

# Swingin' around on Jazz Night



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Jazz Combo vocalist Kairi Raud belts out a sweet jazz ballad over Travis Lewis' backing on electric bass.



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Simon Portner's trumpet walls with the rest of the Jazz Ensemble's horn section, confidently blasting out a swinging big-band feel.

JOEL P. SHERPERT  
Copy Editor

If your only experience with jazz is in an elevator, Nov. 18th's Instrumental Jazz Night would have changed your tune.

The annual event, which showcases the talent of Clackamas' Jazz students studying under Tom Wakeling, swung high and swung low, highlighting the versatility of these young musicians.

There were few negative aspects of the concert, and most of these were technical rather than musical. All those involved were able still able to shine.

The Jazz Combo kicked off the evening with three classic tunes, sung with gusto by Estonian exchange student Kairi Raud. Raud's husky vocal was unfortunately obscured by a too-hot microphone, thus denying the audience the true beauty of her voice. Raud stood out over a steady, swinging vibe on the Ellington staple, "It Don't Mean a Thing," a playful piano solo by William Bryan on the band's

second number, and the sweet bass lines of Travis Lewis complemented by a smooth, warm trombone sound from Christopher Wheeler on the love ballad, "Day By Day."

Thelonius Monk's "Nutty" started the large Jazz Ensemble's set off right—a toe-tapper beginning with a playful duet between Lisa Pefelski's bass and Karen Lewis' piano, followed by the entry of a tight horn section. The steady yet lively drums rounded off this fast and fun tune. It was readily apparent that these folks definitely know how to play.

The third tune from the Ensemble introduced the evening's guest—Canadian musician and composer Brad Turner. Bringing life to the swing genius of Charlie Parker, the band put rumbling drums, tight and punchy horns, pleasant piano, and steady bass together to weave a rollicking, danceable tune.

Parker's intricate and varied trumpet solo immediately demonstrated why he is a world-famous musician; then the band was back in without bat-

ting a lash. Karen Lewis' piano solo followed, segueing into a swinging sax solo by Matthew Herington, then drums from Mark Weisgram, in a battle of solos that continued in a rising frenzy.

Turner's musicianship gelled well with the band throughout the set, with his solos on both piano and trumpet playing off the other instruments beautifully. The synergy between all the musicians on stage was electric, and all Clackamas' students had something rich to contribute to the musical stew.

There were logistical difficulties, such as when Wakeling took the stage to lend his seasoned, nimble fingers to the upright bass for two unplanned trio numbers with Turner and drummer Weisgram, but the Ensemble proved themselves adaptable and patient.

Turner explained that sometimes guest concerts are awkward due to skill levels in the students involved, but that Clackamas' musicians are a cut above.

"They really rose to the occasion," said Turner, "and I think they have a lot to be proud of."

## The Waterboy: a big kick in the butt

ANGIE DASCHEL  
Staff Writer

In "The Waterboy" Adam Sandler is 1. awesome, 2. soooooo awesome, 3. soooo \$##%&ing awesome, and 4. God.

These are some of the remarks made by audience members overheard while watching Sandler's newest romp into stupid humor.

"The Waterboy" is about a 31-year-old man named Bobby Boucher (Sandler) who has spent his whole life serving "high quality H2O" to a college football team in southern Louisiana. Bobby gets fired from that job and becomes the waterboy for Coach Klein, a man on the edge of a nervous breakdown played by Henry Winkler (the Fonz). Kathy Bates ("Misery") plays Bobby's mother who feels that everything outside of their bayou home is made by the devil. Bobby has been mocked by ev-

eryone his whole life for being slow-minded, and Coach Klein's football players are no exception. After being taunted and rejected, Bobby finally snaps and tackles one of the players, which prompts Coach Klein to promote Bobby from waterboy to football player. Predictably, Bobby leads the team out of their losing streak and saves the day.

The movie's best performances are given by Fairuza Balk ("The Craft") as Bobby's law-breaking girlfriend, Rob Schneider, whose cameo is hilarious, and of course, Sandler. His goofy grin and clipped speech make the movie even funnier.

This movie is probably not one of Sandler's best, but even if it is crap, so what? We love Adam Sandler because he has made moronic humor into an art form. We love him enough to pay seven bucks just to look at the guy. "The Waterboy" combines two of America's favorite things: football and Adam Sandler. LONG LIVE THE KING!!!!

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