

# Former student scores music for Star Trek

by Rick Piller  
Business Manager

**Star Trek: The Next Generation** is getting some music from a Northwest point of view. Ron Jones, a former Clackamas Community College student, is scoring some of the episodes for the syndicated series on KPTV Saturday evenings in Portland.

Jones was born in Kansas City, Kansas. In 1958 his family moved to Washington and later to West Linn where he graduated from high school. Jones then attended CCC from 72-74. While here he studied Music Theory and received several awards for outstanding musicianship for some of his Jazz Ensemble compositions. Jones also studied at the University of Oregon, The University of Washington and received a B.A. in Music Theory from Seattle Pacific University.

After he graduated in 1974 he and his wife, Laree, moved to Los Angeles where he studied at the Dick Grove School of Music, a professional school in L.A. Jones then was a protegee for Lalo Schfrin where he learned composition, film scoring and orchestration.

In 1987 he was signed to work



photo by Rick Piller

Ron Jones, former Clackamas student, is scoring the music for some of the episodes of "Star Trek: The Next Generation"

on Disney's *Duck Tales*, an animated series shown on KPTV weekdays. He scored the music for the show seriously, "as if it were *Raiders of the Lost Ark*."

Drawing on his experience of playing in the woods of West Linn. "I tried to score the show from a kid's point of view," said Jones. "I know what it is like to be on an

adventure." He tries to use his imagination to score the shows. The music of a show should add to the story; it should help convey the story to the viewer. When the scoring is at its best the viewer may almost not even be aware of the music.

*Duck Tales* is responsible for getting Jones the job on *Star Trek*. "I feel that it was because I did *Duck Tales* seriously," remarked Jones.

The process for scoring a show of *Star Trek* is a common one. First, Jones receives a script of the show. He reads it and then forms opinions of the show, what kind of music he should use. After the company tapes the show they send him a video tape of it and he then forms more opinions; as of yet he has not written music for the episode. Then he meets with the producers of the show and tells them his views; sometimes they like what he has to say and other times "they shoot me down. I'm like the court jester," quipped Jones, "I'll argue my point with everybody... they are paying me for my opinion."

"My success is what this school is all about," said Jones about CCC.

"I try to be an example to people... You have to have a dream you can not achieve or else it is too small," Jones explains as part of his work philosophy.

"I consider this the Olympics; to me, arrival is when I'm dead. Why get out of bed if you aren't going to work for your dream." He says of people who do not work for their dream "It is because they don't that they aren't happy."

Jones is happy doing what he does. When asked if he would still do this if he weren't getting paid, he said "Yes, I love this work. I would probably have a regular job but I would still be writing music."

Jones is going to be teaching a class this summer here on Mastering MIDI Music. The class is going to teach students how to use computers and synthesizers to create music. One can sign up for the class which will occur on July 13, 14 and 15 from 9 am - 4 pm in Randall 201. There is a fee of \$125 and a tuition of \$25. If you want to get involved in music writing or would like to learn from a professional then you may want to sign for this class.

## Holy smoke! Batman is back

Roseann Wentworth  
Copy Editor

Holy Blockbusters! Bat fever is here. If you think the lines are long for *Indy III*, wait until June 23. Warner Brothers is going to set movie goers on fire with the long awaited release of *Batman*, the motion picture.

*Batman* might steam over *The Last Crusade* and *Ghostbusters II* to take over the biggest cinematic smash for the summer of 1989. Not bad considering movie industry moguls are expecting this summer to be the biggest and most successful movie season of all time. (Popcorn executives are too smiling, respectively). Some 30 plus movies are scheduled for release between Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends.

Plans to make the mopic *Batman* have been on the drawing table for nearly nine years. Funnyman Bill Murray was once considered for the part of *Batman*, but *Michael Keaton* (*Beetlejuice*, *Mr. Mom*) ended up with the lead as the *Caped Crusader*. So you're saying to yourself, "Neither of these guys seem exactly like the 'Batman' type." That's the point. Director *Tim Burton*, a thirty year old visual whiz, is trying a different approach. Hopefully, *Keaton* will be believable. For the role, *Keaton* looks a bit beefed up--sort of like *Mr. Mom* on steroids.

Although the name may not be familiar, *Burton's* work is. He (coincidentally) directed *Beetlejuice* and *Pee Wee's Big Adventure*, also a former Walt Disney animator.

If you aren't excited yet, maybe award-winning *Jack Nicholson* as *The Joker* will tickle your funny

bone. Now he has a perfect reason for putting that notorious *Nicholson* grin to use.

The estimated production cost of *Batman* is reported at the phenomenal \$50 million mark (a reportedly \$11 million alone to grinnin' *Jack*).

*Warren Skaaren* (*Beetlejuice*, *Beverly Hills Cop II*) co-wrote the screenplay with *Samm Hamm*. Expect eye-popping action, fantastic special effects, and great one-liners. Action-adventure movies are never complete without one thing--yes, a luptious female.

*Sean Young* (*No Way Out*, *Blade Runner*) was originally cast, but had to resign due to an injury days into the shooting. She was luckily replaced by sultry *Kim Basinger*. *Basinger* (9-1/2 Weeks, *My Stepmother is an Alien*) plays *Bruce Wayne's* (alias *Batman*) love interest. Judging from her previous roles, expect great screaming by *Basinger* during suspenseful situations.

The casting is promising as well as the storyline, but if you really want to be impressed, see the flick for the *Batmobile* alone. Slick and black, it's got to be seen to be fully appreciated.

Now that you've been prepared for the actual motion picture, you need to be prepared for "Bat Fever." Maybe you've already noticed more and more T-Shirts with the classic *Batman* black on yellow logo walking around your city or flashing on the backs of celebrities on your TV set. This is just the tip of the *Gotham City* iceberg.

Expect to be visually jammed with that insignia. Probably your own friends and family will start character acting and filling and spilling vocabulary with *Batman* and *Joker* lingo and repeating some of the better one-liners thrown from the film. You may even share the street with a bad version of a homemade *Batmobile*. *Batman* lunchboxes, apparel, stickers, buttons, posters and baseball caps. By Labor Day, the American public should be about ready to vomit *Batman* icons everywhere.

What *Top Gun* did for the bomber jacket, *Batman* should do for the *Batman* logo T-Shirt. I can't wait to own one--soon it will all just be a small piece of movie nostalgia. Enjoy!

## Forensics host tourney

Clackamas was host of the Tom McCall Speech Tournament on May 13 and 14.

There were 12 colleges and 100 participants at the tournament. *Randy Baker*, instructor of speech/communications, developed a computer program for the meet.

"It had some bugs, but it's the best program that I have seen," commented *Baker*.

*Baker* had "extremely competent" help in organizing and running the event. *Orv Iverson*, speech coach at *Clark College*, and *Mike Dugaw*, speech coach

at *Lower Columbia College*, helped with the tournament.

"We had a lot of compliments on how fun the tournament was and on how it ran," *Baker* said.

Clackamas did well in the meet with *Mitch Sherrard* taking first place in prose interpretation and *Sara Lack* taking third in editorial commentary and informative speaking.

"We beat out all but one of the four year colleges in sweepstakes points," *Baker* said. "It was an excellent meet for us."

summer program

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**When:** June 14 - September 1  
7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Who:** Boys and girls ages 6 - 10

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