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# Judas Priest heads out to Germain Arena

## Metal forefathers joined by Whitesnake

BY CHARLES RUNNELLS • CRUNNELL@NEWS-PRESS.COM • APRIL 24, 2009

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Hey Southwest Florida: You've got another thing comin'.

Judas Priest — one of just three or four bands that arguably invented heavy metal — brings its leather- and chain-clad aggression to Germain Arena on Aug. 19.

The Brits will be joined by '80s hair-metal band Whitesnake, best known for Led Zeppelin-tinged rockers and ballads such as "Here I Go Again" and "Still of the Night."

Tickets for the show go on sale at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 2. They cost \$29.50-\$60.

Whitesnake last played the arena in 2003, according to Sammy Wallace, Germain's vice president of event programming. But he believes this is the first time Judas Priest has performed in Southwest Florida.

Wallace expects the show will sell very well.

"Everybody loves The Priest," he says.

**ADVERTISEMENT** Judas Priest is known for its vicious two lead-guitar attack; singer Rob Halford's shrieking vocals; and Gothic lyrics tackling everything from straight-out rebellion to rampaging demons.

The band is considered a forefather of modern-day metal, along with Led Zeppelin, Black Sabbath and Iron Maiden.

"For a lot of people, they're one of the originators," Wallace says. "They took the blues out of metal and



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made it METAL.”

The tour also celebrates the 30th anniversary of Priest’s groundbreaking 1980 album “British Steel” — the band’s first album to break into the U.S. Top 40 thanks to the singles “Living After Midnight” and “Breaking the Law.”

“It’s considered one of the top four or five most influential albums ever,” Wallace says. “And they’re going to play it in its entirety.”

Tickets can be bought at the Germain Arena box office, 1000 Everblades Parkway, Estero. Or get them from Ticketmaster by calling

334-3309, going to ticketmaster.com or visiting any Ticketmaster outlet.

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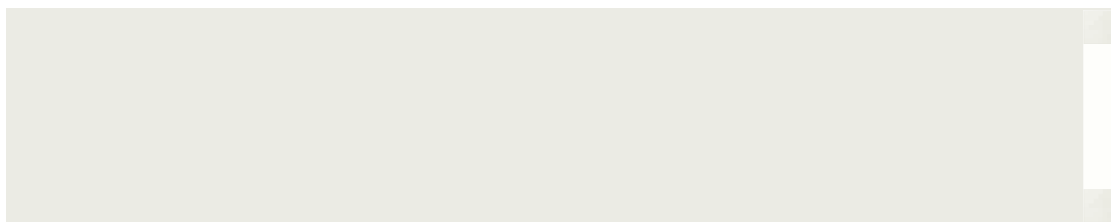
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