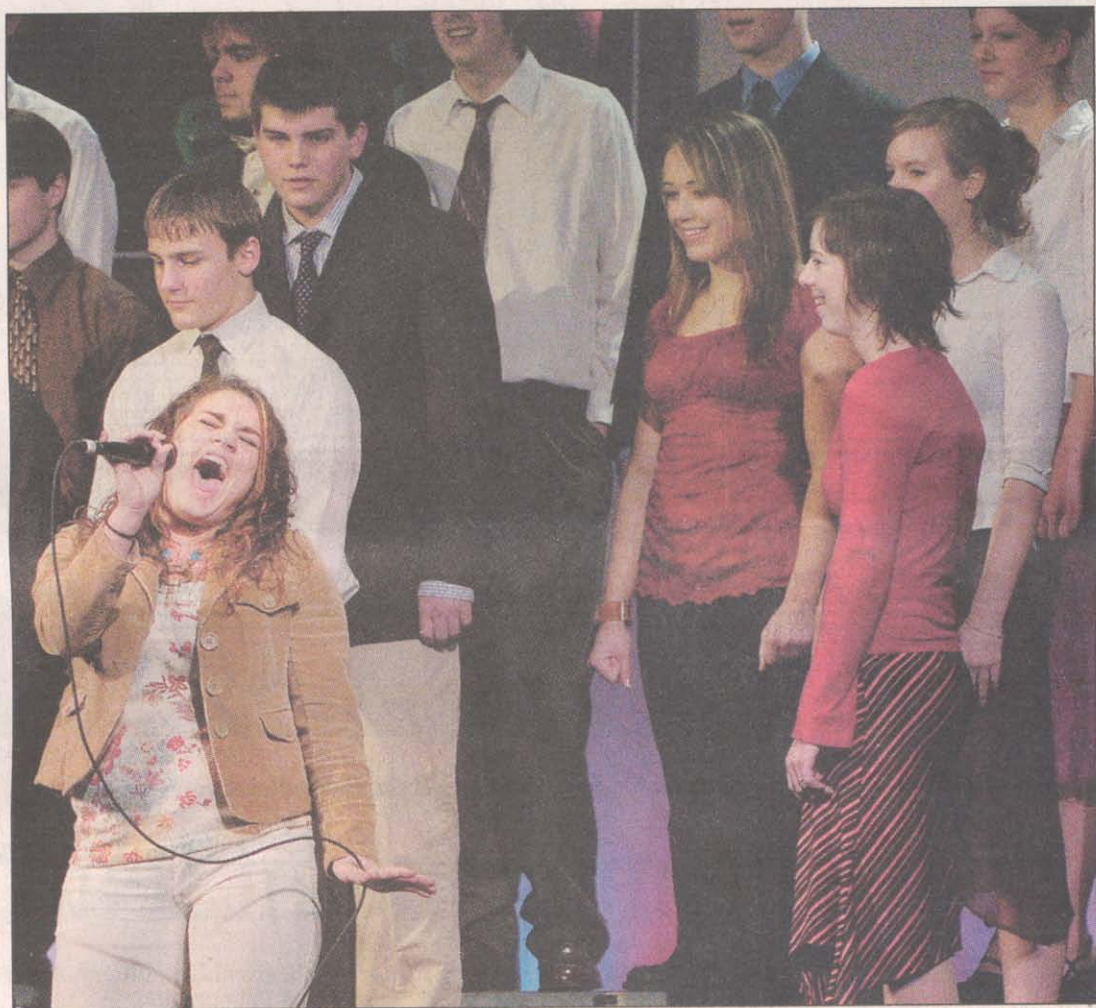


WINGS OF SONG



Photos by JANET L. MATHEWS/The Columbian

Anna Murray soars into "Blue Skies," taking the microphone for a solo as the Woodland High School choir sings at the Clark College Jazz Festival. Woodland's choir, directed by Paul Cline, was one of 24 high school vocal ensembles performing Thursday. About 50 high school jazz bands will perform today and Saturday in Gaiser Hall. The festival will wrap up with Sunday's 3 p.m. concert by Grammy-nominated saxophone player John Handy.



Festival adjudicator Mary Kadderly of Portland, flanked by Kevin Helppie of Salem, left, and Mount Hood Community College music teacher Dave Barduhn, not visible, evaluates the Woodland High School choir during Thursday's vocal portion of the annual Clark College Jazz Festival.

**FOR MORE ON THE JAZZ FESTIVAL,
SEE TODAY'S WEEKEND SECTION**



Bone up *on* jazz

High school musicians tune up
at Clark College Jazz Festival

PAGE F3

Hitting the right notes



High school bands play to win at 44th annual Clark College Jazz Festival

Photo illustration by JANET L. MATHEWS/The Columbian

IF YOU GO

WHAT: 44th annual Clark College Jazz Festival, with an added afternoon of saxophonist John Handy in concert.

WHEN: The festival continues Jan. 27 and 28. Preliminary competitions are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, with finals at 7 p.m. John Handy performs at 3 p.m. Jan. 29.

WHERE: Gaiser Hall, Clark College 1800 E. McLoughlin Blvd., Vancouver.

COST: Admission to festival competitions is \$5 per day; children 11 and younger who are accompanied by an adult get in free. Tickets to the John Handy concert are \$15 general, \$10 for Clark College students. Tickets are available at the college bookstore, the music department and at the door.

INFORMATION: Call 360-992-2662.

By **TRICIA JONES**

Columbian staff writer

Nerves can strike anyone before a big competition, but a handful of Battle Ground High School students agree that practice is the best preventive medicine for pre-show anxiety. That, and being ready to pitch in when the unexpected happens.

"If a (substitute) piano or guitar player sits in for someone, I just can't really do anything to help out," said double bassist Joseph Early, 17. "But if it's a drummer or bass player, they're the most important timekeepers. (Then) I have to push myself to play more percussively."

With luck, Early and his fellow instrumentalists won't have to cope with such distractions as they perform in the AAAA competition this weekend during the Clark College Jazz Festival. Battle Ground is one of nearly 50 school jazz bands vying for honors in the 44th annual event, which continues Jan. 27 and 28 in Gaiser Hall on campus.

The festival started Jan. 26 with contests among 24 school vocal jazz ensembles. On Jan. 29, the festival ends with a flourish: Alto saxophonist John Handy will give an afternoon concert. Handy will be backed by Clark students during the final part of his

See JAZZ/ON PAGE F9

JAZZ

Continued from page F3

performance.

"This kicks off the whole season of jazz festivals. There are quite a few local high schools coming back, and ... you hear some pretty good stuff," said festival organizer Chuck Ramsey.

Ramsey said his goal is to break even: "If we do make extra dollars, it's a good thing. But some years are good, some are bad."

It's the fifth festival year for Battle Ground High twins Erik and Scott Bay, 17, who started competing at Clark in the eighth grade. The brothers began spending more time sharing music after Scott switched from drums to trombone (Erik plays trumpet), and they don't seem to feel that it's led to too much togetherness.

"We're both individuals, and we have different styles," Erik said. Scott searched for a word to describe their musical bond with brass instruments, then laughed when he came up with it.

"I guess it's more melodious," he said.



Alto saxophonist John Handy performs Jan. 29 at the conclusion of the Clark College Jazz Festival. Clark students will back up Handy during the final part of his performance.

CLARK COLLEGE JAZZ FESTIVAL PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Here are performance schedules for the Jan. 27 and 28 jazz band competitions. Schools are from Washington state unless otherwise indicated.

Jan. 27

A competition

7:40 a.m. — Oregon Episcopal School (Oregon).
8 a.m. — Ridgefield High School.
8:20 a.m. — Washougal High School.
8:40 a.m. — The Overlake School.
9 a.m. — Ilwaco High School.
9:20 a.m. — Beaverton Arts & Communications Magnet Academy (Oregon).
9:40 a.m. — Woodland High School.
10:00 a.m. — Goldendale High School.
10:20 a.m. — International School.
10:40 a.m. — King's West School.
11 a.m. — Sisters High School.
11:20 a.m. — Trout Lake High School.

11:40 a.m. — Sisters High School.
Noon — Columbia High School.
12:20 p.m. — Port Townsend High School.
12:40 p.m. — Clark College Jazz Ensemble;
announcement of A finalists.

AA competition

1:40 p.m. — Scappoose High School (Oregon).
2 p.m. — Cedarcrest High School.
2:20 p.m. — Fife High School.
2:40 p.m. — Timberline High School.
3 p.m. — Washougal High School.
3:20 p.m. — Break
3:40 p.m. — Prairie High School.
4 p.m. — Interlake High School.
4:20 p.m. — Mt. Spokane High School.
4:40 p.m. — Break
5 p.m. — Announcement of AA finalists.
7 p.m. — Finals competition.
9 p.m. — Clark College Jazz Ensemble; A & AA awards presentation.

Jan. 28

AAA competition

8 a.m. — Mt. Spokane High School.
8:20 a.m. — Richland High School.
8:40 a.m. — Prairie High School.
9 a.m. — Mount Si High School.
9:20 a.m. — Kelso High School.
9:40 a.m. — Heritage High School.
10 a.m. — Evergreen High School.
10:20 a.m. — Eisenhower High School.
10:40 a.m. — Mountlake Terrace High School.
11 a.m. — Roosevelt High School.
11:20 a.m. — Bellevue High School.
11:40 a.m. — Mead High School.
Noon — Battle Ground High School.
12:20 p.m. — Columbia River High School.
12:40 p.m. — Clark College Jazz Ensemble;
announcement of AAA finalists.

AAAA competition

1:20 p.m. — Hudson's Bay High School.
1:40 p.m. — Meadowdale High School.
2 p.m. — Westview High School (Oregon).
2:20 p.m. — Richland High School.
2:40 p.m. — Newport High School.
3 p.m. — Mountlake Terrace High School.
3:20 p.m. — Garfield High School.
3:40 p.m. — Heritage High School.
4 p.m. — Skyview High School.
4:20 p.m. — Evergreen High School.
4:40 p.m. — Battle Ground High School.
5 p.m. — Cleveland High School.
5:20 p.m. — Announcement of AAAA finalists.
7 p.m. — Finals competition.
9 p.m. — Roosevelt High School, 2005 Sweepstakes Band.
9:30 p.m. — AAA and AAAA awards presentation; 2006 Sweepstakes Award.