

THE PLAIN DEALER

PANORAMA

TELEVISION, PAGES 3, 4
DEAR ABBY, PAGE 4
MOVIES, PAGES 5, 6

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ROCK NOTES

A couple of bundled-up business types said they had the perfect oldie-but-goodie for the noontime ceremonies on Public Square — but couldn't decide if Democratic Gov. Richard F. Celeste or Republican Mayor George V. Voinovich should sing it: "It's My Party and I'll Cry If I Want To."

Not exactly what Lesley Gore had in mind back in 1963.

■ As had been expected — and hoped by organizers — last night's celebration attracted attention outside of Cleveland. Keith Karakul of the Growth Association said media coverage included an ABC News crew for "World News Tonight," the New York Times and newspaper and TV reporters from Cincinnati, Dayton and Toledo, as well as wire service reporters and stringers for such publications as Variety, USA Today and the music magazines Performance and Creem. CBS Evening News wrapped up its Thursday telecast with a five-minute piece on the rock 'n' roll extravaganza and the Vikings CSU-phoria. The Today show yesterday also touted the goings-on.

■ Alan Freed's brother, David,

said he would have loved to come in for the festivities but couldn't get a plane in time from his vacation at Sanibel Island, Fla. What would Alan Freed have thought about this? "In his day, the people were after him with warrants; and now they're making him a folk hero. I think Alan would just have smiled." Peter Hastings, now the official photographer of the Cleveland Orchestra, had photographed the original Moon Dog concert at the old Arena. He apparently decided once was enough, and didn't make it to Moon Dog II last night.

■ It was sheer exuberance last night — crowds going down to the Flats for the fireworks, tooting horns and waving their fists, shouting rock 'n' roll belongs in Cleveland.

■ Matter of priorities: Bill Haley's "Rock Around the Clock" got wider local play than presidential addresses do when it was broadcast yesterday at 7:58 p.m. Participating stations included WHK, WBEA, WDMT, WGAR, WGCL, WLTF, WMJI, WMMS and WZAK on radio and WCLO, WEWS, WJW, WKYC and WOIO television.