

Holly stage role fits like a glove

By JODIE MINUS

MUSICIAN Scott Cameron was born on the same day that Buddy Holly was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, so it's serendipitous that he has now taken the eponymous role in *Buddy The Musical*.

Due to premiere on February 3 at the Lyric Theatre in Sydney - 50 years to the day that Holly died - the new production of the rock 'n' roll musical is sprinkled with strange parallels and coincidences.

At 22 Cameron is also the same age that Holly was when he was killed in a plane crash that also claimed the lives of his tour mates Ritchie Valens and the Big Bopper.

So after studying Holly's four film performances and reading his bio, Cameron had no difficulty slipping into his shoes.

"He (Buddy Holly) has had very similar circumstances throughout his life as I have had," Cameron said.

"We both started in country music and moved into rock 'n' roll, and we both ended up being frustrated by producers who are trying to change your music and then finally finding something that you like and getting into it.

"So we both had similar experiences, which makes it easier to portray the character because I knew what he would have been feeling."

Cameron has also been given the approval of Holly's lover and muse, Peggy Sue Gerron, who he met last week.

"She came out from Texas and it was a little bit scary because I had to sing Peggy Sue to her," Cameron said.

"She has very very fond memories of the time."



Rocking: Buddy (Scott Cameron) and Big Bopper (Luke Rogers). Picture: ANDY ZAKELI

Gerron even shed a few tears, saying that the young performers' exuberance and costumes were strongly reminiscent of her happy days in the 1950s.