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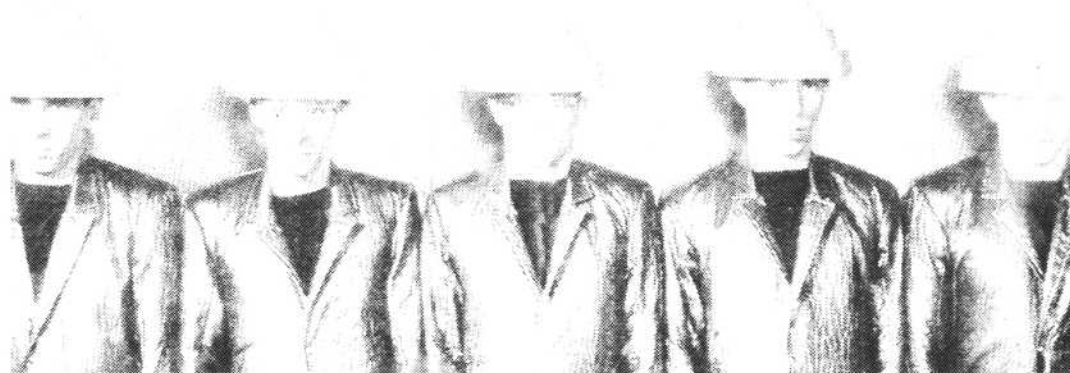
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Summer Edition

Summer concerts mean big names, lineups, ticket prices



BY JEFF RANDALL
Senior Editor

When it's 100-plus degrees outside, the sun is beating down like a crazed LAPD officer and the humidity makes the air feel like a suffocating blanket, most people would think staying indoors would be the best option.

They would be wrong, because only during the summer — when such weather conditions are frequent — does the opportunity arise to head out for the all-American rite of passage known as the festival concert.

And this summer is no different, with established festivals such as the Lollapalooza and H.O.R.D.E. tours making their way through the Midwest, along with lesser known groupings such as the Warped Tour.

For fans of and bands performing the music formerly known as alternative, the premier tour of the summer is most often Lollapalooza. This year, after 1996's criticized metal-heavy lineup, the tour seems to be getting back to its eclectic roots.

This year's tour is headlined by platinum-selling rapper Snoop Doggy Dogg, whose solo debut "Doggystyle" became one of rap music's all-time sellers. His sophomore effort, "Tha Doggfather," couldn't repeat that success, but Dogg's following is still considerable.

But even the lanky belligerence of Snoop Doggy Dogg may be challenged by the reunion of Devo, who are making their return to the stage on select dates on the tour.

Other acts adding to the mixed madness of Lollapalooza this year include Tricky, Julian and Damian Marley, the Prodigy and James. And just in case you thought the hard and

heavy was totally eliminated at Lollapalooza, KorN and Tool will play, too.

Lollapalooza '97 will hit the Midwest in late July, with dates at Chicago (July 25), Kansas City (July 30) and St. Louis (July 30) coming the closest to Lincoln.

Another festival tour with a smaller audience than Lollapalooza but an equally strong lineup is the H.O.R.D.E. Festival. Even with the loss of one-time headliners Widespread Panic, this tour looks to be a highlight of the summer. Neil Young and Crazy Horse will provide the token classic rock flavor, with part-time tour member Beck providing a glimpse into what may be the future of American pop music. Other acts include Big Head Todd and the Monsters, Primus, Morphine and the Squirrel Nut Zippers.

The H.O.R.D.E. Festival will approach the Midwest in late July, as well, with dates in Englewood, Colo. (July 20) and St. Louis (July 23).

On a different note, the Warped Tour will bring a mix of music and sports to towns all over the country, but not Lincoln. The tour will cruise through Denver (July 13), Lawrence, Kansas, (July 15), Minneapolis (July 17) and Chicago (July 18). This particular tour has an ever-changing lineup, so exact acts are not yet selected for these dates, although the tour has promised such main-stagers as the Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Social Distortion, Pennywise, the Descendents, Sick of it All and the Royal Crown Revue. So pack your bags, grease up your earplugs and get ready to fry in the midday sun; because in the age of MTV, millions of radio stations and portable music, at least the concert pilgrimage is still among rock's surviving traditions. May it never die.



COURTESY PHOTOS

THIS YEAR'S LOLLAPALOOZA tour will feature, among others, (from top to bottom) reunited '80s heroes Devo, multi-platinum-selling rapper Snoop Doggy Dogg and the British musician who helped bring trip-hop to American ears, Tricky.