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COLUMN: MUSIC REVIEW

WORCESTER - For one night, and presumably one night only, this city belonged to Reveille.

The Massachusetts-based five-piece band took the stage in its Reveille: Reborn show Friday night and didn't allow the fans the chance to stop moshing, dancing, and jumping throughout a 14-song assault.

Fans were packed like sardines on the floor, but it didn't matter. They found a way to make room for a mosh pit that spanned from the floor entrance to the barricade during "What You Got," "Bleed the sKY," "Dark Horizon," "Permanent (Take a Look Around)" and "Flesh and Blood."

While aging frontman Drew Simollardes - he's only 28 - did torpedo himself into the crowd twice (during "Dark Horizon" before the encores and during the final song of the night, "Flesh and Blood"), there was no leaping from the speaker cabinets.

From show opener "Butterfly" through the last chord of "Flesh and Blood," Simollardes and guitarists Steve Miloszewski and Greg Sullivan, bassist Carl Randolph and drummer Justin Wilson each had an energy that was through the roof, and the fans responded.

Five songs in, during "What You Got," the crowd embraced the hip-hop-flavored song and Simollardes' instructions to jump. In my view from above, it looked like a sea of bobbing heads, almost in a wave-like fashion, with everyone jumping. Simollardes soaked it all in by nodding his head in approval - the slyest grin on his face.

Through all 14 songs, save for the two times they stepped off stage for its encores, Reveille trudged through. During "Inside Out" and "Plastic," Chris Greene, lead singer of Crownevic, stepped on stage and took over backup vocals usually reserved for Sullivan.

While every song was received well, eight of the 14 songs were above the rest.

"Butterfly" was the perfect launching point - and, really, why not? It's the lead track on Reveille's debut album, "Laced."

It took another three songs before one was really wowed again, and that was during "What You Got."

"Bleed the sKY" was special because of the giant pit, and "Catarax" because of Simollardes allowing the fans to sing into his microphone while he was standing at the barricade.

"Modified Lie" was as intense for the band as it was for the crowd; "Dark Horizon" saw Simollardes diving into the crowd and then crowd surfing back to the stage.

If the band stopped playing during "Permanent (Take a Look Around)," the audience would've had no problem finishing the song. In fact, they were audible during the "softer" parts of the song.

And "Flesh and Blood" stood out because nobody left after "Permanent (Take a Look Around)," making it a true encore.

While there were many highlights, there were some hiccups during the set. Simollardes' wireless microphone cut out during "Look at Me Now," prompting him to grab his backup mic. Well, that didn't work, either, so he went back to the wireless mic and continued the song.