



SOUND Indifferent low-fi cam track

IMAGE John Deere was a struggling Vermont blacksmith who, at the age of 32, headed west, settled in Illinois, turned plow-wright and the rest is history. For the past 160 years his company HQ have been in Moline and if he came back today he'd surely be astonished at some of the half-million dollar cotton pickers now sold in his name. But if he'd come back on 12 July 2000 he'd have been just in time to catch another pioneer content to plough a lonely furrow; to write his name in American and world history on his own adamantine terms. And if he'd had a video camera I dare say he'd have made a better job of filming this gig than tonight's hapless taper, who from his raised right-centre perch manages - *very* freakily - to record all of opener Duncan & Brady in lurid John Deere green. After an equally torrid It Ain't Me, Babe - colour / contrast, handling and head problems - he tells his neighbour (and us):

*This ain't workin' for sh*t! I'm goin' to the can ...*

before adding, Schwarzenegger style:

I'll be back!

When his film resumes a song and a half later (with all of Masters missed, as well as the start of Baby Blue) it's steady and effective - camera locked tight on D with no attempt to pan, like a nervous child on its first pair of ice-skates. But still head problems cause cuts in each of the next three songs then some picture loss in two more. There are more contrast problems in Joey and camera drift in Drifter's. Pill-Box Hat is the first quasi-success, then - patience rewarded, after a fashion - the four-song encore sequence is relatively well-shot, even offering in LARS an extended look at Larry and in H61 a pull-back for the whole band. Overall, though, sub-standard.

RUNNING TIME 78 minutes, incomplete. For clip / cut detail, toggle blue link below the DVDylan set-list.

PERFORMANCE Seems alright, although with audio and video quality both so compromised, it's hard to tell.



HIGHLIGHT North Country Girl, in which Kemper keeps time like a Swiss clock.

COMMENT (1) Though menued and chaptered copies of [D323](#) are said to circulate, the one I saw had no menu and just generic chapter marks set at approx 5:20 intervals.

(2) Do you ever feel that Larry doesn't much care for the leave-taking line-ups? Whether or not, isn't he *always* the first to break ranks and split?

THANKS Black Cat

STARS The 2000 US / Canada Summer Tour is poorly represented in the DVDylan catalogue with Moline, twentieth show of 33, one of just four circulating recordings, all seemingly no great shakes. Certainly Wantagh ([D095](#), also on [D575](#)) is mediocre and this dog's breakfast is no better. Though I've not yet seen either [D160](#) or [D726](#), I can tell you they don't need to be up to much to outshine the current opposition. Two stars. Not recommended.

