STUDENT COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Mrs. Holly Merrill of Yakima represents the Class of 1994 as the student speaker during the 65th YVCC Commencement. Her mother, Mrs. David (Judy) Wells, and her husband, Judd Merrill, also attend YVCC.

A 1992 graduate of A. C. Davis High School, Mrs. Merrill plans to transfer to Central Washington University after graduation from YVCC. She has a cumulative grade point average of 3.29 and has appeared on the Dean’s and President’s honor lists.

Her extracurricular activities involve student government, drama, music, talent shows, modeling, Operation Harvest, Salvation Army, Literacy Plus, Greenway cleanup, Earth Day, American Red Cross blood drives, and Big Brother/Big Sister.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Ambassador David H. Shinn, Ph.D., of Washington, D.C., is the recipient of the 1994 Yakima Valley Community College Distinguished Alumnus Award. In April he received the American Association of Community Colleges National Alumnus of the Year Award.

A 1960 graduate of Yakima Valley Community College who now serves as U. S. State Department Coordinator for Somalia, Ambassador Shinn plans to attend both the 65th YVCC Commencement on June 9 and the first Alumni Association picnic on June 11.

Ambassador Shinn coordinates the State Department’s position on Somalia and leads the interagency team which meets with United Nations staff to review policy and the situation in Somalia. In 1992, he was a member of the State Department’s Management Task Force, whose recommendations resulted in significant organizational changes during the early months of the Clinton administration.

“I am thrilled to be named YVCC Alum of the Year. My time at YVCC was a period of warm friendships and good times mixed with serious study and widening horizons,” said Ambassador Shinn.

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Ms. Pat Brawley, purchasing manager, is the Yakima Valley Community College Classified Employee of the Year for 1993-94. After attending Billings Business College in Montana, Pat joined the YVCC staff on April 24, 1967.

“She never ceases to amaze me with the ‘inside and out’ knowledge of her job and with regards to the volumes of paperwork,” said one of the people who nominated her. In addition to keeping up with her busy job, Ms. Brawley is the current chair for the Washington State Purchasing Affairs Council and a member of Columbia Basin Purchasing Management Association and the National Association of Purchasing Management.

Ms. Brawley is currently studying for the Certified Purchasing Manager certificate.