



## Going home again through music

As all of us of a certain age have learned, and as Thomas Wolfe declared in the title of his novel, "you can't go home again."

Sure, you can physically return to the places and spaces of yesteryear, but you'll never be able to fit reality and nostalgia into the same box. The neighborhood of your early years is always smaller than you remember, its size invariably reduced by the perspective of time.

So what, there's always your mind's eye and imagination to call on and save the day.

Those are the gifts **Dustin Lee** uses to recapture the past in his first commercial CD release "On My Way Back Home," a collection of "earnest, honest and often sparse songs about growing up where life moves more slowly."

Lee, a native of Fort Madison, is a singer, guitar player and songwriter who embraces elements of folk, rock and classic country. In 11 of the 13 tracks on the CD, Lee, a recent transplant to Milwaukee, Wis., weaves a series of intimate portraits that meld to tell a story of coming of age in the rural Midwest.

He sings of the sudden death of a railroad worker and of a natural catastrophe that drives a man to near despair. On the brighter side, he sings of change, renewal and new opportunities.

Lee will in be town this week for a concert in support of the new Rockit Records & Recording release, which he hopes will catapult him from regional success to national recognition.

His CD will be available there; it also is available at Weird Harold's in downtown Burlington. His program will be at 8:30 p.m. Friday at The Washington, 206 Washington St.

Tickets are \$5 at the door.