

[examiner.com](http://www.examiner.com)

Concert recap: Mötley Crüe says goodbye to Bridgeport; Tommy Lee apologizes

Friday night, [Mötley Crüe](#) made their final stop in Bridgeport, CT forever when the All Bad Things Must Come To An End tour stopped at the Webster Bank Arena. However, it wasn't a full, proper goodbye as Tommy Lee was forced to sit out the show with a painful case of tendonitis that came on a few days before and also caused him to miss their October 14th date in Buffalo and the following October 17th date in New Hampshire. Helping to save the day(s), Alice Cooper's drummer, Glen Sobel, did a fine job of filling in for Lee both nights.

Tommy Lee

The evening began with a note from Lee that was posted at the Box Office window, apologizing for his absence. As promised in the note, he did make a few appearances on stage to help his bandmates (bassist Nikki Sixx, guitarist Mick Mars and vocalist Vince Neil) say goodbye to Bridgeport. After the first few songs from the set, which opened with one of their most famous hits "Girls, Girls, Girls", Neil brought Lee out on stage to speak to the

crowd. He made a heartfelt apology in person and encouraged the crowd to tell him to f*** off to his face for not being part of the show that night (they obliged). Lee also showed proof of his painful injury by showing a photo of his wrist being injected on the big screens above the stage.

With a lot of bands, a drummer's absence might not have affected the showgoer's experience. Which is not to say that drummers aren't as important as a lead singer, especially if it's a band like this Hollywood-based foursome that made their name during the MTV-era, when the visual aspect of a band was just as important as the sound. Viewers became attached to faces just as much as the songs. In the case of Mötley Crüe, Lee's absence not only meant not being able to watch the legendary and influential drummer play in person, but the lack of Tommy's one-of-a-kind drum solos. This tour's solo has outdone past stunts such as drumming at a 90-degree angle (Theatre of Pain tour); a rotating drum cage floating over the audience (Girls, Girls, Girls tour); a kit attached to a track that Lee rode to the back of arenas everywhere (Dr. Feelgood tour); acrobat leaps in the air between kits (Carnival of Sins tour); and 360-degree roller coaster that included a lucky fan from the audience along for the ride. On their final tour as a band, Lee made jaws drop everywhere with his realized dream of an arena-length drum coaster, nicknamed The Crüecifly, that allowed for Lee's kit to not only ride a wave of steel back and forth, but allowed him to rotate and drum upside down as he made his round trip from the front row to the cheap seats. While that part of the show was definitely missed, fans appreciated Tommy's second appearance playing piano on "Home Sweet Home" while Sobel

played the drum part.

Even without the giant drum solo spectacle, the show was still a sight to see. There was plenty of pyro, including fire that shot from Nikki Sixx's bass clear into the air during the intro to "Shout At The Devil." And for those looking for human eye candy, the Crüe's two backup female singers surely satisfied that need if the band wasn't enough! Not to mention the second stage at the back of the arena that rose nearly to the ceiling for "Home Sweet Home" as the big screens played a montage of scenes from the band's history. The video served not only as a yearbook of sorts for the band, but also surely took lifelong Crüehheads back to their childhood memories of painting their face like Nikki Sixx in "Looks That Kill", bleaching their hair to get the California look Vince Neil sported, picking up drums with the hope of landing their own Hollywood babe like Tommy Lee or looking up to Mick Mars as a guitar hero. Or, in the case of many of the young kids and teenagers who were in the audience, showed them what they missed and gave them a good reason to go on a YouTube binge when they got home to check out all the highs and lows of Mötley Crüe's unique journey.

For fans who have been there from the beginning, it was a wonderful goodbye. However, many (including this Examiner) are hoping this is just a "goodbye for now", because the music and concert scene just won't be the same without Mötley Crüe.

To see my photos of the amazing Alice Cooper, who opened the show, click [here](#).

You can follow me on Twitter at [@ConcertExaminer!](#)