



For Immediate Release

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Naper Days announces Main Stage entertainment

The Smithereens and Matthew Sweet to perform

Naperville, Ill. — The Naper Days Executive Committee has announced that The Smithereens and Matthew Sweet will be performing on the Main Stage during Naper Days, held over Father's Day weekend June 19-21 at Naper Settlement in downtown Naperville. The Smithereens, who rose to fame during the '80s and '90s, will take to the stage at 8 p.m. on Friday, June 19. Matthew Sweet, a Chicago area favorite, will be performing at 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 20. Tickets are \$5 until 6 p.m., \$10 after 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Tickets will be available on-line at www.naperdays.org.

The Smithereens essentially started out as a working band in New Jersey and New York. With Buddy Holly as his inspiration, lead singer/songwriter Pat DiNizio placed an ad in a New York paper for musicians influenced by Holly, Nick Lowe, Elvis Costello and the Clash. He eventually came into contact with three New Jersey high school students, Dennis Diken, Jim Babjak and Mike Mesaros, who had played together in school. In 1986, they released their debut album, "Especially for You," which became a hit. Among their Top 40 hits are "A Girl Like You" and "Too Much Passion." Recently, after a 10-year hiatus, the band went back into the studio and recorded seven albums over the past two years. Avid Beatles fans, the band released "Meet The Smithereens" and "B-Sides the Beatles," which features album cover artwork created by legendary illustrator Jack Davis, one of the talented artists associated with "Mad" magazine. The group retains a sizable cult following, which helps them tour successfully with all original members.

Born in Lincoln, Neb., Matthew Sweet was part of the developing Athens, Ga., music scene in the 1980s. He came to fame in 1991 with his Top Five Modern Rock hit "Girlfriend," from his certified gold album of the same name, followed by the critically acclaimed albums, "Altered Beast" and the platinum follow-up, "100% Fun." After releasing a number of other solo albums, Sweet formed The Thorns with fellow singer-songwriters Shawn Mullins and Pete Droge, and they released one self-titled album to positive reviews. Sweet then returned to his solo efforts, releasing "Living Things" and "Kimi Ga Suki." In 2006, he teamed up with Susanna Hoffs, former member of The Bangles, on a tribute to the 1960s titled, "Under the Covers, Vol. 1." He and Hoffs also collaborated with comedian Mike Myers as members of Austin Powers' on-screen band, Ming Tea, in "Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery" and "Austin Powers in Goldmember." Sweet's newest release is "Sunshine Lies," his 10th studio album, which features many of the same musicians who played on his breakthrough records of the '90s. Sweet calls his latest work, "power-pop-folk-rock-psychedelic-melodic-singer-songwriter-type stuff."

Naper Days is held over the Father's Day Weekend at Naper Settlement, a historic museum village in downtown Naperville. Known fabulous food at the Taste of Naperville™ and its family-friendly activities, Naper Days entertainment on the Main Stage has been attracting a dedicated following over the past six years. Funds raised through Naper Days support education and preservation programs at Naper Settlement.

For more information about Naper Days, visit the Web site at www.naperdays.org.

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