

Wedding Banned

A modern wedding fix

By **Rebecca Waterloo**
A&E EDITOR

"Skip the ceremony and start the party!" That may be the motive for some people who go to weddings. For those who only care to party, they would have been happy if they came across the Cubby Bear venue on Saturday night (kiddy corner from Wrigley Field itself). Wedding Banned is an experience, a show, a concert, an event that is unforgettable. Starting at 10 p.m., six charismatic musicians came out dressed in 80's costumes. The lead male vocalist, Vinnie Van Action, dressed similar to an Elvis impersonator, explained to the crowd that he "just wants to have sex tonight".

The band only does covers of your favorite 80's 90's and modern rock music, opening the act with "My Own Worst Enemy" by Lit. Front woman Linda Ballenstein ("But you can call me Balls") came out dressed in a conservative 50's dress with her hair tied back and thick glasses framing her face. This look was just a decoy as her short curly hair fell out and she stripped off the costume to a skimpy ze-

bra printed dress as the night progressed. Her vocals were spectacular for her first cover "Hit Me With Your Best Shot".

Wedding Banned kept up the vulgarity all night with their innuendos, foul language, and the fact that they were there to get wasted with the crowd and provide some entertainment. The band put on an act, asking two audience members to play bride and groom (or "bride" and "bride" on Saturday) to keep the wedding act up throughout the night. This included a throwing of the bouquet and garter. Most of the show, however, was song after song of young people dancing to their favorite wedding reception tunes. Some of the songs included Sex on Fire, You Give Love a Bad Name, Under Pressure, Don't Stop Believing, Baby Got Back, Rock & Roll All Night, One Way or Another, Hey Mickey... All of the favorites from the last couple of decades.

Wedding Banned is the biggest party in the Midwest and for a small cover charge, it gives you that wedding night fix you've been itching to have sans the boring booze fest and expensive gift giving.



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