

Ex-Journey singer Augeri Saturday headliner at fair

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JEFFERSON — The Jefferson County Fair will feature former Journey lead singer Steve Augeri as one of its grandstand entertainers this summer.

The 164th Jefferson County Fair, to take place from July 6-10, will present Augeri, best known as Journey's lead vocalist from 1998-2006, at the Wilbert Betschler Memorial Grandstand Saturday, July 9.

"We are thrilled to bring back rock n' roll to the main stage for the second year in a row," Jefferson County Fair Park Director David Diestler said.

Information on sale dates for reserve seats and party pit passes for Augeri's performance, as well as the entertainment on Friday, July 8, are expected to be announced in coming weeks.

The song "Remember Me" from the seven-times-platinum soundtrack album from the movie "Armageddon" represents Augeri's recording debut with Journey, followed by the album "Arrival" in 2001, and the EP "Red 13" in 2002. The album "Generations," released in 2005, was his last studio album with the group.

Currently, Augeri and his band continue to excite his fans and audiences worldwide with his soaring vocal performances and the Journey songs that everyone remembers and loves to sing along with, such as "Don't Stop Believing," "Wheel in the Sky" and "Any Way You Want It."

Other entertainment in the grandstand throughout the week will be the Jefferson County and Badger State tractor pulls on Wednesday, July 6; Badger Truck Pulls on Thursday, July 7, and the Demolition Derby on Sunday, July 10.

This year's fair theme is "Year of the Honeybee," a tribute to the honey and beekeeping industries.

Looking ahead to the fair, Diestler said, this year's entertainment throughout the week will appeal to families.

The fair kicks off with Kids' Day on Wednesday, July 6, with children 12 and under receiving free entrance and adult entry costing \$5 until 5 p.m. Also, the first 1,000 children will receive a free gift. A carnival wristband special will be available for youngsters that day from noon to 5 p.m.

The Jefferson County Tractor Pull is expected to be held around 10:30 a.m. Starting at 7 p.m. is the Badger State Tractor Pull. The classes are pro-stock tractors, super farm tractors, light-limited super tractors and limited-pro farm.

The competition categories that will be judged are junior horse and pony, beef cattle, rabbit and sheep.

Thursday, July 7, is "Senior Day." Children 5 and under are free and adult tickets cost \$5 until 5 p.m. The first 1,000 people to enter will receive a free giveaway.

The Badger Truck Pull will hit the grandstand at 6:30 p.m. where Jefferson County truck owners will be taking turns trying to best the "Eliminator" on the 300-foot track.

Events being judged are demonstrations and speeches, music and drama, junior horse and pony, swine, cats poultry and goats.

For Friday, July 8, tickets for children 5 and under are free and \$5 for adults until 5 p.m. An announcement on the grandstand entertainment is expected to be forthcoming in the near future.

On Saturday, July 9, the grandstand stage will host Augeri. No opening act has been announced.

Also on Saturday are activities in the MAP Arena, such as the Dairy Honors Auction, the Meat Animal Project Auction at 1 p.m. and the Small Animal Auction immediately following.

The last day of the fair, Sunday, July 10, is Celebrate Freedom Day. Entry fees for children ages 5 and under are free and those ages 6-12 are half-price. Current and former military personnel may enter free with a valid I.D. or proof of military service. A ceremony will be held at 12:30 p.m. to recognize the men and women who have served our country.

The 2017 Fairest of the Fair crowning comes after the final questions, an event held in the Activity Center at 11 a.m. The 2016 Fairest of the Fair, Jennifer Michael, will crown the 2017 Fairest of the Fair at the grandstand stage at 1 p.m. The contestant crowned will represent the Jefferson County Fair July 12-16, 2017, and then move on to the state competition in January 2018, competing for the title of Wisconsin Fairest of the Fairs.

The final event of the county fair held at the grandstand is the Action Auto Demo Derby at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Gates for the fair open daily at 8 a.m., and regular admission is \$10 daily, with children age 5 and under admitted free.

Entrance is half-price on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday before 5 p.m., and a family five-pack of tickets can be purchased through Tuesday, July 5, for \$35. The advance tickets are available at the Fair Office, the University of Wisconsin-Extension office, the Jefferson County Courthouse and PremierBank.

For more information, contact the Jefferson County Fair Park at (920) 674-7148, and watch JCFairPark.com for fair updates, or follow the fair on Facebook www.facebook.com/jeffersoncountyfair and Twitter www.twitter.com/jeffersoncofair.