

TOMMY LEE GETS SCHOOLED

UBER-ROCK STAR LEARNS THE FINER POINTS OF CHEMISTRY

by Bryan Borzykowski

At every college, on every campus, there are students who dream of being in a rock band. It's rare to find a rock star dreaming of being a student, but this past summer Motley Crue drummer and all around famous dude Tommy Lee craved the college life. And who could fault the high school dropout for trying something new? His show *Tommy Lee Goes To College* saw him cavorting with hot girls, throwing wild parties and jamming with his roommate — um, OK, maybe this wasn't as new an experience as Lee might have hoped for, but he still managed to learn a thing or two.

Chart caught up with Lee on his summer vacation — during his Motley Crue world tour. Now that Lee's educated, it was all white wine and Verve tunes backstage, but fortunately, he hasn't turned his nose up to the common man.

For those who want to find out if Lee spent seven minutes in heaven with his hottie tutor or if he's taken his new knowledge of chemistry on the road, read on — Tommy's given us the dirt on his real college experience.

Chart: Why do a reality TV show like this? Why not have people follow you around at home like everyone else does these days?

Tommy Lee: I hate calling it a reality show, 'cause my show is almost semi-scripted. We'd set up scenarios like, "OK today you're gonna go in and meet the chancellor" and I'd go in and freestyle it like whatever we got, we got. "Today we're gonna go try out for the women's swim team," "today we're gonna go try out for the marching band."

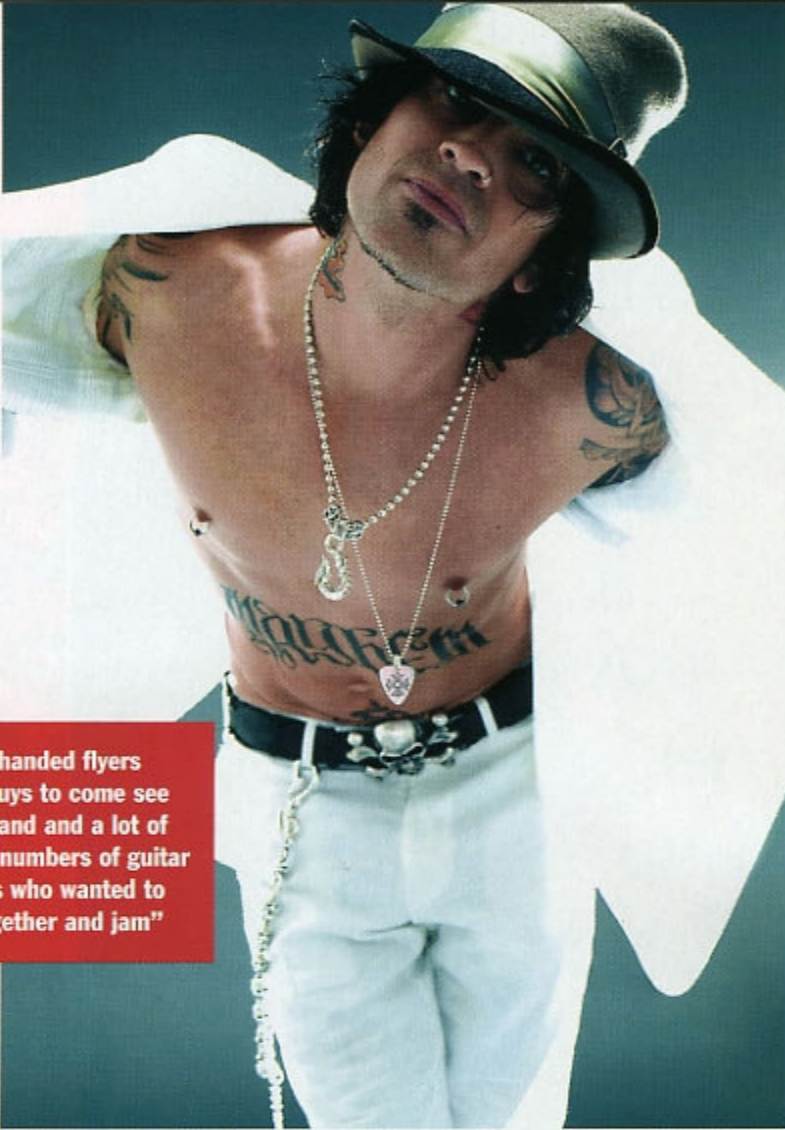
There's a big part of me that feels like I just got a little robbed of the college experience. I never had the opportunity to go. I was making records and touring the world non-stop. So when I first heard about the idea, I thought it would be kinda cool... I wanted to go check that out. And plus go make a fun, retarded TV show. Once Lincoln, Nebraska came on the map, I thought this was genius. This is Middle America, this will be the biggest fish-out-of-water ever. The chancellor and Dave from admin were the only two people who knew I was coming, so basically we just bum-rushed the place and people were freaking out.

Botany and Chemistry were a couple of your classes. Are you putting your newfound knowledge of chemicals to good use on the road?

[Laughs] Chemistry was hard! I had this whole vision of what it would be and it was nothing like I imagined. I'm just sitting there looking at the blackboard and not getting anything, 'cause I think I'm in too deep. I didn't think I could do it.

So you're not taking a homemade lab with you around the country?

No. The whole semester I was there I was in the lab once. I



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was in my Horticulture class and you start to get friendly with people and one guy was like, "Tommy, what other classes are you taking?" and I told him Chemistry and he told me, "Dude, run. What is wrong with you?! Fucking chemistry, are you out of your mind?" Little did I know it was going to be a fucking disaster.

Every college kid wants to start a band. Did you start a band?

[Laughs] No, but I got handed flyers from guys to come see their band and a lot of phone numbers of guitar players who wanted to get together and jam.

There was no jamming at all?

Well, my roommate played guitar so we jammed and in the final episode of the show, we had this crazy jam, me and this buddy of mine were DJing and I get on the mic and we did a version of the Beastie Boys' "You Gotta Fight" with 30 drummers, all the drum line. We had big crazy beats and Matt [Lee's roommate] played guitar.

Besides being in a band, every student wants to sleep with their tutor. Did you want to?

Umm, yeah! She's really sweet, really smart, like scary smart. She's going to medical school now.

Did Natalie [the tutor] try and put the moves on you?

I can't say. [Laughs] I can't. We'll leave that to the reader's imagination.

What was the ratio between Playstation time and studying time?

The ratio started to change toward exam time.

To Playstation?

No, to studying. It's like, "Oh, I better get this together." I truly did want to do well.

You have three-and-a-half semesters left until you graduate. Are we going to see *Tommy Lee Goes To College: Semester 2*?

I don't think we're gonna do college again. We've done that so we're onto some other crazy shit. **C**