

Musical Brown shares talent, life experiences



Professional performer Mel Brown is working with the college's Art in Education program. He can be seen on Fridays in the music department through the term.

by Jane C. Wilcox
Staff Writer

Brilliant, talented, dynamic are all adjectives used to describe Mel Brown, local jazz drummer. After meeting him one would also add intelligent, down-to-earth, friendly and nice.

Brown is teaching at Clackamas Community College this term with the Arts in Education program.

Born and raised in Portland, Brown had a comfortable, happy family life with his parents Louis and Ora Brown, his three sisters and one brother.

"I have three Carol Burnetts in my family," said Brown, speaking of his sisters. "Whenever I go to my Dad's house and one of them is there, I just start laughing because I know they are going to crack me up."

Brown's first big break was a working as a fill in drummer with Ike and Tina Turner when he was 18 years old at the Crystal Ball Room.

"Their drummer got sick and they needed someone to fill in for the night. The lady (Turner) is great and so beautiful," said Brown of his experience.

Brown began his professional career at age 15 playing Rhythm and Blues and has played a little bit of everything. His credentials include performing with such well-known stars as Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder, the Temptations and Diana Ross. The high point of his career was playing for the Queen of England in Prince Albert Hall. He received this honor twice, once in 1970 with Temptations and once in 1986 with Diana Ross.

"The first time, with the Temptations, we were in there playing and two girls, two friends, got down and started dancing. The next morning the headlines read: 'Temptations cause riot.' It was crazy. The next time I was there it was a lot more relaxed."

Brown now plays regularly at Hobbit's in NW Portland and will begin playing at the Heathman Hotel in December.

Vocal Nash places fourth

by Jennifer Lessard
Staff Writer

Placing fourth in impromptu speaking at his last speech tournament Dave Nash has taken up a major in communications and is considering a double major in music.

Nash has attended two speech tournaments and competes in extemporaneous, debate and



First year student Dave Nash participates in many communications related activities.

impromptu which he captured a fourth place win in his second tournament against 70 other college students. He enjoys speaking impromptu speeches because there is a "challenge to find something intelligent to say," according to Nash. The challenge comes in this particular type of speaking because you get a topic and have 7 minutes to prepare.

"I like to prepare one minute and speak six minutes," said Nash.

Nash, 18, came from Oregon City High School with a tuition waiver in communications. He took only one class in high school related to speech and has had several independent experiences outside of school.

"I have always been very vocal about everything and I like to talk," said Nash.

Nash also competes in extemporaneous speaking where he has a half hour to prepare on a current event topic and then give a speech.

Nash also enjoys debating. "I can impress myself and make others think. I like when someone disagrees with me," said Nash.

Acting is Binder's passion, life

by Heidi A. Hoffman
Staff Writer

Kim Binder, a sophomore here at the college, is doing her first college production as she plays Charolette Goodall in the Tennessee Williams play *Night of the Iguana*.

The character, Charolette Goodall, is a teenage girl who has

been in a short lived relationship with the conductor of a tour that she is on through Mexico.

"She is a very precocious young girl who seems to keep getting herself into trouble," said Kim.

Kim enjoys doing the play. She feels that she has learned a lot about college theatre.

"College theatre demands

more attention. In high school, we didn't get much direction. We could do pretty much what we wanted to. Here, Jack [Sheilds] helps us by telling us exactly what he wants. Direction makes acting easier," said Binder.

Kim has been interested in drama for several years.

"My favorite role was when I played a drug addict's girlfriend in Reader Theatre's *The Brick and the Rose*," said Binder.

"Drama gives me a chance to do things that I wouldn't normally do, like seducing a minister in *Night of the Iguana*. It's a challenge to see if you can bring an audience into a character's life, make them feel the emotions of the characters," she said.

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Sophomore Kim Binder can be seen seducing a minister beginning Nov. 29 as she performs in her first college production "Night of the Iguana."



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Kim has a passion for art. "I'm a second year art major. Sculpture is my special interest at the moment. I chose to attend Clackamas Community College because it's close to home. The teachers at the art department are excellent teachers and artists. I like the college because everybody is so friendly. I feel like a person not a number," said Kim. Since this play is so different than most of the others that Kim has been in this is a real challenge for her. Don't forget to come and see her perform on Nov. 29-30 and Dec. 1,7,8, and 9.

You can also see Kim in another play, a one act, called *Let's Drop in on Sandy Random* on Dec. 5 at 11 a.m. and Dec. 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the campus theatre.