

Teen Outlook

Rockin' with Van Halen and company



GDHS

By **Jamie Harrison**

Hi, I'm back for yet another summer relating to the youth of the community through the medium of print.

So, to get things rolling, I thought I might tell you, the good reader, how I spent my first day of "freedom" from the drudgery of school work.

On Friday, June 17, after I had completed my one and only exam, I found myself aboard a bus as it hurtled towards the Silverdome in Pontiac, Michigan (a suburb of beautiful metropolitan Detroit), in order to experience what has been billed, "the greatest rock 'n roll extravaganza of the 80's". To clarify: Van Halen's Monsters of Rock Tour.

This incredible nine-hour spectacular featured five of the most popular acts in rock today, Kingdom Come, Metallica, Dokken, Scorpions, and, of course, Van Halen.

Here is a brief critique of the show:

Kingdom Come: N/A, due to a lengthy period spent at US Customs, I missed the opening act, however, upon asking others what their opinion(s) were of these relative newcomers to the rock scene, opi-

nions were widely varied.

Metallica: As far as I was concerned, they were too loud and too fast for their limited skills. Fans of the band will tell you that it was a great performance by one of the best premier bands (after all, I should know, I was sitting next to a diehard fan).

Dokken: Boring... that's about the nicest thing you can say.

Scorpions: The triumphant return of the Scorps to the rock scene after a four-year hiatus. They almost stole the show from Van Halen, playing their old faves as well as some new songs to the frenzied crowd.

Van Halen: The new album, *OU812*, proves that the "new" Van Halen (with Sammy Hagar replacing David Lee Roth) is no flash in the pan. Van Halen in concert is a testimonial to this fact. With a giant stage, an even bigger stage show, and non-stop energy, Sammy and Eddie proved they were the team to beat, jammin' out both old and new Van Halen tunes, some of Sammy's great stuff from his solo career, as well as a cover song or two.

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