

# 'Dead' still strong

Local Grateful Dead fans waited through pouring rain Monday evening to see an American rock institution

## music

A packed Ball capacity crowd of close to 100 greeted the Grateful Dead in their only Ithaca appearance, as the Dead made their last their latest release "Innocent Patients" with only a few of their classics from the past decade. The three group proved they were still going strong.

Taking a tribute to Mother's Day, the Grateful Dead played "Warm Fuzzies," one of their outlandish favorites.

The highlight of the evening came near the end of the first set when they played their 20-minute rendition of "Blazing in the Streets" bringing the crowd to a peak.

Ball's Ball, never known for its ideal acoustics, was managed well by the band's well designed sound system. With a few initial adjustments, the sound was well balanced. But as the standing room-only crowd gravitated to the stage, it became an endurance contest for even the most loyal Dead Head.

Upon their return to the stage following a lengthy intermission, the group pleaded with the audience to move back.

The band kept to their subtly patterned style with the ever dramatic



The Grateful Dead: Jerry Garcia (left), Bob Weir and Donna Godchau. Photo by Jon Reis.

gesture of Jerry Garcia carrying wads of the 20 minutes Garcia's mastery of the guitar, while capturing, appreciated reactions by the later half of the concert. Bob Weir and Jerry Garcia alternated lead vocal throughout the night, with Donna Godchau adding harmonies.

A version of the Grateful Dead's "loop" showed up in the encore with "The Stone Smasher Night," proving the group's ability to bring the crowd to a hot stamping, hand-clapping climax after three hours of dead music, that music and a full house.

New songs were in the same vein as past work, good sound with only minor new innovations in the lines. The new album sounds good and is worthy of replacing that old Dead album that's worth it!

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# Grateful Dead 5/8/77



GRATEFUL DEAD 5/8/77 BARTON HALL, CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Dancing In The Streets

Set 2:

Scarlet Begonias->

Fire On The Mountain

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Estimated Prophet

Saint Stephen->

Not Fade Away->

Saint Stephen->

Morning Dew



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