

FLYING SOLO

Post-Halen Hagar touches down in Lincoln

BY GERRY BELTZ
Assignment Reporter

Even though Sammy Hagar can go way above 55 in Nebraska, he'll be slowing down long enough to stop in Lincoln to rock the roof off Pershing Auditorium, 226 Centennial Mall South, at 8 tonight.

Supporting his latest solo release, "Marching To Mars," Hagar's career spans more than two decades and more than a dozen solo releases, including "V.O.A.," "Three Lock Box" and "Standing Hampton." All achieved platinum or multi-platinum status and brought out two of Hagar's signature, crowd-pleasing hits "Your Love is Driving Me Crazy" and "I Can't Drive 55."

Hagar also added his hard-edged vocal and instrumental sound to several hit movie soundtracks, including "Footloose," "Vision Quest" and the title tracks to "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" and "Heavy Metal."

In 1985, Eddie Van Halen invited Hagar to take over the front spot of Van Halen, formerly held by David Lee Roth. With Hagar, Van Halen recorded its first No. 1 album "5150," which featured such hits as "Why Can't This Be Love," "Dreams" and "Best of Both Worlds."

Over the 10-year tenure Hagar was with Van Halen, all the band's releases hit platinum or multi-platinum status, including "OU812," the Grammy-winning "For Unlawful Carnal Knowledge" (featuring the smash hits "Right Now" and "Poundcake") and "Balance."

Sammy Hagar left Van Halen in June 1996 and began work on "Marching To Mars" two months after that.

Also, unlike his previous days of arena rock, he is limiting the earlier part of his current tour to smaller venues that hold about 2,000 to 3,000 people.

All seats are reserved, and tickets for the concert are available through Pershing's box office and all Ticketmaster locations for \$20.25. Call (402) 441-7500 for more information.

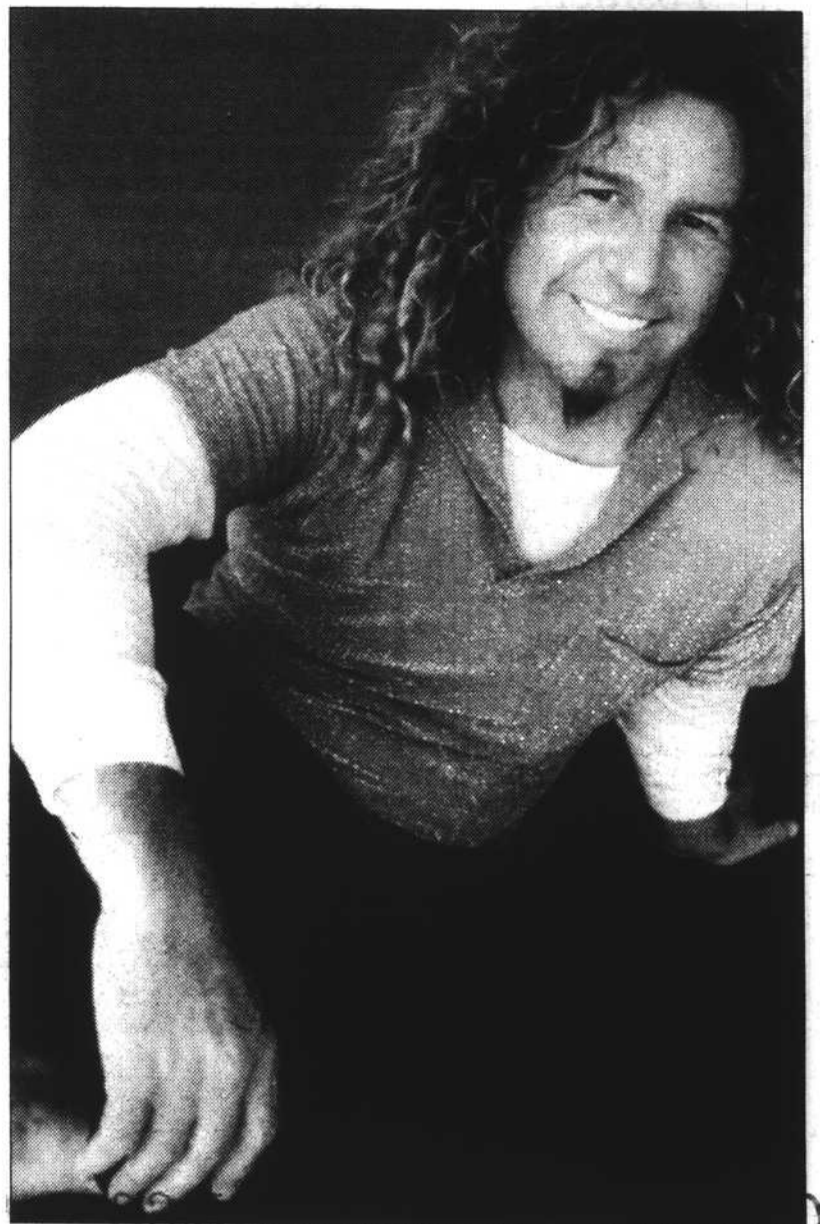


PHOTO COURTESY OF TRACK FACTORY/MCA
ELEVEN YEARS AFTER his last solo album, Sammy Hagar again rocks it lone-style with his new album, "Marching To Mars." Hagar performs tonight at Pershing Auditorium in support of the release.

Escort services, rockers deliver goods

BY BRET SCHULTE
Senior Reporter

Only in Nebraska does it make perfect sense that Sammy Hagar believes the color red is something to sing about.

The "Red Rucker" (declared such because of his affinity for the color) may seem a little pink in the blood-red Husker state, which has nearly created a civilian's uniform from the color.

Probably the best substitute for a football game that can be found, Hagar will bring his guitar and adorably dirty hard-rock locks to Pershing Auditorium tonight. In all fairness, Hagar is an exceptional good-time guy, and his show will flash with all the glitter and fog that ultimately defined heavy metal.

With Hagar absorbing most of the community's drinking population

(those who were old enough to own a tape deck in the early '80s), the rest of the city is struggling for entertainment alternatives.

Cheerleaders Sports Bar, 5560 S. 48th St., is welcoming back sumo wrestling after about a three-year hiatus, said manager John Caporale. Although it's an ancient and respected Japanese contest of weight, size and stamina, Americans have added their own little touches: inflatable suits and, usually, beer. The sumo wrestling will be offered between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. and is sponsored by Miller Lite. Four-dollar pitchers and \$1 "pounders" (16-ounce draughts) are offered during the wrestling contests. The evening will continue with classic rock cover band The Wheezetones (not a reference to their lead singer), which begins playing its \$3 show at 9 p.m. Cheerleaders is a Lincoln hot spot for "all types of dancing," Caporale said. Moshing is

discouraged.

Monday's Modern English show at Knickerbockers, 901 O St., may get started a few days earlier with warm-up band Carolyn's Mother. The Denver alterna-pop crew has long dodged Modern English comparisons and instead opted for U2. (Oasis already snatched up The Beatles). This regionally acclaimed group plays an entertaining and lively mix of pop rock and headlines tonight for local phoenix rock group Oil, resurrected from the ashes of revered Lincoln group No Left Stone. Inchoate local group China Digs will be taking another shot at their country-rock target on Saturday night, opening for bob, who likes the Jayhawks quite a bit and receives quite a few comparisons to the roots rockers. All shows this weekend are \$3 and begin at about 10 p.m.

If the prospect of dealing with misplaced Husker fans or excited 21-

year-olds — their fresh ID cards in tow — isn't enticing, there is plenty to keep you entertained at home.

Although rarely employed by college students (who usually can't afford to buy their dates bottled beer), escort services are a guaranteed, but costly, good time. However, getting an escort can be just as difficult as getting that snotty English major girl in class — most calls sent to escort services went to either voice mail or empty lines. Fortunately, a (brief) response was received from A Class Act: \$155 an hour, and only females are offered. Other inquiries were ignored or rejected, but at \$155 an hour, you'd better get a lot of attention.

One false shot landed at A+ Nightlife Entertainment, which the owner quickly clarified was not an agency for "strippers or escorts." Although he gets those calls (usually after midnight) more often than not,

owner Mike Kaiser is making a clean living providing a disc jockey service. He says A+ Entertainment provides music for house parties, receptions and fraternities. Although his schedule is busy, Kaiser says he has slots open this weekend for anybody interested in having a party.

He says his equipment is all top of the line, including several disco balls, mirror balls, fog machines and, recently, an aural (mispronounced "oral") exciter.

Although it sounds like an appliance, Kaiser says it is a complex electronic system to control and tighten the stereo's subwoofers. Kaiser said parties get violent sometimes — but not because of the music.

"I've seen a groom punch out his groomsman one time," he said. "(Friends of the couple) want everybody there to know 'I'm their best friend' or 'I put them together.' They all get jealous of that."

Rage-filled video compilation deviates satisfyingly

BY PATRICK MINER
Music Critic

With Spice Girls, Hanson and Metallica coming out with new records and videos to catch the holiday buck, it's only logical Rage Against The Machine would come out with a video, "Rage Against The Machine: Home Video," of its own Nov. 25, just before the Christmas shopping season begins. Hey, we all have to sell out a little.

But Rage Against The Machine, as nonconformist as it is, proves to stay away from the norm of compilation videos. There are no interview or backstage fillers here, only non-stop live and music videos fill the entire 78 minutes. A CD single featuring a studio version of "The Ghost of Tom Joad" will be packaged with the compilation video as well.

The video kicks off with "Joad," a remake of the Bruce Springsteen hit. Filmed at the band's September performance in Irvine, Calif., the song

is one of the more subtly inspiring songs here. The verses are intensely spoken by lead singer Zack De La Rocha, and a jam session features bassist Tim Bob and guitarist Tom Morello.

The band then flows right into "Vietnow," from its second release, "Evil Empire." The concert footage from then on blends songs from the band's first two albums. "People of the Sun," "Bulls On Parade" and "Bullet In The Head" and the slower B-side "Zapata's Blood" are filmed

in front of 50,000 people at the '96 Rock Am Ring Festival in Germany. The ever spectacular "Killing In The Name" is shown live from the '94 Pink Pop Festival in the Netherlands.

The best portion of these live songs is the triplet of "Know Your Enemy," "Bombtrack" and "Tire Me." Filmed at the '96 Reading Festival in England, Morello sported a 102-degree fever, yet disguised the problem by playing guitar with his usual, but exceptional, dramatics in front of 60,000 of his closest friends.

The crowd singing along to "Know Your Enemy" and "Bombtrack" instantly grabs your attention, and De La Rocha's schizophrenic vocals in "Tire Me" are a sight to see.

The second half of the compilation is video clips of six Rage Against The Machine tracks. The segment begins with the uncensored version of "Killing In The Name," directed by Peter Gideon. Using

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