Instrument: Clarinet

Magazine or Journal Title: Matteimusicservices.com

Citation:

Mattei, Marilyn. Top 10 (+) Things That Beginning Clarinet Players Do and How to Correct Them. www.matteimusicservices.com

Article Title: Top 10 (+) Things That Beginning Clarinet Players Do and How to Correct Them

Author: Marilyn Mattei

Summary (Outline form):

* Mouthpieces- eliminate stock mouthpieces
* Ligature- eliminate stock ligatures
	+ - * Cloth ligature gives more control than metal
			* Ligature placement needs to be right
		- Reeds
			* Reeds strength should be determined by the mouthpiece
			* Reed placement gets overlooked
			* Sliver of reed above mouthpiece
		- Visual Embouchure Problems
			* Corners-sometimes not as firm as they look
			* Bottom lip over teeth?- buzzing a d gives good embouchure positon
			* How much mouthpiece? – use paper trick- paper between reed and mouthpiece until it stops and put that much in mouth
			* Mouthpiece not on top teeth- hold mouthpiece and barrel using thumb and ring finger and mouthpiece clicks into top teeth
			* Wimpy top lip- push top lip against mouthpiece
			* Bring teeth close enough together
			* Say “hee” with air and hah to tah when tonguing
			* Keep tip of tongue forward in mouth
			* Fast air, warm air, more air, push air to bell
			* Trim or replace reed when soft
		- Embouchure/air speed issues
			* No sound- too little mouthpiece, reed is too soft, too much pressure (biting)
			* No sound but air is passing reed- air to slow, reed too hard, ligature too high
			* Squawk- too much mouthpiece, too much air, too much lower lip, cheeks puffed, ligature too low
			* Squeal- too little mouthpiece, teeth pushing up and closing reed
			* Decent sound but pitch is sharp- leave it alone
			* Play just on mouthpiece for a while and revisit this
		- Tonguing
			* Say tee when playing short
			* Keep tongue forward in mouth
			* “thoo” sound- tongue s touching too low on reed
			* chewing while tonguing- embouchure is moving with tongue
		- Hand position
			* Right thumb slides under rest- right hand to form c shape
			* Make adjustable thumb rest
			* Left thumb- point angle between register key and post
			* Don’t let right index finger hook under eb key
			* Finger drills to cure flying or curiling fingers
			* Left index finger lifts when moving to a key- roll it, drill it, work down