

listen to me

If I've said it once, I've said it a million times: Two brothers in the same band is a recipe for success. I have a feeling Vancouver psychedelic rockers Welkin are going to keep the streak alive.

Formed in 2001 and featuring Geoff Birch on vocals and guitar, Darren Birch on drums, bassist Jeff Powell and Chris Janz on organ, Welkin deliver the kind of imaginative, deep and textured rock that is the perfect soundtrack for dreams of storming the castle, surfing that endless summer wave or simply sitting stoned alone in your backyard. (Or, if you live in a condo, stoned alone on the patio. But you'd better burn some incense if you don't want any trouble at the next strata meeting.)

Sure, lots of bands make reference to the green (not money, the other green), but most of the time it is nothing more than an attempt at undeserved street cred. What those bands don't understand is there is nothing that edgy about weed in a town where



- submitted photo

Name: Welkin **Profession:** Musicians **Hometown:** Vancouver

most of us can score pretty much everywhere from the paperboy to the pizza guy. But Welkin genuinely seem to have their finger on the sedated pulse of the stoner rock culture. Granted, these guys aren't here to rock us out like Fu Manchu or Sabbath; Welkin want to take us on a much mellower trip, somewhere along the lines of Wilco or

Blind Faith.

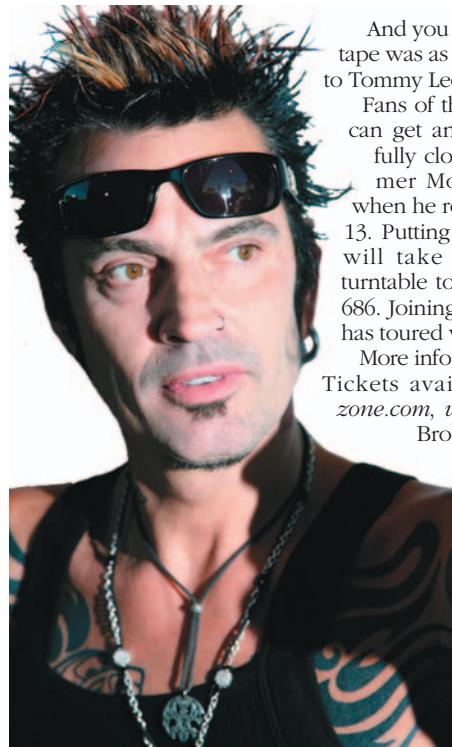
Nowhere is this more evident than on their latest effort, *Strangers & Exiles*. The follow-up to their highly acclaimed debut, *No Ordinary Elephant*, *Strangers & Exiles* is a spellbinding release with the power to take the listeners up, bring them down, set their minds free and, quite frankly, have them run-

ning to the 7-Eleven at 3 a.m. for a bean and cheese burrito and a Big Turk. It's an album well worth checking out. But you might want to call your paperboy first, if you know what I'm saying.

Come storm the castle with Welkin tonight, Nov. 30, at the Backstage Lounge, 8pm.

- R.C. Joseph, 24 hours

A taste of Tommy



And you thought a certain VHS tape was as up close and personal to Tommy Lee as it could get.

Fans of the legendary bad boy can get an even closer, though fully clothed, peek at the former Motley Crue drummer when he rolls into town on Dec. 13. Putting down his sticks, Lee will take a spin behind the turntable to DJ a live set at Club 686. Joining him is DJ Aero, who has toured with Lee since 1999.

More info at www.club686.com. Tickets available at www.clubzone.com, www.clubvibes.com or Brooklyn Clothing.

- 24 hours news services

- Getty
Legendary rocker Tommy Lee will spin the discs at Club 686 on Dec. 13.



- 24 hours news services

The Beatles are back on the top of the charts with a remastered CD.

The Beatles hit No. 1

It seems Beatlemania is still alive and well in Canada, as the Fab Four's latest compilation *LOVE* hit the top spot in the land this week.

LOVE, which remixes and remasters 26 of the group's songs, debuted at No. 1 with sales of 34,000

copies, according to figures compiled by Nielsen SoundScan.

It marks the second first-place debut for the Liverpool legends in the SoundScan era. The compilation *Beatles 1* checked in at No. 1 back in November of 2000 with sales of 54,000.

- Jam Music



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