

Foreign exchange students arrive from Costa Rica

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Staff Reporter

Costa Rican students, Ruben Rojas-Quiros, Victor Morales, Keytlen Acosta and Benita Chen, arrived for an American home stay with their host families for a month. The group is traveling with an agency called Partners of America, and they are planning to leave just before finals in early February.

Ruben Rojas-Quiros, 15, leaves his older brother and his mom in San Jose where schools are currently on summer break. His plan for school is to shadow his hosts and get a feel for what it is like in West Linn.

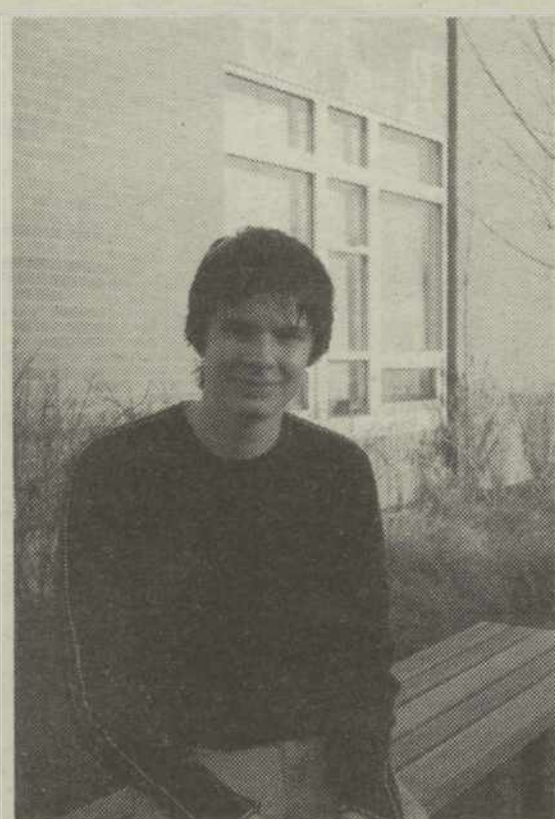
"I wanted to travel," Rojas-Quiros said, who was given information about the exchange program and chose to come to Oregon. Rojas-Quiros previously stayed with another host family in Oregon before joining the Dorway Family.

"My school is very different from school here," Rojas-Quiros said about the school he attends in San Jose called Colegio Monterrey.

"We stay as a group and teachers come to us," Rojas-Quiros said. The students in each class can

decorate their classroom anyway they want.

Rojas-Quiros stays active by playing soccer and has been involved in the sport since he was five. His favorite subject is P.E. Other interests include listening to the band Creed, eating Chinese food and watching the movie "V For



Ruben Rojas-Quiros, 15

Vendetta."

Victor Morales, 17, plans to shadow his freshman host, Kevin Sellers.

"We have different teachers, but always the same partners," Morales said of the school he attends in San Jose, called Monseñor Ruben Odio. His favorite subject is history.

"I wanted to learn a



Victor Morales, 17

new language," Morales said, about his reasons for coming to Oregon, and becoming involved in a foreign exchange program.

"I am a vegetarian," Morales said, and his



Keytlen Acosta, 15

pizza. Morales also likes to listen to James Blunt's music and play soccer for fun, not as part of a team. Morales enjoys watching the movie "The Notebook."

Keytlen Acosta, 15, lives with her family in Guanacaste. Acosta's plan for school is to shadow her host Kelli Walters, senior, and she sometimes hangs



Benita Chen, 16

out with her friends.

"I wanted to improve my English, and travel," Acosta said.

"My school is much smaller than West Linn," Acosta said of her school Centro Educativo Espiritu Santo. At Acosta's school, the students move around for classes like music and P.E. Her favorite subjects

are music and art.

"I like to play sports," Acosta said. She plays soccer, basketball, and sometimes swims. While Acosta likes to play sports she plays only for fun and not on a team. Acosta's other interests include listening to Nirvana, eating lasagna and watching her favorite movie "The Notebook."

Benita Chen, 16, has two younger brothers, who are four and five. They live with their parents in San Jose. She is staying with the Reiniche Family.

Chen attends a school called New World High School which is much smaller than West Linn.

"This school is so big, at New World there are only 80 students," Chen said. Chen will be a senior this year and is the student body president. Chen's favorite subject is P.E.

"I've been playing soccer since I was very young," Chen said. She is team captain. Other interests include watching comedies like the "Scary Movie" series, and she will eat anything except Chinese food. Her favorite bands to listen to are The Doors and Simple Plan.

Photos by Cole Fiala

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