to the wrong people."

"Would it really make the world a better place? I doubt it. Rather than one city having two bad neighbourhoods where everybody goes, it could possibly make the whole place one big, fat, seedy area altogether."

The mayor of Lafayette, Indiana, decides to award Guns N' Roses frontman Axl Rose the keys to the city. You are asked to present him with the award and to make a speech in his honour. Do you accept the invitation?

Shannon Hoon: "I'd love to do it. We'd share a laugh together. Something like that would never happen, though. What would I say in his honour? I have no idea!"

A leading fashion magazine asks you to model clothes for a feature entitled 'The '90s Hippies'. Would you do it?

Rogers Stevens: "Again, we've been asked to do things like that before and said no."

Shannon Hoon: "We have? You know, I've been wearing the same T-shirts for the past five years – I'm very superstitious about certain clothes – so there'd been no point."

Rogers Stevens: "I try to wear things that I won't be embarrassed about 10 years from now; which means I buy extremely conservative clothes like pants from Wall-Mart and \$13 T-shirts from truck stops."

"See, I was in a Heavy Metal band when I was a kid, and we used to stitch up all of our own clothes – I had polka dots and

satin scarves. I look back on that and I'm like, 'Oh man, I really need to hide the f**king pictures!'"

A leading promoter wants to organise a Punks Vs Hippies concert in the UK. He asks you to co-headline the event with the Manic Street Preachers. Do you do it?

Rogers Stevens: "Actually, when Manic Street Preachers first came to the States we played a show with them at the Limelight in New York. After we'd got done playing, the Manic Street Preachers went on stage and between each song they said things like, 'We wanna thank Blind Melon for being so shit!'."

"So, yeah, I'd love to do it with them again! I'd take my camera along, cos there'd probably be lots of violence. The Punks beating up on the hippies, and the hippies saying, 'Hey, just love each other!'"

Shannon Hoon: "You know, I hate the word 'hippy', because I hate a lot of people and hippies don't do that. It's amazing what a few flowers will do for someone's reputation."

A women's magazine offers you a substantial sum of money to recreate your infamous naked Rolling Stone cover pose for their readers. Do you do it?

Shannon Hoon: "I pretty much show my ass all the time, so I guess one more time wouldn't hurt! Maybe I could use it to pay off all the lawyers from all the other times."

Just before you support the Rolling Stones in the US, you are told by their management that you must address Mick Jagger as Mr Jagger. What is your response?

Rogers Stevens: "Well, seeing as he's old enough to be my Grandpa and I respect my elders, I'd call him Mr Jagger of my own accord. As a matter of fact, I'd call him Grandpa Jagger if it'd help!"

President Clinton asks you if he can play saxophone onstage with the band the next time you're in Washington DC. Do you let him?

Rogers Stevens: "Yeah, I'd let him do it. While he was playing, I could stand there and make obscene gestures behind his back!"

Shannon Hoon: "You know, man, to be honest, I have better things to do than sit here and answer these f**king stupid questions! Please don't take offence, but I'm really gonna have to excuse myself. This has been kinda like getting up and eating a f**king sock for breakfast!"

**ROGERS STEVENS and SHANNON HOON
walked out on PAUL REES!**