

Bonnaroo brings in big stars, backup

MANCHESTER, Tenn. — Those arriving at Bonnaroo Music & Arts Festival received an unpleasant surprise: Headliner Mumford & Sons had abruptly canceled. Jack Johnson filled in with a loose set, setting the tone for a weekend that also featured Paul McCartney, Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers, R. Kelly, The Lumineers and more than 150 other acts.

Brian Mansfield hit the highlights for USA TODAY.

HAVING THE HAIM OF HIS LIFE:

During Haim's Thursday set, 5-year-old Asa Spears held up a sign reading "Kiss Me Este." So Este Haim (rhymes with "time"), the oldest of the group's three sisters, did just that, climbing into the audience and giving him a big smack on the cheek.

BAD NEWS FOR FANS: Mumford & Sons, set to headline Saturday, was forced to wrap its American tour early after bassist Ted Dwane underwent surgery to remove a blood clot on his brain. "If we could've we would've, you know that about us," the group posted to its Facebook page and website Thursday evening.

MAGICAL MCCARTNEY TOUR: Paul McCartney didn't disappoint, with a 38-song set Friday that went deep into the catalogs of both The Beatles and Wings. In addition to expected hits such as *Band on the Run* and *Hey Jude*, McCartney played songs he'd never performed live until his current tour, including *Lovely Rita* and *For the Benefit of Mr. Kite*. He also threw in a favorite folk tune, Lead Belly's *The Midnight Special*. During his second encore, he picked up a small stuffed walrus left onstage, placed it on his grand piano and sang the *Golden Slumber* medley to it.

MAKING A BIG CROWD SMALL:

"This is probably the largest crowd we've ever played to," The Lumineers' Wesley Schultz told the 30,000-plus people packed in to see the folk-pop group Saturday. To recreate the atmosphere of playing in someone's living room, the group walked deep into the audience, near the soundboard, playing *Darlene* and *Eloise* atop wooden crates.

JACK JOHNSON TO THE RESCUE:

Johnson had planned to make a few surprise appearances before being tapped to sub for Mumford. Still, he gave Bonnaroo fans everything they could have hoped for in a replacement set. He played a new song, *It's Bonnaroo*, that he wrote Thursday to tell the story of being asked to fill in. Later, he segued from his own *Go On* into Mumford's *The Cave*, much to the audience's delight.

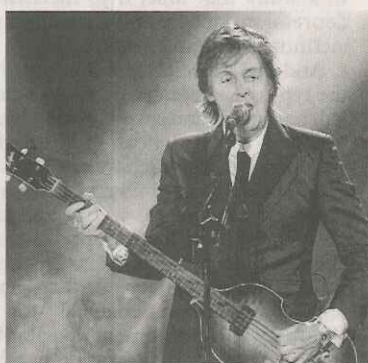


JASON MERRITT, GETTY IMAGES

Jack Johnson subbed for Mumford & Sons and unveiled *It's Bonnaroo*.

R. Kelly channeled Sam Cooke during the Dance Party Superjam.

JASON MERRITT, GETTY IMAGES



SAM SIMPKINS, THE TENNESSEAN

Paul McCartney dipped into the Beatles and Wings catalogs, and even serenaded a toy walrus.

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY: Hall & Oates' John Oates assembled what had to be one of the most diverse groups ever to play Bonnaroo for the Rock N' Soul Dance Party Superjam. With a band that included My Morning Jacket's Jim James and Carl Broemel, Meters drummer Zigaboo Modeliste and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band, the show lasted two hours. R. Kelly and Billy Idol joined after their sets, Kelly wrecking the house with Sam Cooke's *A Change Is Gonna Come* and Idol covering T. Rex's *Get It On (Bang a Gong)*. It ended with everyone on Sly & the Family Stone's *I Want to Take You Higher*.

A HOT DAY FOR FUR: With Sunday's temps approaching 90, Macklemore didn't wear one of his signature fur coats when he and Ryan Lewis took the stage. But someone in the crowd did. "Dear sir in the fur coat, you are insane," Macklemore announced, then asked him to crowd-surf the coat to the stage. The rapper donned it for the duo's hit *Thrift Shop*.

