Jazz Jams ready to groove



Clackamas Print

azz musicians, young and old, nvited to attend the Mondayweekly jam session, held in leroy Anderson Room in the eyer Center.

As well as the regular special sts, Clackamas faculty will be ing. Music instructors Tom Clay Giberson, Charlie ett and Eli Reisman will be g bass, piano, drums and guinectively

he invitation to come jam is sional musicians, as well as ts and community members, attend the sessions to play and

purpose of the jams is to great musicians, such as Davis and Charlie Parker, joining together musicians

from the Portland-metro area

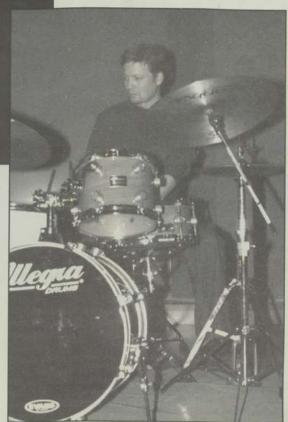
Clackamas student and bassist Zach Sears hopes that the jams will be a good learning experience for younger musicians.

"The best way to get good is to play with good musicians," said

Ensemble Jazz Director Wakeling wrote a grant, which was later approved, to have these jam sessions. According to a recent press release, this may be the beginning of a new era for the music and arts scene in Oregon City.

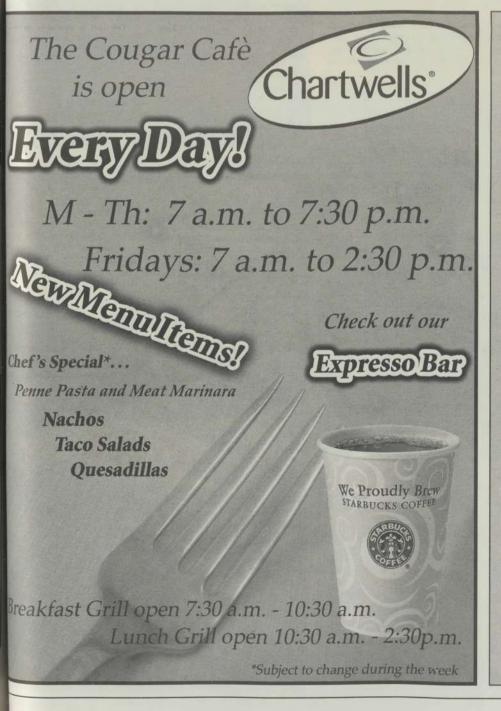
There is no entry fee to play. The first jam session is Jan. 29, and the sessions, which commence at 7 p.m., will run until 10 p.m. Recordings of the individual ses-sions will be available for purchase.

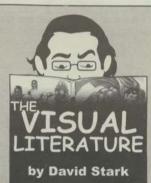
For more information, e-mail Wakeling at wakelingt@clackamas. edu, or contact the music department at 503-657-6958, ext. 2434.





FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Music Instructors Clay Giberson, Charles Doggett and Tom Wakeling jammed out Monday night at the Jazz Jams in the Neimeyer Center. The Jazz Jams are open to the public every Monday night from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. and are free of charge.





In a world where anyone can be a hero, no one seems to be able to write.

Top Cow's City of Heroes comic, based off the popular Massively Multi-player Online Role-playing Game, exemplifies everything that is wrong with the comic book industry.

The first three issues were written by Mark Waid (Kingdom Come, Superman: Birthright) and were done with his usual skill. The story wasn't fantastic, but it was good enough to be entertain-ing. The following issues were atrocious, filled with poor writing and an utter lack of understanding about what had come before. The fourth issue through the sixth came off as nothing more than a pathetic attempt at giving the Statesman, City of Heroes' Superman rip-off, some depth.

The horrendous ing sunk to truly monumental depths in issue 16 where, while our protagonists were recovering a piece of stolen technology, the most powerful of them, the Statesman, decided to go off and kidnap

his nemesis' granddaughter. The art is simplistic, and the pencils, while clear, are reminders of work best left in the early 80s. The colors are insulting and could be done by a first-year art student in only a handful of hours with Photoshop.

The comic chronicles the adventures of the Freedom Phalanx, an uninspired and clichéd super group full of Justice League and Avengers wannabes who, in lieu of character depth, have unconvincing angst issues.

What's worse is that the characters are written inconsistently from one arc to the next. And I'm not talking about little issues like person-ality quirks; I'm referencing major characters having total 180-degree shifts in attitude.

Other comics have had the same problems while finding their rhythm and style. However, the complete lack of continuity between arcs makes trying to follow the story almost impossible. In fact, there is almost no sense of time in the comic. It is so bad that one need not read the arcs in order.

The saddest thing of all is that City of Heroes could have been a really great comic. Compare the current run with the 12 issues done by Blue King's, which concentrated on small characters and their personal conflicts, encouraging the reader to care about what happened to the heroes.

With a comic based off of n MMORPG, there are just many possibilities. For example, the company could have a contest and the winner get to have their character star in an issue.

So sadly, City of Heroes fails to tap into even the smallest amount of its massive potential

Top Cow's run so far on City of Heroes garners a generous 1 out of 5.