

10,000 Maniacs, Guitarist In Stable Condition; Medical Fund Established

By BOB HOUSTON
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Rob Buck, guitarist for the 10,000 Maniacs, is in stable condition in the intensive care unit at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, according to Dennis Drew, spokesman for the band.

"That is very, very good news," Drew told *The Post-Journal* on Friday night. "Every day that he's stable is a good day."

Buck was taken to WCA Hospital in Jamestown a week ago after complaining about flu-like symptoms. Doctors there acted swiftly to move Buck to the Pitts-

burgh facility, where more specialized medical help was available. According to Drew, that action may have saved Buck's life.

Drew thanked the many area residents who have expressed concern and offered prayers for Buck and said a fund has been set up at KeyBank to help Buck's parents, who are retired, make trips to the hospital and stay in Pittsburgh near their son.

"People can't send flowers or anything like that to intensive care," Drew said. "Anybody who wants to could send a card or a small donation for his parents to

be able to go down there."

Donations may be made to The Rob Buck Family Medical Fund, c/o KeyBank, Southside Plaza, 730 Foote Ave., Jamestown, N.Y., 14701.

Drew also asked that Buck be remembered in prayers.

"Certainly we need everybody's prayers," he said. "The power of prayer is undeniable. Anybody who has been involved in a life-or-death situation can attest to that. We urge everybody to keep Rob in their prayers if they care about our music or the things we have stood for."

Drew said of Buck's condition, "There were a lot of things that were bad the first day or so. They've begun to deal with those things, so we feel good about that. He's been visited by a lot of friends and he's stable enough for his parents to come home for a day. It's a very tough situation for them."

Drew said he and other band members "really appreciate people calling and letting us know they are interested in what's going on. Every time I go out, people ask me about Rob. Right now, prayers are the big thing."