

**SOUND** Ooh yes!

**IMAGE** This film may not be perfect, but it's not too far off. The camera's a long way from the stage, up in a distant left-side balcony spot, but it's clearly a good one and, better yet, in very capable hands. There's no hint of unsteadiness all night and, apart from just a few seconds during H61, no head problems either. There's plenty of zoom in (for Bob) and out for the band and sometimes the hall beyond, which sets the scene nicely - the Taylor Arena is something like a bear-pit, in fact, with band and stage surrounded on all sides by a joyous Gopher State crowd. The screenshots (below) suggest superior quality pictures, and they're right. Gaps in Pages and Masters have been made good by author Cineman with typically sympathetic in-filling (including, in Pages, an interesting variation on his usual theme). If I had to complain about anything here, it would be that I'd like to have seen a bit less of Bob and a bit more, individually, of Larry and Charlie. But would I settle for this? Yes - every time.



**RUNNING TIME** 98:50, complete. Band intros are non-upgraded (still nice to hear, though - listen out, at Larry's turn, for another of D's little jokes).

**PERFORMANCE** Top-notch audio and video are all very well, but if the performance is a dog ([D623.su](#), anyone?) who really cares? Well, tonight, there's no need to worry, for this show's a rip-snorting doozy from start to finish. D, back on Minnesota home turf, steps out in style. The opening acoustic set is steely strong, and nothing misses after. In H61 (just thirty miles east) and North Country Girl, Bob feeds the crowd two "local" songs. (Though usually resolutely apolitical, he also dedicates Pages to "My man, Governor Jesse" i.e. former pro wrestler, actor, radio / TV talkshow host and then Governor of MN Jesse Ventura.) H61 and Watchtower both howl tonight with turbulent, cyclonic steel guitar from Larry, and that guitar, if (sadly) not that player, is still in the band - it's the one D uses now as a prop for his lyric sheets. The ghost of Buddy Holly (who died just seventy miles south of here) is surely

hovering somewhere close as his work and memory are again so vividly rekindled - and who better than Bob, kindred spirit and only five years his junior, to do it? Finally, watch out at show's end for some heart-warming D / Charlie interplay.

**HIGHLIGHT** I'm picking Gates Of Eden not because it's better than anything else tonight but because, like Silvio, Cold Irons Bound, Alabama Getaway and one or two others, it's a song I don't usually much care for. But this take - slow, lyrical, cittern-strong - does more than enough to earn its tick. As so often, D sells his work short (only five verses of nine) but a winner all the same.



**COMMENT** Latest fruit of Ace's Dylan Room, and another peach / plum / Golden Delicious - take your pick. Watching this superb DVD puts me in mind of an old Arabian proverb:

*Four things cannot be recalled: the spoken word, the sped arrow, time past and the neglected opportunity*

but, in the face of such inexorable logic, DVDylan members smile. Wish you'd gone to Rochester when you had the chance? Want a *second* chance? Though a flown arrow, words uttered and precious time may indeed be beyond recall, the best of these recordings are sufficiently good that lost opportunity may be reclaimed, and logic (even Arabian logic) defied. Spend a couple of hours with [D292.su](http://D292.su) (or [D044.su](http://D044.su), [D197.su2](http://D197.su2), [D236.su](http://D236.su), you name it) to see what I'm talking about. Texas medicine? This is where.

**THANKS** GS - both tapers too.

**STARS** Five