Students honored at Clark reception

Students in the Running Start program will earn associates degrees from Clark College in ceremonies set for June and August. The 86 students will receive their high school diplomas at the same time.

The program allows high school students to earn college credit at Clark College while simultaneously completing requirements for high school diplomas. Students attend classes at Clark during the day or evening and can choose from a range of academic, professional or technical courses. Tuition at Clark is paid for by school districts, while students pay for books and transportation.

Of the 86 graduates, two earned perfect 4.0 grade averages who were Russell Miller from La Center and Sara Ross from Prairie High School. In addition, more than half earned cumulative grade point averages above 3.4.

"I'm proud to congratulate our 2008 Running Start graduates," said Clark College president Bob Knight. "I know that we will be celebrating their accomplishments of these members of our Penguin Nation for years to come."

The Running Start students were honored at a May 27 reception on the Vancouver campus.

The Running Start program got its start at Clark College in 1992. The number of graduates this year is a record for the school.

The Running Start graduates include, from Battle Ground: Mika Wirtanen; from Battle Ground Home Link: Naomi Onofrei; from CAM High School in Battle Ground: Brittney Hendrickson, Lindsay Lermo, Brooke Pillsbury, Melissa White; from Hockinson: Jessica Allison, Katie Handlan, Brianna Olson; from Kalama: Kelli Sutton; from La Center: Erik Gore, Anna Hanover, Russell Miller, Mort Murry, Nicolle Stanfill; from Prairie High School: Alycia Atkinson, Holly Haggenjos, Sara Ross, Kelly Schrock, Joshua D. Stein, Lauren Tycksen; and from Woodland: Eric Eccleston, Casey Erickson, Ashley Hughes, Nicholas Kooiman, Bryan Martin, Kayla McCauley.

More information about the Running Start program is available by calling Linda Calvert at Clark College, 992-2842.