

# Old rock 'n' roll still packs a punch



A consummate showman, Toronto's Paul James had two opportunities to strut his stuff during Saturday's concert. He and his band did their own mid-afternoon set, much to the delight of fans from the city who made the trip to see them, then returned later to accompany Bo Diddley.



He left his customary bowl-topped cowboy hat at home in the States, but Bo Diddley goes nowhere without his trademark box guitar. As much a part of the legend as his songs is the performer's choppy strumming style, which gives "Hey Bo Diddley" and "Who Do You Love" their distinctive sound.



Renowned as a father figure to the groundbreaking British blues movement of the mid-'60s, Long John Baldry now calls Canada home. When pianist Reginald Dwight decided to change his name, he took "Elton" from the name of an American bluesman and "John" from Long John Baldry. Baldry, called the "King of Rock'n'Roll" after his hit song of the same name, burned up the stage Saturday afternoon.



Backstage at the Acton Rock Fest was an autograph-seeker's dream come true Saturday as performers awaited their turn on-stage. Frankie Fronteddu of Greenore Cres. took the opportunity to give Patti Jannetta his best wishes.



Miss Acton Fall Fair, Laura Jansen, drew the weekly winning ticket at the Acton Minor Hockey Association Lottery, assisted by Ron Robinson. It was one of two draws that took place during the day.



Only about 1,100 people showed up for Acton's first-ever rock festival, but those who did never regretted it for a moment, each act in turn providing plenty of rhythm and blues to keep the toes tapping.



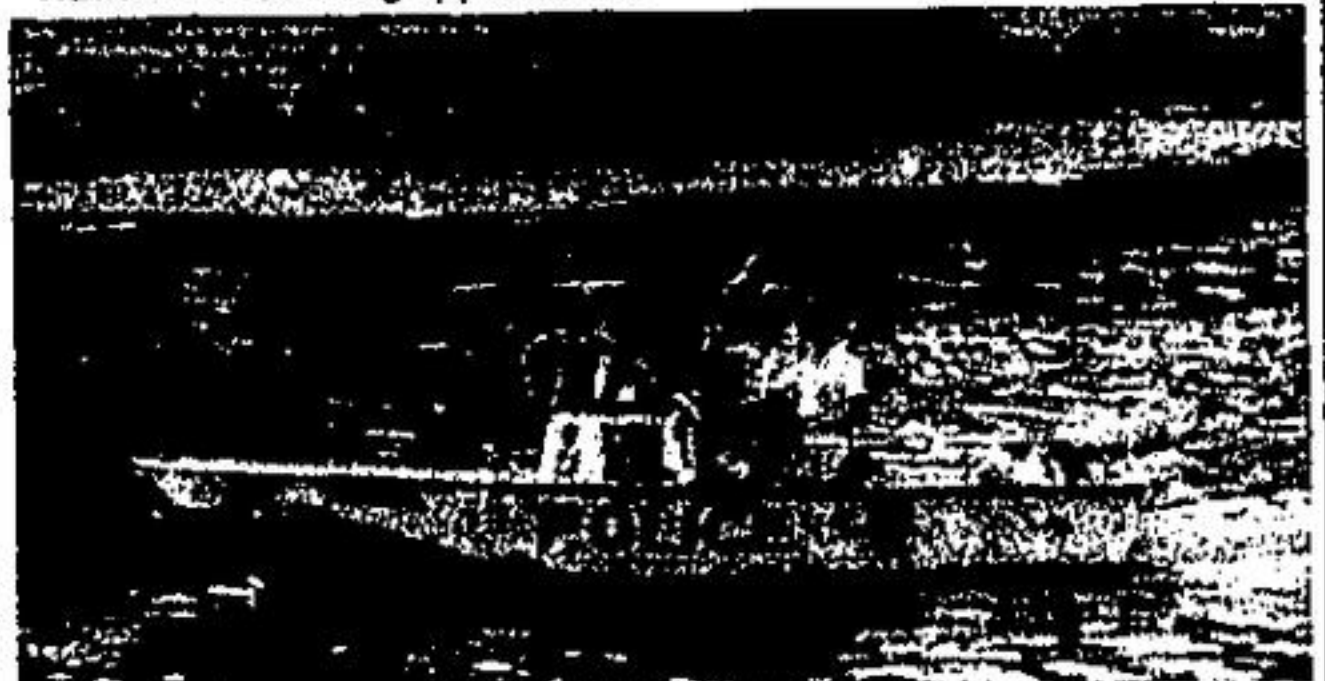
Considered one of Canada's foremost banjo players, Marilyn Jenkins led Pearl City through a subdued but much-appreciated set of original songs early in the proceedings.



A hit at last year's anniversary bash for Ronnie Hawkins at the GNE Carlsberg pavilion, Patti Jannetta is making tremendous inroads toward international stardom. She has an independently-produced album on Jante Records, performed at the Royal York Hotel's Imperial Room and, after Saturday's concert, headed off to a recording studio to tape a duet with Bo Diddley.



Resembling two members of another Hawks line-up—the one that became The Band and backed up Bob Dylan—Ronnie Hawkins' guitarist and bass player thrilled the crowd with solid harmonies and country-flavored rock. The Hawks put on a show of their own prior to Hawkins' headlining appearance.



Halton regional police augmented foot patrols around the concert site with a motor launch cruising Fairy Lake. Sale and consumption of alcohol was restricted to fenced-off beer gardens that kept the crowd's thirst quenched, and no major problems were experienced.



Toronto's Grottybeats hit home with note-perfect cover versions of Beatles and Who hits and gave the crowd a real show to watch by bouncing around the stage in spite of the heat and humidity.



Flashing an arsenal of guitars, Paul James picked up a cordless and left the stage during his afternoon set to give fans a closer look at the style that has impressed international rock and blues stars from Mink de Ville to the Rolling Stones.