

Concert band prepares for battle

Elizabeth Hitz

The Clackamas Print

Uniforms are pressed. Instruments of war are cleaned and polished. The troops have drilled for months, struggling to memorize their sheet music. Members of Percy Grainger's "Molly on the Shore" and Peter Mennin's "Canzon" fill the halls. The war has started.

On Tuesday, March 14, about 800 students from 14 different high school bands from Oregon and Washington will battle it out in the first annual Northwest Invitational Concert Band Contest. The battleground is the college campus, specifically the Niemeyer Building.

"It's going to be fun," said Britney Soper, a college student and flute player for the Clackamas Community College Concert Band. "I did festivals all four years of my high school experience. [It] will be nice to hear how far the high school bands have come . . . and not being competitive is going to be nice, [to] have the pres-

sure of competition."

All of the competition is open to the public except the online sight reading competition, and admission is free. Bands are scheduled to play in 30-minute blocks from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

According to Clackamas Music Instructor and Band Conductor David Mills, the contest will be judged "by a distinguished panel of college and high school music educators from Oregon and Washington."

Local high schools competing include: Benson, Milwaukie, Sky View, Lake Oswego, Lake Ridge, Westview, Aloha and West Linn.

"The Clackamas Community College Concert Band will perform over the lunch hour and at the day's end with the Oregon Brass Ensemble," said Mills.

"I think it's great that we have this beautiful facility and can host the high schools," said Music Department Head Tom Wakeling. "It helps them and it helps us."

For more information or a complete schedule, contact the Music department at (503) 657-6958, ext. 2434.



Jeff Sorensen Clackamas

Instructor Gary Nelson and student Jerry Stalnaker practice in the Clackamas Concert Band. The college will host the Northwest Invitational High School Concert Band Contest Tuesday, March 14.

TAXES: Tips, information for college students

Continued from TAXES, Page 1

Those who are on Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, or federally-assisted housing program, refunds must be spent within a month or else it can be counted as income. Anyone who gets food stamps must

spend their refund within a year, or else the refund will be counted as a resource. Even if someone is in the country on a green card, there is still a possibility that those immigrants qualify for the EIC.

People with Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers or non-work

Social Security Numbers do not qualify for the EIC.

Extra Credit

The Hope Scholarship is a tax credit and tax credits are subtracted from the amount of a family owed in taxes. A credit of up to \$1,500 is available depending on how many dependents are in a household. This credit is only available for the first two years of postsecondary education. Any credit received by a family is based on tuition, fees, other scholarships and any allowances taken out of tuition. The main factor in determining if a filer qualifies is how many dependents are in the family.

To qualify for this credit, either a dependent or the filer must be an eligible student. A student is anyone registered as at least part-time and has not yet completed the first two years of postsecondary education. The credit works on sliding scale: a single person that makes \$53,000 a year gets a smaller credit than a single person who makes \$43,000.

The maximum credit any one person can receive is \$2,000 for all

eligible students in their family. The credit is available for an unlimited amount of years for any postsecondary education or courses to improve job skills.

Both credits have the same requirements to qualify, but only one credit or the other can be used at any given filing.

Deduct this

As much as \$4,000 can be taken from taxable income using the Tuition and Fees Tax Deduction. The deduction is based on tuition and fees garnered at an eligible postsecondary school. Personal living and family expenses, room and board, insurance, medical and transportation are not deductible expenses. Those with a gross income of more than \$80,000 do not qualify for the deduction.

To find a tax site near you, dial *211 or 1-888-227-7669, or go to www.cashoregon.org or www.aarp.org/taxaide.

Information compiled from: National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, cashoregon.org, and irs.gov.

HIGH FIVE Team set to succeed

Continued from HIGH FIVE, Page 1

"Because he carried a Great Sword," added Stalnaker. But Stalnaker pointed out "the [questions] were hard because they were poorly worded."

When Fauver was to take a qualifying test, he was on some what of a crunch for time.

"If graded on spelling, I flunk. I finished my test in minutes so I could meet my friend," said Fauver.

Anne Donnellson and Jerry Paulson are two of the coaches for the CCC "High-Five" team. Last year, Donnellson went to another CCC team and Wayne Falogowski, "High-Five" coach, invited the college back this year to form another team. This year's rival is Mt. Hood Community College.

"They're sharp and bright," said Donnellson of this year's team.

"It benefits us because we get to have contact with the students," she continued. "This way keeps us connected."

"We practice once a week on a list of questions," said Donnellson. "Wayne Falogowski provided with questions that have already been done on the show, and we have done our own research and throw the team a curve ball."

Paulson attended last year's game show and said that "it's lots of fun and a good time." She said that a lot of students enjoy attending, and the crew of the game show knows how to make them involved and excited.

The game show was started in 1993. Since the game show's creation 13 years ago, more than half a million dollars in scholarships and prizes have been awarded.

The show is taped in front of a live studio audience at the studios on SW Macadam Avenue in Portland. The public is welcome to attend.

Clackamas Community College's team squares off against Mt. Hood Community College on April 15 at 12 p.m. and the show will air on June 18.

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