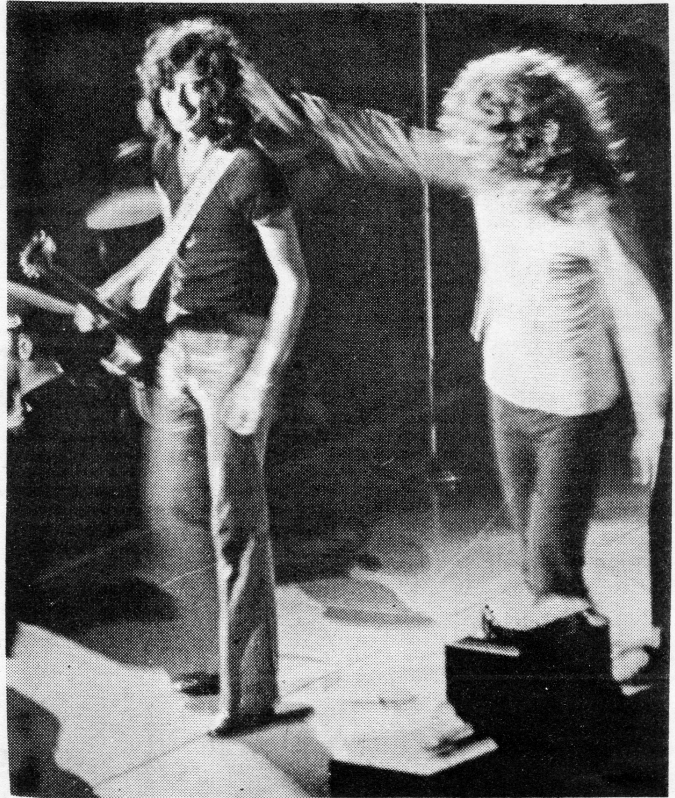


LED ZEPPELIN

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home



Joking with the audience

and shaking his long, blond curly locks. Gyrating and dancing, he creates chaos and awe in the audience. Occasionally he and guitarist Jimmy Page will laugh about something, which sends Plant twitching around the stage like a madman. His voice, too, is phenomenal. Plant is rumored to be able to reach notes only dogs can hear, which seems quite possible. His voice ranges from a low, rich tone to a howling screech.

Jimmy Page was in very good form, and showed it in his solo. He started out with an unfamiliar melody, used a violin bow to produce some good sound effects, and slid into Black Mountain Side, which brought a round of applause from the audience. John Bonham also took the spotlight on drums, and for about twenty minutes did some great work.

The solo started out as Moby Dick, and after fifteen minutes became a solo done with his hands. This was perhaps the most successful part, and brought the audience to its feet.

A wailing Plant

brought crowd to its feet

Unfortunately, the Met Sports Center is no Guthrie Theatre. Led Zeppelin at the Guthrie last May was much more exciting than this concert. This is due to many things including the sound system, and especially the atmosphere. The acoustics of the Guthrie are perfect for concerts, whereas it takes a long time to arrange a decent PA system at a place the size of the Met. The audience, being so large and far away from the performers, can't really feel any closeness with the band and the rest of the audience as can be done in the Guthrie.

by Debble Bell

Led Zeppelin has changed since last May, too. They seem to be geared to large auditorium shows now, and are flashier than they were last year. Judging from their performance at the Met, they seem to like playing hard rock better than the I Can't Quit You Baby and You Shook Me blues they used to do. Unfortunately, hit records and Top 40 radio do these things to good groups.

They finished with a shortened version of Whole Lotta Love and got a standing ovation from the wild audience. Called back on, they did Communication Breakdown, and left. At twelve o'clock the concert was over. Reluctantly, everyone left, agreeing that it was an impressive concert.

Photos by Bob Christensen

Sunday night was the test for Led Zeppelin. And according to the audience at the Met Sports Center they passed it.

Any group that can play in a hall the size of the Met Sports Center and produce some good music has to be pretty good. Led Zeppelin managed, and kept the audience rocking for almost two hours.

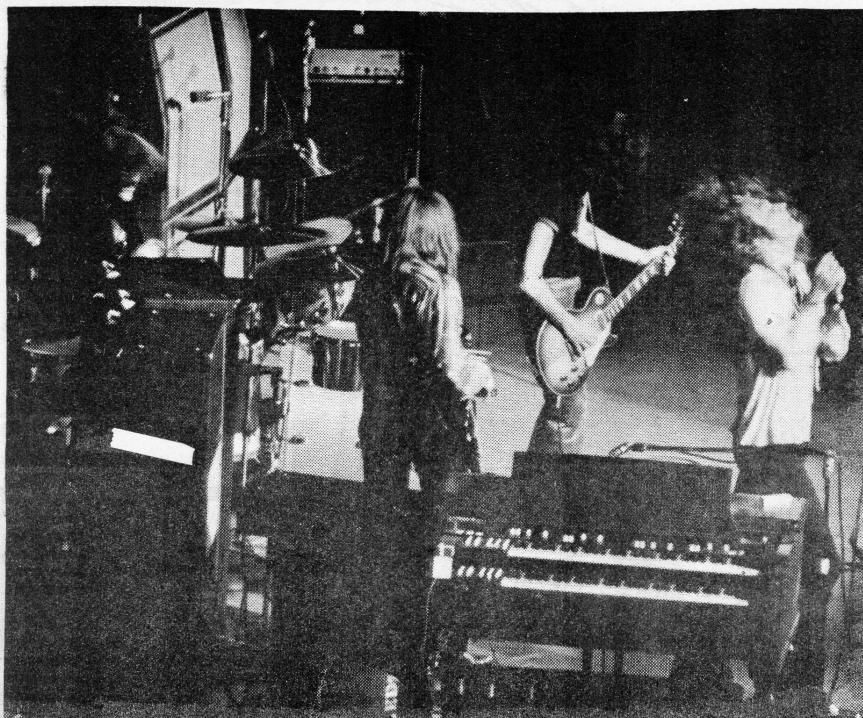
The concert, originally scheduled for 7:30, was moved to 9:00 because of the Northstars game played there earlier. But as most concerts go, things got started a little late. Finally at 10:20 they plugged in and played.

The stage, situated on one end of the rink, had been buzzing for hours before the show. The equipment managers and sound men kept having problems with the organ and microphones, and these five or so people ran around the stage for a couple of hours, hauling in equipment, fiddling with wires, and testing microphones. Occasionally John Bonham, drummer, would come onstage and check on things, and bassist-organist John Paul Jones would try to help with the organ. Vocalist Robert Plant also strolled around

the stage area, talking and joking with fans, equipment managers, and important people while a lucky photographer got a few shots of him.

At last everything was ready, and the show began. Instant cheers as the lights were turned off, the spotlights on, and the four musicians mounted the stage. They open and with a new number, then played Dazed and Confused, and Plant wailed into a microphone that didn't work. Something was also wrong with the amplifiers, but they made it through the song. Plant and Jones, shaking fists at the sound men, got their problems solved and moved into Heartbreaker. By this time things were really going, and the audience surged toward the stage to get a better look.

Watching Robert Plant is quite an experience. He thrashes around the stage, wailing and shimmying



Robert Plant belts it