

Resurrection

Alter Bridge's Brian Marshall follows a new creed

I T'S BEEN four years since Brian Marshall was unceremoniously dismissed from Creed, who were then the biggest rock band on the planet. But based on the early buzz and Top-10 success of Alter Bridge's massive-sounding first single, "Open Your Eyes," his new band with former Creed members Mark Tremonti (guitar) and Scott Phillips (drums) just may be Round Two of rock superstardom for the subdued bassist.

This time around, though, Marshall plans to do things a little differently. "I'm going to bathe in it a little bit and smile a lot more," he says, in a quiet southern drawl. "Because this is what I really love to do."

After the bassist's departure from Creed, which was due to "irreconcilable differences" between him and singer Scott Stapp, Marshall took some time off from playing music to clear his head. But he gradually found his way back to his calling, playing anywhere he could, even jamming on Skynyrd tunes with local bands. Eventually, he put his own band together, built a home studio and recorded some tunes. Then came the call. "It felt good to hear Mark's voice again," recalls Marshall. "I felt like it had all come full circle. It says a lot for those guys to want me to come back and play with them."

Tremonti had written many of the bass lines for *One Day Remains* (Wind-up) before Marshall was invited to join Alter Bridge, but the bassist had his fair share of creative input on the record and quickly fell into step with his former band mates. "You know how when you're away from home for a while, and when you come home, there's that familiar smell?" the bassist asks. "That's what it was like to play with these guys again. It just felt natural." —**MICHAEL MUELLER**

BOOMBOX

BASSES Sadowsky four- and five-strings, tuned to C and Bb.

AMP Mesa/Boogie M-Pulse 600 and Ampeg 8x10 cabs

STRINGS Dean Markley (medium)

