By RATHER DURBIN
Columbian staff writer

Some good chukkas came during a video message from
Vancouver Mayor Reeve Pal- lard, who clicked off camera, only to reappear wearing the
garb of Oswald, mascot for the
Penguin Nation.

The rest of the annual State of the College address delivered by
Clark College President Bob Knight on Thursday.

Text:

"The audience reacts to the State of the College address by Clark College President Bob Knight on Thursday. Although Clark had to cut its budget by 4.5 percent, faculty layoffs have been avoided."

Clark College will play a key role in area's recovery, he says

By HOWARD RUCK
Columbian staff writer

Some good chukkas came during a video message from
Vancouver Mayor Reeve Pallard, who clicked off camera, only to reappear wearing the
garb of Oswald, mascot for the
Penguin Nation.

The rest of the annual State of the College address delivered by
Clark College President Bob Knight on Thursday.

Pretty serious stuff.

Faced with perhaps the worst economy since Clark opened its doors in October 1963 during the
Great Depression, Clark will stand strong to serve its
students and the community, Knight emphasized.

"I think times eventually pass. Today, 75 years later, we are
here because of that belief in a bright future for Clark College," he said.

This winter, state budget
veto forced Clark to trim its
operating budget by 4.3 percent. The school expects to cut another 6 percent over the next
two years, as proposed in the
budget plan of Washinton Gov. Chris Gregoire, Knight said. Yet, no faculty layoffs have been
planned. Rather, many
instructors have volunteered to take on more students per classroom,
Clark's enrollment keeps swelling—up about 10

\( \text{State of the College Address} \)

"The audience reacts to the State of the College address by Clark College President Bob Knight on Thursday. Although Clark had to cut its budget by 4.5 percent, faculty layoffs have been avoided."

"Clark College is still doing well, and I'm following the speech to a full
Columbia Student Center crowd
dotted with black and business
leaders. Other than some
longer classes, "we have not had to
impact the students," he said.

Clark, Add page
gacy

WASL, ding

Darn has made several changes at the agency, including naming Ken Kunkleberg as chief of staff and hiring two deputy superintendents. One is soon-to-be-former Yelm Community Schools Superintendent Alan Borke, who will lead the education division, and another is Robert Herring, who will be in charge of the communications division. "In the six to eight months, there will be more changes along the way," Darn said. He said that he's sticking to his main campaign goals: changing the WASL, increasing state funding for public schools, decreasing dropout rates and expanding early learning and career and technical programs. The former state legislator from Evergreen said he plans to establish a new relationship between the agency and the Legislature in regard to increasing the funding to the state public K-12 schools. "I believe that everything that happens up in Olympia is developed off of relationships. There needs to be a new attitude between legislators and OSPI. It's not going to be just me; it's going to be a team of 10 and 20 people going up to the hill."

In a written statement, the agency announced some of the future changes to the WASL, which will include reducing the number of extended response questions on the tests, administering the tests on computers for future results, and providing teachers with diagnostic tests for students during the year. Students and schools should still expect no changes to the WASL this spring, he said Wednesday. "It will take place in 199, like it always has. It's too late to make any changes," he said. "We'll definitely have some changes in the next year."

state schools chief promises changes