

D189 AMHERST, 18 NOVEMBER 1999



SOUND Poorly balanced and fuzzy. Not much fun and not how this music should be heard. (Note: the subsequent emergence of D189.su - same video over a superb audio upgrade - and D835 - an alternate sound-upgraded film - has since resolved this problem. If trading, *make sure you get one or other upgrade.*)

IMAGE See screenshots below. Rock-steady, wholly unobstructed right-side balcony film, a bit dulled by repeat copying but still consistently good. Plenty of D + Larry (though nothing *very* close) and plenty, too, of the whole band. Camerawork of a high standard.



RUNNING TIME 121 minutes - complete gig.

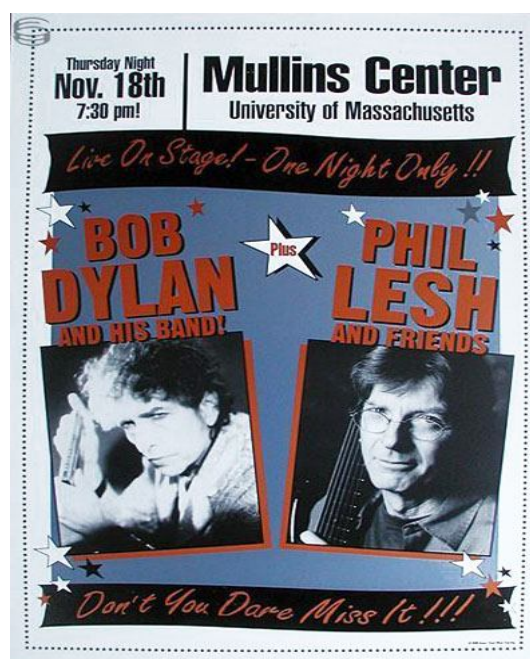
PERFORMANCE Fun for all - though what was D thinking when he kicked off *It's Alright, Ma* with the line *Pointed threats they bluff with scorn*? (For more of the same, re-wind Nara '94's *Hard Rain*.) Strange thing is, after first line flubs, both those

performances were *solid*. During the last two of tonight's four covers, no less than *eight* players are on stage: Bob and the band plus Phil Lesh, Warren Haynes and Jorma Kaukonen.

HIGHLIGHTS Four songs (of seventeen) survive the sonic snafu sufficient to please my ears: a fine Boots, a whomping Man Of Peace, a faithful, playful Highlands and another scorching Love Sick.



COMMENT Much the best thing on this disc is the lovely complete Rock Of Ages that plays under the menu. Trouble is, having savoured that, you then proceed to the main event and can't help but note (and rue) the difference ...



THANKS Tossport

STARS Three