Whatcom
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 6, 2014

Coach of the Year and Two MVPs for WCC Basketball Teams

Local Whatcom County athletes earn impressive NWAACC honors

Bellingham, Wash. – Whatcom Community College (WCC) men's and women's basketball teams have been recognized for their standout performances this season by the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC).

In just his first year as WCC men's basketball head coach, David Dunham has been recognized as NWAACC Northern Region Coach of the Year. The Whatcom men posted an impressive 18-win season this year and finished first place in the NWACC North Division standings. Dunham had been the College's assistant basketball coach since 2004.

Whatcom's accomplishments extend to the student athletes as well. For the first time in College history, both a WCC men's and women's basketball player clinched the NWAACC Northern Region MVP in the same year. Sophomore Kyle Impero (Nooksack Valley HS) and freshman Kortney Grattic (Lynden HS) led the Orcas in scoring all season long, and were rewarded with dual Most Valuable Player titles. Grattic was also recognized as the NWAACC Northern Region Freshman of the Year.

Additional WCC NWAACC All-Stars include: First Team Kayla Tiemersma (Lynden Christian), Second Team Alex Duncan and Eric Fongue, and All-Defensive Team Alisha Friberg (Lynden Christian) and Neilan Pierce (Squalicum HS). Impero, Fongue, Duncan, Friberg and Nathalie Gruber will represent WCC at the 2014 NWAACC Basketball Sophomore All-Star Showcase March 9 at Pierce College.

Whatcom student athletes also succeed in the classroom. Eighty percent of the basketball, soccer and volleyball players achieved above a 3.0 GPA collectively for fall quarter 2013.

About Whatcom: Whatcom Community College is an accredited, comprehensive two-year college with an accomplished faculty and staff who serve 11,000 students annually. On its campus in Bellingham, WA, and through online courses, Whatcom offers transfer degrees, professional and technical training programs, as well as basic education, job skills, and Community & Continuing Education classes. For more information, visit www.whatcom.ctc.edu.

Contact: Mary Vermillion, Whatcom Community College PIO, (360) 383-3310**,** pio@whatcom.ctc.edu

###