



quickly shifting and nightmarish visions conceived and created by Gerald Scarfe. This time it took a 60 man crew to support Pink Floyd including special teams to supervise lighting, mixing, communications, recording (every show on the tour was recorded on a Nakamichi cassette deck!) and a dedicated crew to inflate and rig the balloons. Underneath it all the Floyd seemed diminutive and faceless, recreating their passionate and savage music to the largest consistent crowds in their career, breaking attendance records all over the globe.

As the tour drew to a close, Roger increasingly showed signs of paranoia, megalomania and pure irritation at his bandmates and fans. He began separating himself from the others except when performing (in headphones no less), and occasionally flew in on helicopters while the others used limos, all to the dismay of Steve O'Rourke who saw the changes in Roger early on in the tour. To his defense, facing vast audiences raging like wild animals all through the duration of every show is not the best forum for communication. He was not getting the message of his songs through to those who wanted to listen, which seemed to bother him most. The shows had become a meaningless ritual for him and a dehumanizing experience for the audience. But the concert situation is one that Pink Floyd created for themselves out of the necessity to reach the masses. Dave somewhat agreed that the huge tribal gatherings had



drawbacks when "there would be girls down front screaming 'Play me something I can shake my ass to!'" From Roger's perspective the band was no longer merely a victim of the Rock machine but had very much become an active collaborator.

During the final show of the tour at Montreal's Olympic Stadium on July 6, 1977, Roger's strained perception of the current situation was shattered beyond repair - an entire tour of accumulated jet lag, hotel food, pre-show anxiety and post show depression, and most of all the oppressive stadium squeeze of faceless but demanding flesh all came to a repulsive conclusion. Forget his passion for playing golf on the off days and the fact that Montreal was the very last gig. The problem was that he could not go home by ending with a bad show. In fact, none of the Floyd were very happy with the gig, but no one suspected the potent effect it had on Roger until afterwards. Unfortunately there was a convenient and symbolic target to attack raging right in front of him through every song. Coiling like a snake throughout the concert Roger's foaming anger grew into a myopic obsession as he focused on one crazed kid near the stagefront. Roger recalls "Montreal Olympic Stadium, end of the Animals tour 1977... uh, lot's of noise, nobody paying much attention,