

Colby Nargang

Elvis & Roy Orbison Tribute Artist

Colby is a Regina, Saskatchewan, based performer who pays tribute to both Elvis Presley and Roy Orbison.

You will be amazed by his voice. His repertoire includes lively rock 'n' roll, country, spirituals and love songs. His lineup for a performance is adapted to fit the occasion. Audience participation is a large part of his performance so you may be "crooned" to or asked to dance.

Colby performs at banquets, conventions, fund-raisers, retirements, birthdays, anniversaries, funerals and almost any type of celebration or event you can imagine. His home is in Regina, however, he performs throughout Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. He has developed a special 'niche' performing at conventions, fundraisers or celebrations for people with special needs. His performance brings out their personalities and has an unbelievable motivational affect. He has also successfully participated in motivational presentations to young entrepreneurs.



His performance at Telemiracle27 in 2003 opened the doors to many opportunities and he has been increasingly busy performing ever since. He realized one of his dreams when he performed as a special guest at Rory Allen's Valentine Concert in 2004. In the fall of 2004 he had a wonderful opportunity to meet the Jordanares at an autograph signing session and sang Roy Orbison's "Only the Lonely" with them. In February 2005 to celebrate his 18th birthday, he traveled to Memphis, Tupelo, and Nashville and he recorded a demo at Sun Studios where Elvis and Roy Orbison started their musical careers.

Colby was born in 1987 with a rare disorder - Williams Syndrome www.caws-can.org which is caused by an abnormality in chromosomes. This condition causes medical and developmental problems that vary from person to person. Unique to some individuals with this syndrome is an exceptional aptitude to music, the ability to mimic and their sociability. Although he has many challenges in his life, including problems with his sight, he compensates with his talent and personality.

Colby's other interests are many - he loves race cars, rodeo, and the Regina Pats hockey. In the winter, he has season's tickets for the Pats and in the summer he can be found at King's Park racetrack on weekends if he is not busy performing. He bowls with Special Olympics and participates in programs sponsored by Sask Abilities.

Colby's manager, booking agent, sound and light technician, chauffeur, and anything else that needs to be done is his Grandpa, Jim Nargang.

Colby Nargang c/o Jim Nargang
11 Wilson Crescent Regina SK S4R 5B2
(306) 949-0874 or (306) 539-1487
info@colbynargang.com



Colby Nargang
Elvis & Roy Orbison Tribute Artist

Colby Nargang c/o Jim Nargang
11 Wilson Crescent Regina SK S4R 5B2
(306) 949-0874 or (306) 539-1487
info@colbynargang.com

Country Music News

THE VOICE OF COUNTRY MUSIC IN CANADA

(per copy price: \$3.00)

Vol. 26- No. 5

ISSN 0714-8356

AUGUST, 2005

VISIT THE CMN WEBSITE
WWW.COUNTRYMUSICNEWS.CA

AUGUST, 2005 COUNTRY MUSIC NEWS PAGE 15

CARLTON TRAIL JAMBOREE

Report by
BILL BORGWARTD

One of the first artists to perform on Saturday was 18 year old **Colby Nargang** from Regina. Colby was born with Williams Syndrome, a rare disorder caused by an abnormality in chromosomes. The condition causes medical and developmental problems. In Colby's case his eyesight is affected and he has no depth perception. What he does have though is an incredible singing voice and the ability to mimic. Cody does a **Roy Orbison** tribute so well, right down to the slight nuances, that if you closed your eyes you'd swear Orbison himself had returned to the stage. I make notes for future reference when I cover events, and when Colby sang *Unchained Melody* my only note was "WOW".



(Photo by Bill Borgwardt / CMN)

COLBY NARGANG

Community:

A Regina teenager has found music helps him cope with a medical condition. **Page 3**

Enterprise:

A new business that has expanded to Regina is all about playing games. **Page 10**

Sports

A Regina football star is still in school, but is already being wooed by American universities. **Page 37**

Published and printed by Regina Leader-Post Group Inc., a division of CanWest Publications Inc., 1964 Park St., Regina, Sask. S4P 3G4. Greg McLean, Publisher

JANUARY 11, 2004

Regina **SUN** COMMUNITY NEWS

Look out Rory, Colby's here

COURTNEY WAGNER
Regina Sun Community News

Being compared to Regina Elvis impersonator Rory Allen may not make every 16-year-old happy, but for Colby Nargang it does.

Nargang, a Grade 11 student at Sheldon Williams Collegiate, has been singing Elvis tunes since 1999 when he first met Allen. He also enjoys singing Roy Orbison songs.

"They have got the most beautiful voices I have ever heard," says Nargang.

Nargang does not struggle with music, but he does struggle with things like doing up buttons or tying his shoes; this is because he has Williams Syndrome, a rare genetic disorder that occurs in approximately one-in-20,000 people. People with Williams are often characterized by having a high interest, and sometimes ability, in music and tend to be quite sociable.

Living with his grandparents Jim and Joyce Nargang since 1999, Colby has been performing for groups and at events regularly, already earning over \$1,000 in the last month.

Jim, a retired city transit driver, says that people have found out about Colby by word of mouth, "everytime he appears, somebody else wants him."

Jim may very well be Colby's number one fan and enjoys not only being a sound man at Colby's performances, but going to Regina Pats' games and car races at Kings Park Speedway with his grandson.

Jim is also the nervous one at the performances. Colby says, "he is kind of shy, but I am not at all." For Colby, performing live is the best, "the bigger the audience the better, that is home to me."

Bullying at school is something Colby faces often, but says, "you can't let it bother you, it will eat you alive." Having great friends helps, too. Colby describes his best friend Ryan as an "awesome friend."

When Colby first met Ryan in Grade 9, Ryan was shy, but Colby has helped him break out of his shell, helping him gain the kind of confidence Colby has himself.

Jim is also protective of Colby. A transit worker for 28 years, he is no stranger to seeing kids get picked on.

"I encountered bullying when driving bus, but I always protected my people."

Jim says that Colby's problems with his peers are a struggle at times; the kids think he should be one way, "but he is not."

One thing Colby has no trouble with, says Jim, is saving his money.

"Colby is really tight with his money," he says, and he saves up to buy things that help him with his music.

"I saved allowance for six months to get an Elvis collection," and now Colby says, "I am thinking about maybe buying a bigger sound system."

Jim says the biggest part of Williams Syndrome is music. He says that someone with Williams Syndrome may be more musically inclined than the average person because their brain responds to the music differently.

Colby says that it doesn't take long for him to memorize a song.

"I can listen to a song six or seven times at the most, then I have it."

It is very obvious that he enjoys what he is doing, too. He performed at Telemiracle last year and had fun doing it. He had a lot of friends in attendance to cheer him on.

You would never imagine the voice that you hear could come



ROY ANTAL / Regina Sun Community News

Colby Nargang really puts his heart into belting out another song in his grandparents' living room

out of a high school student. But it does, and as he starts to sing, his eyes are closed and you can feel the love he has for the music. It's apparent that his grandpa Jim feels it every time, too. He seems amazed at the voice he is hearing, even though it is a voice he has heard many times before.

"I love it," says Colby of living with his grandparents. Jim is always with Colby for his performances and his grandma Joyce comes for some of them. Colby says she doesn't come all the time because she worries and fusses over him too much, something he can't stand.

Although there was a time when Colby could have used some help. At one of his first performances, he was a few songs into his set when a lady finally came up to let him know his zipper was down. Colby laughs at the memory and says that he worked it into his routine, but his grandpa was embarrassed.

Colby doesn't mind at all being compared to Rory Allen, and remembers a time that Allen told him there was room in the city for the both of them. It seems like the people of Regina are starting to find that out too, as more people are booking Colby for shows, some as far ahead as 2005.

Jim says that having Colby live with him has been great, and he enjoys doing things with his grandson.

"I have met so many beautiful people, says Jim, "we have a great life."