

# Electronic journal publishes student writing

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Contributing Writer

Where is a good place for Clackamas students to publish their best writing for everyone, including college instructors and universities, to see?

The "Banyan Quarterly" is an electronic journal that highlights faculty-nominated student essays of exceptional scholarly value or artistic merit. It may be found on the web, at <http://depts.clackamas.cc.us/banyan>.

"We chose the web-based format because of the universal accessibility of the Internet," explained Brad Stiles, one of two editors-in-chief of the "Banyan." "For instance, if we

published on paper, we'd have to decide how many issues we could afford to print; then we'd somehow have to decide who would get an issue, who we could sell issues to, how we could distribute them, etc.

"If we publish on the web, the number of issues is literally infinite, determined only by the number of browsers we can get to point our way. In addition, students can put the address in correspondence with admission counselors of schools they wish to transfer to, or in applications for employment...so that people can not only see a sample of their work, but also that their work has been judged excellent by the faculty."

The idea for this computerized journal first came about when Stiles was searching for a journal to which his students could submit their works, but found a stunning lack of publications interested in undergraduate work.

"The ones I did find were all put together by students, judged by students, and read by students. Because faculty members don't jury those journals, they don't carry the same weight as juried publications. I did find one faculty-judged journal, in South Dakota, but it evidently folded after only one issue. I mentioned this to Shannon Stiles, formerly of the CCC Library and now with Distance Learning, and Jackie

Flowers, social science instructor, and within a couple of weeks the "Banyan Quarterly" was born," added Stiles.

How the work gets published is fairly simple. The students write their works in their classes. If the teacher feels it has exceptional merit, the teacher fills out a one-page submission form and then it is published in the next issue.

"We publish everything we are sent, so each issue represents the total of faculty submissions," said Stiles. "The faculty are experts in their fields, and we are editors; we would not presume to judge a work not produced in our own classes. Therefore, if a faculty member nomi-

nates a work, then that work is published."

Clackamas President John Keyser first suggested the name "Banyan". "Like the Banyan Tree, whose branches grow into the ground to become new trunks, the college is continuously growing into a stronger, healthier organization through the personal commitment and initiative of each student and staff member," wrote Keyser.

The journal has been advertised in the global market. It is included in a couple of scholarly journal indexes and Stiles has sent e-mails to scholars at such targeted institutions as the University of Oregon and Oregon State University.

## Shadow Boxers 'edgy, fast-paced, worth the trip'



KATY GRANNAN/THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE

Lucia Rijker stars as herself in "Shadow Boxers," the new documentary about women in boxing.

CORINNE RUPP

Staff Writer

It's not often that we get to see an adrenaline-rushing, heart-pounding documentary. The genre is prone to slow-moving stories with stuffed shirts muttering in foreign accents about things that took place before your grandparents were born. Such is not the case with *Shadow Boxers*, a brash,

bold, powerful film about the rise of women's boxing.

First time director Katya Bankowsky jump-starts the film with stories from the 1995 Golden Gloves competition, the first to allow women into the ring. The tales of regular women drawn to the sport who are finally able to realize their dreams moves along like a music video. The film changes from color to black and white and TKO's to back-

stage confessions with an exhilarating rhythm.

Quickly we are introduced to our protagonist, a knockout beauty born in Amsterdam, Lucia Rijker, previously the women's kickboxing champion of Europe, now Super Light-weight Champion of the World and the first and only female boxer ever to be signed by promoter Bob Arum.

The film documents Reijker's move from Holland to Los Angeles and the beginning of her professional career as one of the best boxers ever, male or female. Knocking out opponents in the first round seems easy for Rijker, who seems just as comfortable behind the camera as she does in the ring.

Strong and confident in fights and in training, Rijker's open and engaging manner lets you see into her psyche. We learn of the two pictures she keeps on her wall—one of herself as a baby and one of a boxer who died in the ring. Both remind her that no matter how good she gets, some things are more important. Her incredible physical prowess is balanced by her connection to the spirit. We see her chanting the Lotus Sutra at boxing camp.

*Shadow Boxers* paints a pic-

ture of an unashamedly strong woman dominant in a stereotypically male sport. Director Bankowsky uses her own experiences as a boxer to highlight the life of this athlete so skillfully that you question why you never thought of women's boxing before. Her work makes the oft-scorned subject powerful and sexy while completely maintaining the feminine sides of the characters.

The film is moved along with an incredible hip-hop sound track from the Argentine DJ Zoel, a master at her craft and featured in her own right on several other popular soundtracks as well as MTV. Fast-paced, edgy and graceful, this is definitely not your grandfather's documentary.

*Shadow Boxers* is more than worth the trip to The Clinton Street Theatre. It shows nightly Dec. 8-14. Show times are at 7:00 and 9:15 p.m., with a 2:00 matinee Sundays.

### Painful Joy

by Shannon Recabaren

Locked in a cell where my breath falls thin  
I wonder if this could result in deadly sin  
This comfort and love that you so easily portray  
Calls me to differ, begs me to stray  
Your gentle soul brings my heart to rest  
Taking a break from society's test  
I wear a flawless mask to show my joy  
Carrying a love that fate has chosen to destroy  
Nothing I say could make you disappear  
Falling for you has become my biggest fear  
Your smile transforms me into the girl I'd never be  
Unstable on balance and a little off key  
I'd give anything to hold you and see the dreams in your eyes  
This painful emotion I pray you soon realize  
Your embrace could capture this burning desire  
Please rescue me from this engulfing fire.

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