

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 10, 2008

LONG ISLAND EDITION

## entertainment

close-ups!

Seiskaya Graduate Michael Cusumano



**BY ROBERT KAHN** | Long Islanders with big gigs in the professional performing arts.

## MICHAEL CUSUMANO, 29

LI TIE Raised in Dix Hills GIG Featured in Broadway's "Chicago,"

"Michael was dancing as soon as he could walk," says mom Laura, who watched her son progress through the Eglevsky Ballet School in Massapequa and later the Seiskaya Ballet in St. James. At 15, Cusumano became one of the youngest male dances to enter the American Ballet Theatre. From the ABT, he went on to the Alabama Ballet ("Swan Lake") and the Boston Ballet ("Don Quixote"). When an ankle injury forced a career re-evaluation, Cusumano turned to musical theater, landing in the ensemble of the Elvis musical "All Shook Up." Last year, he was hired as ADA Martin Harrison in the long-running "Chicago" revival, where he joins Roxie Hart singing "Me and My Baby."

50¢