

'Elvis' returns to Big Rapids

■ Tribute artist Jake Slater returns to perform at Big Rapids High School

FROM STAFF REPORTS

BIG RAPIDS — Elvis tribute artist Jake Slater will return to Big Rapids for another performance at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 14 at the Big Rapids High School Auditorium.

Slater will perform a two-hour show backed by the world-famous EAS Band. Slater has visited Big Rapids several times this year. This visit will mark the first time Jake has performed a full show with a live band.

The EAS Band is from Chicago and backs leading tribute artists, is the official band of the Elvis Ultimate Tribute Contest at Graceland, and performs on the Elvis cruises.

"To have a band of this caliber play in Big Rapids is a huge honor for Jake and the Michigan Elvis Presley Fan Club", said Jennifer Thede, co-founder of the club. "Jake's shows are always great and well-received; his voice and personality can carry a show even without a band. What we want people to experience is the value and energy a live band brings. The magic of Elvis and his music really comes alive with a band. All of us involved with the show feel very lucky to have this band in Big Rapids."

Slater, of Bellaire, has gained ground since joining the Elvis tribute artist circuit nearly two years ago, taking first place for the "Early Years" at the Saginaw King Fest in January of 2009.

The fan club is working with the Big Rapids Band Parents Association on the event, with proceeds from the event going to the BRHS band program.

"We've gone to many great musical events where the BRHS band has performed," Thede said. "It really is a wonderful



BACK IN BIG RAPIDS: Elvis tribute artist Jake Slater will return to Big Rapids for a performance at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 14 at the Big Rapids High School Auditorium. (Pioneer file photo)

program and something the school can pride itself in."

Tickets for the concert are \$20 or \$25 and can be purchased through www.showclix.com or by calling Showclix at (888) 718-4253. The fan club is working on special offers for people attending the show. Those offers and other up-to-date information can be found at www.mielvis.com in the coming weeks.