

**Radio York babysits**

# On the trail of the elusive Wolfman Jack

By STEVE HAIN

Wolfman Jack hit town over the weekend for Speedsport '74, and dolled out interviews the way Ebenezer Scrooge doled out banknotes.

On Friday night, at his press conference, I approached the Wolf with hopes for a fast hit-and-run discussion. After trading a few questions, he presented me with a stare, growled a few incoherent words and walked away.

Not to be accused of giving up too soon, I went to the Radio York booth

to ease my ego. (They had grudgingly taken the responsibility of babysitting Wolfman Jack at the car show in the C.N.E., where they had their own booth. When Jack didn't show up on time for scheduled appearances, they took it in stride and found themselves pacifying 250 people waiting to see the Wolf.)

Later that evening I was introduced to the Wolf's manager, who faithfully promised me an interview with him on Saturday evening.

Saturday night, due to the Wolfman's tired condition and the

shortness of his breaks, I was asked to hold off until Sunday at noon.

**TEMPUS FUGIT**

Sunday noon came and went. Wolfman honoured us at two. I was promised an interview at 3:30 p.m. Heart pounding with anticipation, I walked up to Wolfman's resting place, a one-room Winnebago.

This time fate intervened in the form of Speedsport programme coordinator Joyce Barslo, who ushered Wolfman back onstage, and told me to return at 4:30 p.m.

Great. The appointed hour came, and there he was. The American celebrity, 35 and married with two children. Star of American Graffiti, host of the top-rated Midnight Special TV show, and a disc jockey whose show has been syndicated to over 1,400 stations in North America and in over 40 countries.

He has reached the pinnacle of success, complete with three-inch heels, seemingly starched hair and an overwhelming personality.

I had a grand total of 10 minutes with the Wolf, and this is what is printable.

"You have to do right to come out right, you understand? What I'm trying to say is that you have to do right by yourself. You know what I mean? Like you have to be selfish, you've gotta love yourself.

"I'm a liver of life, the natural high. "You have to pay your dues. You have to pay time, blood, sweat, tears and misery. You have to be enthusiastic, you understand?"

But what are you doing out there, why are you doing it?

"For love" Aspiring Dave Marsdens, take note.



The American celebrity: Wolfman Jack at bay.

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a Photo story with **VERNE MARSH**

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