

Exchange gives campus a taste of Costa R

Katie Wilson
The Clackamas Print

Second-year Spanish students at Clackamas Community College had an opportunity to test their wings last Wednesday.

Room 108B in the Gregory Forum was crowded with people Wednesday morning: students, faculty and about 15 retired teachers from Costa Rica all laughing and speaking Spanish.

The Costa Rican teachers each introduced themselves in Spanish and explained about the provinces they had grown up in. Many told the students that they were welcome to their homes if ever seized by the urge to visit.

"Everybody understand?" Foreign Language Department Head and Spanish Instructor Irma Bjerre asked her students in English. "Yes? Good, guys!"

The teachers sang the Costa Rican national anthem and then broke up to work with the students present. They had brought with them maps of their country, coins and flags. The students got a chance to try out their Spanish on native Spanish speakers who encouraged questions and conversation.

After introductions and the conversation time, one Costa Rican teacher stood up and talked about the importance of hugs. "You need



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Language students practiced their Spanish-speaking skills with retired Costa Rican teachers visiting Clackamas as part of an annual exchange program that was established during the Kennedy administration in 1963.

four hugs a day to survive," she told her audience.

Next was dancing. Bjerre turned on some fast paced music and nearly everyone took to the floor, some more reluctantly than others.

Bjerre loves sharing this experience with her Spanish students.

"It's so great for them to be able to talk with native speakers," she said.

The students, in general, seem to agree.

"It was awesome," said student Bryan Goff, "It was great to hear about the culture."

This event in Gregory Forum occurs annually as part of an exchange program between Costa Rica and Oregon that began back in 1963. According to www.partners.net (the official site of the program) President John F. Kennedy announced a call for a "people-to-

people alliance of cooperation among the Americas."

The result was many American students from America and the exchange program which each exchange various culture, information, money for shared projects, and so forth.

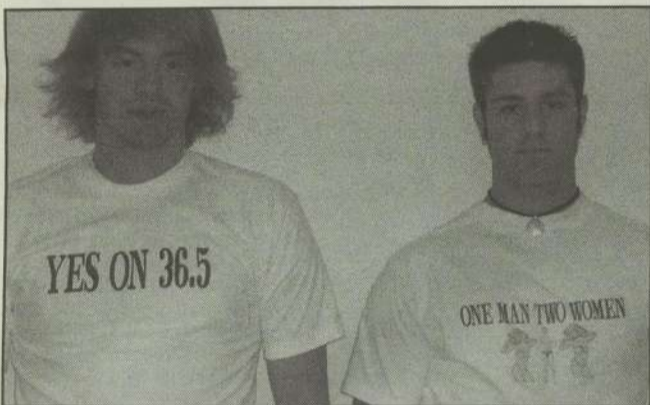
Oregon is part of an island of Costa Rica during October a group of 22 senior citizens from Costa Rica come to Oregon for various participatory projects where the participants stay in people's homes. They are treated to a tour of the state in January.

The same is done for Americans that travel to Costa Rica in January.

Retired Spanish teacher Holley introduced the program to Clackamas Community College quite a few years ago for the purpose of encouraging Costa Ricans to stop at the college to interact with her Spanish students.

Now every year, students can experience different cultures in a few hours. They can talk to native speakers and learn more about the language. Even get to dance.

Students find compromise to controversy with 'Measure



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(From left) Students Chris Williams and Brandon Zornado model the t-shirts they designed for measure "36.5."

Students promote 'One Man, Two Women' by selling t-shirts for made-up measure, "36.5"

Yasmine Najmabadi
The Clackamas Print

As controversy turns about measure 36, two 18-year-old Clackamas students, Brandon Zornado and Colin Campbell, have brought humor to the measure through their "36.5" t-shirts.

The shirts say "Vote Yes on 36.5" on the front, and the back displays "One Man, Two Women." It also has a picture of a male body-

builder with two women in bikinis standing next to him.

"It was my idea; make sure that gets in the paper," said Campbell, whose wit and sense of humor inspired the shirts. "We're entrepreneurs."

"We got a lot of, 'I'd buy one but my wife would kill me,'" said Zornado. Most reactions to the shirts were positive. "People think it's the funniest thing ever," said Zornado, "but there was one girl who got pissed."

The two made the shirts with Campbell's father's ink press and

Zornado's computer. They've sold about 100 shirts at \$10 each.

"We really need

"We get a lot of, 'I'd buy one but my wife would kill me.'"

Brandon Zornado
Student, measure "36.5" t-shirt entrepreneur

email at pimpmail.com.

After the success of the shirts, Campbell said, "There's more to con-

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