

**96.9 THE EAGLE'S 'MOCK ROCK' FESTIVAL
30 JULY 2005**

PHOTOGRAPHER'S NOTES

(A few random thoughts on the event)

Highest praise goes to those who organized the event. Tom Huiskens produced the show together with Lizann Hunt at 96.9 The Eagle. The concert was organized very well, the venue is gorgeous, and the crowd was highly enthusiastic the entire day. Security did a great job, and for the most part the crowd was not troublesome.

But the impact of Mark and Brian on such an event cannot be underestimated. They promoted the show generously on their program, even interviewing some band members prior to the event. As a result, the show sold out completely, and some folks were turned away. M&B gave the show a great sense of continuity. In the hands of lesser radio talent, such appearances can really suck the air out of an event, but M&B were funny and congenial, kept the pace up and made everyone a part of their good time.

I arrived at 1130a and shot some of the set up and sound check. Tedious, but worth the time it took because the sound was great. These guys in the tribute bands were all present to see that everything was set up just right; no luxury of full road crews taking charge while the musicians sit drinking poolside all afternoon.

Hotel California went up first. The audience was roaring enthusiastically (as they would for the entire show). HC looked and sounded great. They played a great set and touched on all the Eagles' musical eras. Impressive!

Sticky Fingers took the stage with perhaps as much bravado as the real thing. The set list was an extraordinarily well paced selection of Stones. The Mick and Keef harmonies were right on target: slightly off and high energy. Again, impressive!

Zepagain roared to life and, along with the setting sun, gave the crowd new life. The entire set was given ample fury. All four members played to the crowd. Swan's vocals filled the stadium. I've never heard them better.

Which One's Pink? was on fire; their set was a great combination of material from many of Floyd's finest Waters' era work. The audience literally drowned the band out on 'Another Brick In The Wall': "We don't need no education!" The band was just fantastic, that is really what I think.

All four bands were at the top of their game. The size of the crowd and their response had to be a real joy to play for. I have provided images from all four bands, audience shots, and the aforementioned sound check. What I have attempted to capture is a feel for the day, a glimpse behind the scenes, and the great time that we all had.

If you would like a CD of all of the images (the images look great on your television, played on you DVD player at home!), they're available for \$25 +\$5 shipping. Send me an email for the particulars at dirkbag@earthlink.net.

Once again, thank you to Mark and Brian, Tom and Lizann for making the day spectacular. I would have done this shoot for free. Wait – I did!

Dirkbag