



I can't express the shock I experienced at the end of the crowd and my back to the stage, only to turn around and see a tall man in a blue collared shirt walking towards me. Microphone in hand. It was Waka Flocka Flame, with fifteen students chasing after him with their phones.

## Let's talk about it:

Waka Flocka Flop? Waka Flocka Fail? Maybe I won't go that far—but I'm considering it. Last weekend was rapper Waka Flocka Flame's second appearance at Denison, and publicly, I'll say, I was let down. Not including the crowd, the atmosphere, etc., but just based on musicality and performance—that was really bad. Kind of terrible.

First, I was not "vibing," per se, with the DJ preceding Waka. His performance was lackluster. No one seemed interested. I mean, THE mosh pits hadn't started yet, which has to say something about his song choices. \*It's obvious that y'all LOVEEE to mosh!!! He seemed like any Bat/Bar Mitzvah, high school, or middle school dance DJ. He didn't get me hyped for Waka!! Don't get me wrong, I was incredibly hypedddd for Waka's performance, so it didn't matter that the DJ failed, but it should have been his civil duty of the night.

Secondly, the cookies at D-Day were **BAD**. So stale. But also chewy? But in a gross way. \*Sorry. That's not relevant to Waka.

Finally. Mr. Flocka Flame himself. I have a few bones to pick with him.

- Why are you not on the stage?
- Why are you not playing your own songs?
- Why are you only providing adlibs when you do play your song ((which you only played two of) (even though the entire performance was your responsibility.))

Okay, let me first preface that I was not a part of the mosh pits, but that means I got to watch from a distance and see the performance unfold.

## My main takeaway:

Waka Flocka Flame played a game of tag with the crowd for 30 whole minutes.

Mr. Flame strolled, a little too casually, through the crowd of sweaty Denison students while performing. Having a viewpoint of the entire crowd, I could see the 10-15 students, who were very dedicated to following Mr. Flame, turning his "performance" into a game of tag.

The rapper spent what seemed like half the allotted time meandering through the crowd. Mr. Flame consistently played recent, popular songs like SkeeYee, Just Wanna Rock, and more TikTok phenomena.

I am, in no way, a "hater" or against these songs, but **THEY AREN'T HIS**. I showed up to watch **WAKA FLOCKA FLAME PERFORM**. Not for him to **RUN AROUND THE CROWD AND PROVIDE ADLIBS/DJ**. The mosh pits felt like my sophomore year homecoming dance from the lack of an **ACTUAL PERFORMER** and the substitution of a hype-man. If I were to compare Mr. Flame's performance to another rapper that has visited Denison, like Rico Nasty, I'd say hers was significantly more fun since it was **AN ACTUAL PERFORMANCE**, and she **SANG HER OWN SONGS**. The Mosh pits had an actual purpose, going along with her stage presence, and they were fun to be a part of. The mosh pits for Waka felt **PHONY. AF**. I couldn't even pretend to join in because the music was uninspiring for moshing!! Also, people were being aggressive. People hurt me and my friends and random people. It was painful.

**In essence — No Hands WENT CRAZY. It was the most euphoric feeling in the world. Honestly amazing. My final rating: 10/10.**



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