

# Goldmine's hit

## 2005 National Record Show

### at the Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame



Sister Theresa Sharp, a charter member of the Rock Hall and life-long Elvis Presley fan, brought a handfull of her late father's records to see if she could find a buyer. She ended up successfully selling two bluegrass LPs. Here she talks with Jim Ronat of Recordsmith. Sharp brings her Kent State math students to the Hall to collect data when working on probability and statistics to make the subject matter fun.

Text and photos by Cathy Bernardy

What is it about pyramids that inspires pilgrimages? It must be the treasures found inside their hallowed halls.

At the recent *Goldmine* National Record Show™ at the Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 6-7, there were plenty of musical riches to be found at the glass Giza, from LPs, 45s, posters and CDs to a dozen bands rocking the plaza, 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. and beyond over the weekend.

Dealers we spoke with had good things to say about the show this year, with one making a third of his sales from other dealers before it even opened Saturday, and the rest of the weekend being gravy.

Normally, the Rock Hall closes at 5:30 p.m. on summertime Sundays, but because of a private party coming in that night, the show and Hall stayed open until 9. The extended hours didn't necessarily mean more sales for record dealers though, since the Hall was essentially closed to music tourists. Josh Griffin of Blue Meannie reported that the football club party members "weren't at all interested in music memorabilia. So... every dealer packed up and left." Some dealers had left in the late afternoon Sunday (which was a much slower day than Saturday had been), after still having a successful show because of the busy Saturday.

Blue Meannie's Laura Shrum also reported that husband Garry will be recovering for quite a while from the quadruple bypass surgery that weekend (and his sub-



sequent collapsed lung), which is why he suddenly wasn't at the show.

"He is now home recovering," she said. "I want to thank everyone for their prayers and well wishes."

Big sales aren't the only measure of success, however. High-end memorabilia dealer Rockaway from Los Angeles may have sold only five pieces, but Gary Johnson said that they were pleased with their purchases there — what they sold had been bought at the show.

Craig Moore, of Younger Than Yesterday (and rock band Gonn, one of the headlining bands on the plaza), said that his business "had a better sales weekend this year than last" and also reported it was better for his business than the spring Austin Record Convention.

"Along with Austin, Philly and New York, [*Goldmine's* National Record Show] has become one of my best and favorite shows," he said. "Over the past few [Rock Hall] shows, though, it seems that I'm now seeing more and more regular faces who are there specifically for the record show."



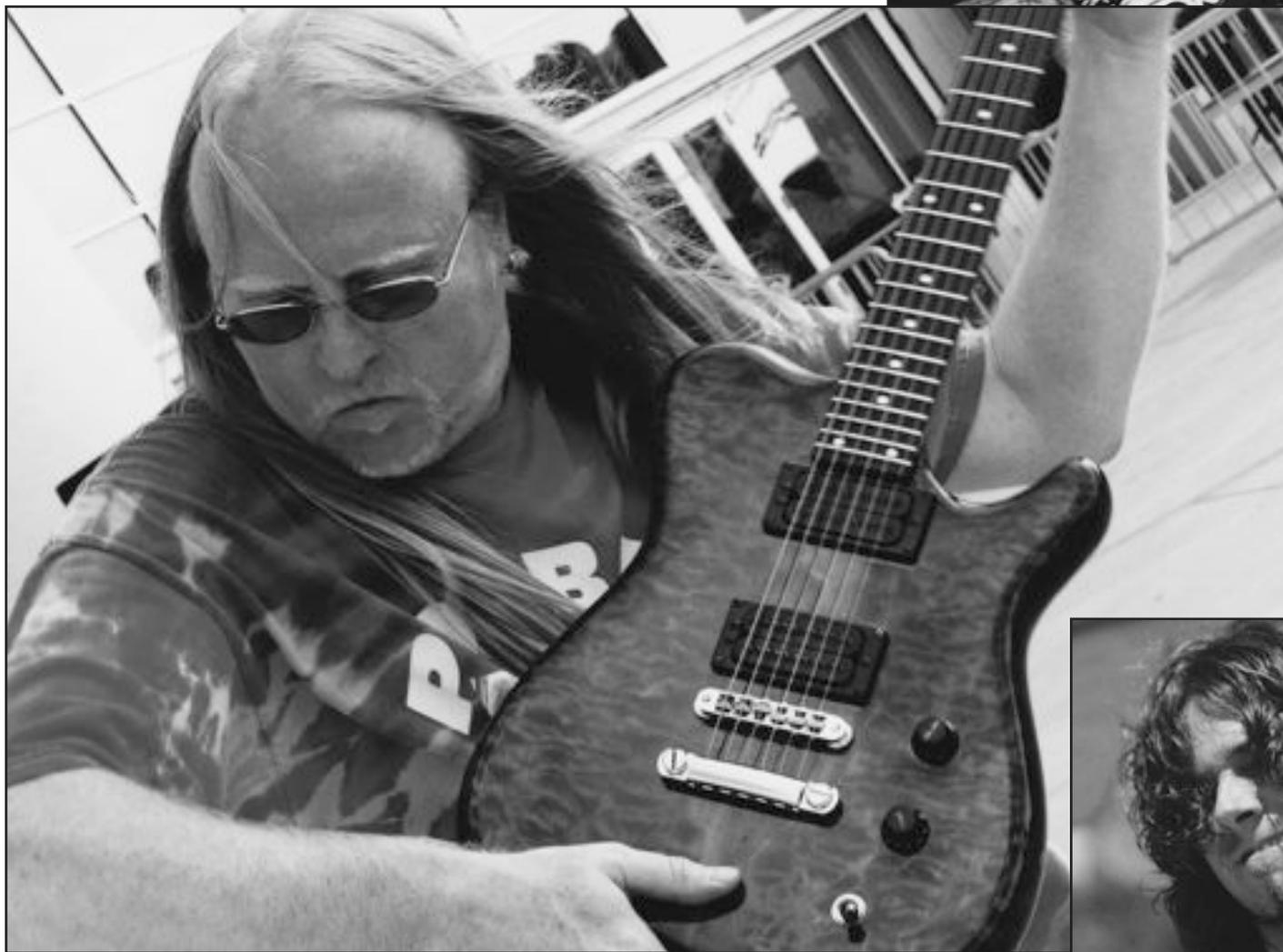
Chuck Miller, seated, answered people's questions about records throughout the show, in addition to making two presentations in the Rock Hall's theater. Here, Jerry Ramey of Dayton, Ohio, brought some variations of records to the *Goldmine* booth to be documented, as they do not appear (yet) in our price guides.



Left: Greg Stonerock of Greg O'Brien And The Spoodoo Cadillacs. The band also was gracious enough to provide the sound system (Full Spectrum Sound, Shade, Ohio) for the two-day event and play a second set on Saturday due to last-minute band scheduling changes.



Above: Lazy Lane's Lily Lane. Left: Poobah's Jim Gustafson, playing a second set of the day at the Cleveland Browns Arena, in cooperation with the National Record Show. Gonn played inside, on the football field before the team's Family Fun Night.



Outside the show in the museum's plaza, people could hear a variety of bands, from bluesy rock to "unplugged" rock and hard rock to trippy rock and '60s rock, all from quality bands.

Poobah's Jim Gustafson, who's been involved with the show almost since the beginning, helped organize that part of the event, beginning with Battle of the Bands contests to choose who would get to play on the weekend's bill.

"When we held the contests to play at the show, all the judges were careful to pick what they thought was top-notch talent for this event," he said. "We want to thank Mike Hayes at RAG Magazine in Ohio for all his help in the talent search.... Supporting live music and indie artists is a feel-good thing for Poobah."

Poobah reported record CD sales (no pun intended), and some bands used the gig to record footage for forthcoming DVDs.

Lazy Lane manager Jim Davis said, "It

truly was an honor to be invited to play at The Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame. It was a moment in our life that will forever be cherished."

Greg O'Brien of the Spoodoo Cadillacs and Full Spectrum Sound, which handled sound chores all weekend, added, "Somehow it held a mystical appeal to our band — as I am sure it did to all the bands that played that weekend — and to Full Spectrum Sound. Why would so many work so hard to play and work as a sound crew for free? Well, OK, for the bragging rights. In the music business if you are an unsigned band this sometimes is as good as it gets."

All in all, it's the perfect place to have such an event. Sister Theresa Sharp, of the Sisters Of Notre Dame (and a charter member of the Rock Hall), summed up, "Forget about seizing the day; you've seized the place."

Right: Liquid Earth's Tony Dallacheisa.

