

# Brick by brick, Waters rebuilds iconic event

By Gary Budzak

FOR THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Roger Waters celebrated the 30th anniversary of *The Wall* tour by bringing it to life in a memorable concert last night in Value City Arena.

*The Wall* was the chart-topping Pink Floyd double album that was made into a movie.

Floyd bassist-singer Waters wrote the album, based loosely on his life, particularly around an incident where he spat on fans during a concert.

In *The Wall*, protagonist Pink builds a wall around himself as teachers and society turn him into an isolated introvert. He finally tears down the wall after judging himself.

Pink Floyd, during what may be the high point of the band's career, performed *The Wall* in its entirety a couple of times. The band was starting to unravel at the time and the quintet did one more album together before a bitter parting.

Now Waters, with a full backing band, is pulling out all the stops by doing *The*

*Wall* in its entirety, complete with all the props, puppets, extra film lyrics and Gerald Scarfe animation, including those scary marching hammers. It sounded and looked great.

The star, of course, was the wall itself. Made of 12 rows of white bricks stretched across the stage, it stood 40 feet high. As the first half of the show played out, workers kept adding bricks, eventually walling up the band.

During a half-hour intermission, pictures and words of fallen heroes filled the wall.

Waters opened the second half by poking out one of the bricks to sing. A hotel room then slid out of the wall as Waters sang *Nobody Home*.

Then on *Comfortably Numb*, Robbie Wyckoff sang the David Gilmour parts on top of the wall. As a guitar solo rained from atop the wall, a stage was set up in front of the wall.

Waters was clearly enjoying himself, especially as real kids mocked a gigantic puppet of a teacher during *Another Brick in the Wall*.