

Loverboy returns to headline Oregon Jam

Joan Jett, Triumph also play

By Cort Fernald
Of the Emerald

Autzen Stadium is usually filled with arching footballs and the sounds of cheering (sometimes groaning) football fans. The carpet is usually occupied by a scramble of grunting football players.

But on Saturday Autzen Stadium will be filled with the thunder of rock'n'roll — heavy metal rock'n'roll — and thousands of celebrating fans in the stands and on the carpet when the University's athletic department and Double Tee Promotions Inc. of Portland presents "Oregon Jam '83."

Tickets are still available and will be the day of the show. Tickets are \$17 and can be purchased at Everybody's Records, G.I. Joe's and the University athletic department.

This is the third "Jam" in as many years and the eight-hour outdoor event has become a mid-summer classic known throughout the state. Headlining the "Jam" this year will be Loverboy, Triumph, Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, with Night Ranger and Quiet Riot as supporting acts. The Greg Kihn Band, previously announced to appear, has cancelled due to scheduling conflicts.

For crowd favorites Loverboy and Jett, this will be encore performances at Autzen. Jett appeared in the "Jam" last year, while Loverboy has played every "Jam" since 1981.

In past years "Jam" crowds have numbered between 35,000 and 40,000. They have been surprisingly well-mannered for a crowd that size. No major incidents of unruly behavior and severe injuries have occurred in past years.

The weather has usually been hot to a scorching 120 degrees in 1981. This "Jam" probably won't be as hot in the crowd though it will be hot on stage.

The "Jam" kicks off at 11 a.m. with Quiet Riot, then Night Ranger, Jett, Triumph and Loverboy.

Quiet Riot are doubtless the most appropriate band to start the "Jam." They play raw energy rock'n'roll that retains the inspiration of The Who, Faces and Mott the Hoople.

The band was initially formed in 1975 by Kevin DuBrow and the late Randy Rhoades, whose guitar work with Ozzy Osbourne is legendary. The line-up has changed since 1975 and now consists of DuBrow, bassist Rudy Sarzo, guitarist Carlos Cavazo and Frankie Banali on drums. Quiet Riot's most re-



Emerald photo

At last year's "Jam" 40,000 screaming fans enjoyed the sun and rock at Autzen Stadium.

cent release is "Metal Health." The album features "Slick Black Cadillac" and Slade's "Cum Feel the Noize."

Night Ranger is a band now reaching the heights of popularity. They've been touring and knocking out audiences. Their debut album "Dawn Patrol" on Neil Bogart's Boardwalk Records has been receiving critical acclaim — especially the single "Don't Tell Me You Love Me." The single has been a radio hit and, more importantly, is on the MTV rotation.

Night Ranger, like Quiet Riot, has a connection with Ozzy Osbourne. Brad Gillis, second lead guitar alongside Jeff Watson, filled the vacancy in Osbourne's band following the death of Rhoades.

Other members of Night Ranger are songwriting-vocalists Kelly Keagy and Jack Blades. Night Ranger's keyboardist and founder is Alan "Fitz" Fitzgerald. He's played bass for Ronnie Montrose and keyboards for Sammy Hagar. Fitzgerald is credited with distilling the chemistry of Gillis, Watson, Keagy and Blades into the successful mix of Night Ranger.

Coming back for a second go 'round at the "Jam" is the penultimate woman rock'n'roll artist Joan Jett. Well, that's a sexist statement. Regardless of gender, Jett is a consummate rock'n'roller.

Jett's story of splashy success with the underage Los Angeles band The Runaways in the mid-'70s, then virtual obscurity until the hit album "Bad

Reputation" in the '80s brought her back to the spotlight, is well known. If any artist has struggled and sacrificed for recognition it's Jett.

When Jett re-emerged she was surrounded with creative people like producers Kenny Laguna and Ritchie Cordell. Some of the musicians she played with, such as Sex Pistols' Steve Jones and Paul Cook, Blondie's Clem Burke and Frank Infante, were equally talented. Jett's present Blackhearts consist of well-polished musicians Ricky Byrd on guitar, Lee Crystal on drums and Gary Ryan on bass.

The work has paid off for Jett. Spectators at the "Jam" last year remarked that Jett and the Blackhearts were "the best" — maybe even better than the top act Foreigner.

By the time Triumph takes the stage the build-up of all the bands before will be only a jump from which they will leap to new heights of energetic rock'n'roll. Triumph is known for its spectacular stage shows and the Autzen crowd will not be disappointed. Explosions and smoke will punctuate the solid crash of Rik Emmett's power chords.

Drummer Gil Moore said Triumph's sound "is kind of English progressive meets American blues rock'n'roll, and it's full of surprises."

Triumph really enjoys performing. According to Moore "Nothing can match the feeling of the building actually vibrating. Rock is power, there's

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Courtesy of Columbia Records

This is the third "Jam" appearance for Canadian supergroup Loverboy.

WOW Hall hosts vaudeville alive at Saturday show

Vaudeville will come alive Saturday at the WOW Hall with a performance of "Vaudeville Lives!"

The extravaganza, which includes music, magic, comedy, juggling and bubble magic is \$4 general admission and \$2 for those under 10 or over 60 years of age. Showtime is 8:30 p.m. at WOW Hall, on the corner of Eighth Avenue and Lincoln Street.

Tom Noddy, who will perform bubble magic and puppet satire, has ap-

peared twice on Johnny Carson's "Tonight Show" and twice on "That's Incredible." He also has performed for British, French and Irish television.

Eugene's Moz Wright, recently featured at the Winnipeg International Children's Festival and on the television show "Switchback," will perform his firebreathing and sword-swallowing act.

The show also will feature two

magicians from C'est Cheese Theatre of San Francisco along with a variety of music.

Friday, the Robert Cray Band will perform danceable blues music beginning at 9 p.m. Cost is \$3.50.

The Community Center for the Performing Arts is hosting the entertainment this weekend.

Beer and wine will be served downstairs.

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