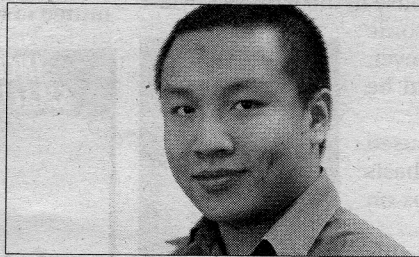


NIAGARA *this* WEEK

EDITORIALS



Six degrees to Steve Goldberger



Eddie Chau

At any given point of any given week, whenever I have a long list of stories to write under a tight deadline, the occasional bout of writer's block will always cramp my brain.

At which point, my trusty iPod or a large stack of CDs will be nearby to help me relax and regain my focus on the task at hand. While some listen to classical or instrumental music to ease their minds, nothing clears my head like some upbeat rock music.

You could imagine the case of writer's block I received preparing for the inaugural issue of *The Crier* last week. One of the CDs I popped into my iTunes was *Clueless* by Niagara-on-the-Lake's own Steve Goldberger and the Fringe Locals.

Track six, "New Year's Revolution," brought me back to the last time I've seen Goldberger in action: New Year's Eve when he and the Niagara Rhythm Section rocked The Anchorage into 2007. It was one of the wildest New Year's parties I've ever been to.

I switch over to my iPod which featured a few Niagara music acts, including Welland's Oliver Black and St. Catharine's Alexisonfire to name a few.

One track which had my head bobbing was "Cracka Funk" by Matinee Slim and the Ultralight Orchestra, whose percussionist,

Penner MacKay, is also a member of the Fringe Locals, another NOTL music sensation with ties to Goldberger.

This past Friday, I was on another photo-shoot at the Niagara Nursery School when jazz musician Bruce Jones showed up to perform a surprisingly great acoustic rendition of "Old McDonald Had A Farm" for the children.

After heading back to the office to write a story I Googled Jones and listened to some songs from his MySpace page as I typed away at my keyboard.

Taking a break from writing to clear my head, I did a little more reading on Jones and discovered he was performing this Saturday at "The Anch" alongside ... you guessed it, Steve Goldberger!

Niagara is filled with such rich talent that will rock your socks off at any given time. Heck, it's why Niagara's music makes up a large portion of my music library.

Which is why it's worth dropping by The Anchorage Saturday at 10 p.m. to check out The Niagara Rhythm Section with Bruce Jones. If you've enjoyed the show, drop me a line and tell me what you think.

Maybe you'll be convinced, like me, that all music in Niagara in some way is connected to Steve Goldberger ... in six degrees or less.