

News Release

South Seattle Community College

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 7, 2003

South Seattle Community College Students to be Honored in Olympia

South Seattle Community College (SSCC) is pleased to announce that two of its students have been named to the All-Washington Academic Team.

Ramona Concepcion and Ryan Parfait will be recognized as top community and technical college students for their academic achievement and community service. The two are a part of a group of 65 students representing the state's 33 two-year colleges – the largest participation ever. The students were nominated through a state program modeled after the national All-USA Academic Team, initiated by Phi Theta Kappa, the two-year college international honor society.

After leaving the island of Saipan, Ramona Concepcion found herself at SSCC, attracted by the small class sizes and where she discovered a love of the written word. She soon became involved at the college newspaper, beginning first as a copy editor, then managing editor and now editor-in-chief. A natural leader, as shown by her position as vice president of student government, she has also shared her love of writing with others, as a volunteer in the college writing center and at a summer camp for grieving children, offering help to express thoughts in word.

At fifteen when Ryan Parfait began at SSCC, he was the school's youngest student. He was part of the high school Running Start program, which might just describe his personality, for since coming to the college he has never looked back. He has shared his exceptional talents in math as a tutor to his fellow classmates, and as a result was awarded "Tutor of the Year" for his dedication.

In recognition of their academic scholarship, community service, and leadership, these two students will be honored at an award ceremony on March 27 at South Puget Sound Community College in Olympia. Each student scholar will receive an All-Washington Academic Team medallion, a \$250 scholarship, and be personally recognized by Gov. Gary Locke.

This year, KeyBank has agreed to continue its sponsorship of the program at \$17,000, making it again possible to grant \$250 scholarships to each member of the All-Washington Academic Team.

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For more information or to arrange for an interview contact:
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