

'Slaughter' rocks Fire & Ice Bike Rally

Written by Dee Velasco Sun Correspondent
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90's Hard Rock band, "Slaughter" rocked, Grants during the 15th Annual Historic 66 Fire & Ice Bike Rally July 18.

Part of the three-day weekend lineup of events, Slaughter, took the stage performing their greatest hits to an excited bike and roll crowd. Bikers from all over the country rode in and packed the City of Grants during this year's events. Slaughter, the main headlining band proved that true music with heart, can last and affect generations upon generations.

Formed in Las Vegas, Nevada, in late 1988, with lead vocalist/rhythm guitarist, Mark Slaughter, and bassist Dana Strum, the band reached stardom in 1990 with their first album, «Stick It to Ya.» Front man Mark Slaughter spoke of the band's ongoing success.

“Jamming for over 27 years has put us on the classic rock side,” he quipped. “We’ve been doing it a lot of years and we’ve become classic. It’s been a great ride, we love playing New Mexico, it’s very exciting, there’s a passion in the people there that’s awesome, even when music was going through a tough time during the 90s, New Mexico has always been great!”

The success of the band shows in having recorded only five studio albums that have gone, Gold, Platinum, and Multi-Platinum – 1990 «Stick It to Ya,» 1992 «The Wild Life, « 1995 «Fear No Evil,» 1997 Revolution, 1999 Back to Reality.

String of hits also came with these albums such as, “Up All Night”, “Fly to the Angels”, “Spend My Life,” “Real Love” and “Days Gone By.”

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"We tear it up like ...we still do it like high school kids, we love what we do, and we're playing the hits ... we're playing the songs people know and love. It's a good time and the music we play represents a very good time in our lives. And for the kids that are just discovering it, they find it's cool and it has a lot of heart in it." Slaughter said.

When asked if they prepare differently for each show, Slaughter says:

"It's not a nervousness, I think it's, we really wanna be the best that we can be, we really try, we strive for perfection, we're entertainers. The guy playing drums right now for us, Zoltan, is just an amazing drummer. And I invite anyone to look up on YouTube, Zoltan Chaney, and he's a phenomenal show. And you know, Dana Strum, has been with me since the Vinnie Vincent Invasion, and he's still with me. You know twenty-nine years later, it's been one of those things that you have a band that's a real band and it's not put on. People actually enjoy seeing each other when we play, so there's a friendship there that's not put on. We're not all driving around in separate buses, and can't don't talk to each other, it's a good thing."

Slaughter recalled bands where tension is at a high.

"There's some animosity, weird animosity with bands and everything else, and you know what I think it is, we actually enjoy each other's company. We've had a really good run, we're very thankful to the fans for being there through the years. And I think they know that, and I think that's one of the things that transcends all the way across."

The band has performed and traveled throughout the United States and various countries.

"We love what we do, and certainly anyone who goes to the show will see that. We've done Sturgis, we've done all kinds of different ones, Daytona, and all that, not necessarily part of the bike community but I guess we are," he jokes.

Slaughter definitely rocked and entertained the crowd. Even through a downpour, they sang with a passion and zeal that truly shows why they are still rocking.

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