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It Happened Last Night

Jim Ward's Sleepercar Debuts in Chicago

By Gavin Paul Giovagnoli on June 19, 2008 5:10 PM Comment



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Sleepercar's Jim Ward / Photo by Laura Gray

Post-hardcore fave Jim Ward always had a soft spot for his country forefathers, or so the sentiments went last night at Chicago's Empty Bottle, where the Sparta frontman and At the Drive-In member swapped punk speed chops for lap steel and harp pulls.

Supported by a cast of four Lonestar buddies, Ward actually kicked off into a cut from his solo EP, On My Way Back Home, a rather standard alt-country track dressed in belts of harmonies and chug-a-lug rhythms.

On the Sleepercar record, West Texas, Ward suppresses his fits down to a certain degree, but that was hardly the case last night. When the band let loose, it was like a runaway pick-up truck spewing dust at a blistering Texas sun.

We Asked: In the world of cars, 'sleepers' are hot rods disguised as ordinary rides. Taking the metaphor to music, Who's your favorite unassuming rocker with an epic sound?

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Topics: Gavin Paul Giovagnoli, It Happened Last Night, Sleeper Car

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