

## Young lone man experiences Mexican culture



Steve Allen

A young lone man was not only able to go through an intensive Spanish language course, but has experienced the Mexican culture first-hand through a special exchange program.

Steve Allen, who just finished his first year at the University of Oregon in Eugene, spent three months during spring quarter living and studying in Mexico through the college's exchange program.

Allen stayed with a host family in Queretaro, Mexico, and attended a university there, earning 16 credits of school work, four of those in Spanish.

He, along with 16 other students in the program, spent two hours a day studying Spanish for three months, from the end of March to his return on June 6. Classes were held from 9:30 a.m. to 12-12:30 p.m. and from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays. Around 2 p.m. was the big meal of the day, after which they took a siesta.

Three students were generally assigned to the same neighborhood, so, in the evening they got together to study and went to cafes or bars that often had live music or poetry readings. Many of the restaurants and bars were situated around squares where many people, including families, gathered.

Allen's host family was a middle class couple in their 60s with grown children and a grandchild. The couple, Irma and Caesar, were very warm and giving, he said. "They were very open, really sharing," said Allen. "They were always willing to do the extra thing. They had different views of America, though. They thought many Americans were arrogant." Caesar was a retired engineer, who made a living putting on children's birthday parties. Irma did a craft show on Mexican television once a month. The couple were Baptists, which is not too common, since the majority of people in Mexico are Catholic.

Allen said that the gender roles in Mexico were very interesting, with most women staying at home after they finish high school, somewhat like the 1950s in the U.S. Many Mexican people were apprehensive about Americans, he said. Some people appeared intimidated, but some were very friendly.

The food was good, said Allen, who especially enjoyed the "gorditas", but he said that it could be dangerous to eat on the street. He did get ill one time, the "worst experience" he had while he was there.

Television was "really poor", he said, but everyone seemed to like "The Simpsons". While he was there, he saw "As Good As It Gets" at the theater.

During his time in Queretaro, it was their summer and the weather was very warm. "I didn't see a cloud in the sky for a month," he said. Finally before he left, they got some thunderstorms.

Queretaro was a city of around one million people. A Spanish colonial town, it received money for restoration of its beautiful buildings, churches and plazas from the United Nations. The city, with an elevation of around six thousand feet, was around two hours northwest of Mexico City. Sometimes the wind blew in smog from Mexico City and sometimes the skies appeared strange from all the fires, Allen said.

Allen said that his classes at the university were at first pretty



Aztec dancers, Mexico City



The Pyramid of the Sun at the ancient Mexican city of Teotihuacan

easy, but got harder and harder as time progressed. He said that he struggled in grammar, getting C's, but was able to get A's in conversation. He met several friends while he was there and often hung out with Mexican people and enjoyed speaking Spanish with them. He also liked reading Mexican magazines and newspapers.

He said that much of the news there is censored by the government and one magazine, called "Moderno", was published underground because of the death of one of its officials.

Allen said he had hoped to travel to Chiapas, where a revolution has of the indigenous peoples had broken out, but the situation was too dangerous. He did, however, travel to Teotihuacan, an ancient Aztec city, which says, Allen, was very impressive and mystical. The pyramids of the sun and the moon in Teotihuacan were built around the time of the Egyptian pyramids. The 360 steps of the pyramid of the sun signified a

yearly calendar, with 18 months of 20 days, which turns out to be only about 100 second off today's calculations, says Allen.

Allen flew to Mexico to begin his exchange, but decided to return by bus. At one point, when he had been on a bus day and night for four days, he was awakened suddenly by a man with a gun demanding to see his papers. Allen, who at first was very disoriented, finally woke up enough to understand what the man wanted. Some of the buses in Mexico were very nice, he said, but some were really bad and even stunk. His trip back took five days. He stopped at Redding to visit relatives and then at Eugene to stay with friends before returning home to lone.

Allen, 19, who along with his sister, Liz, visited the Ecuadorian rain forest last year, hopes to go to Argentina either his junior or senior year. The son of Dick and Jannie Allen of Lone, Steve plans to major in anthropology or sociology at the U of O.

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

**BULL PRAIRIE  
CAMPGROUND  
MAINTENANCE**  
USDA Forest Service  
Umatilla National Forest  
Heppner Ranger District  
Grant County  
Oregon

On July 21, 1998, District Ranger Delanne Ferguson made a decision to implement the Bull Prairie Campground Maintenance Projects on the Heppner Ranger District. This project includes trail maintenance, road maintenance, dock replacement and parking lot maintenance.

The Decision Memo and associated project file are available upon request from the Heppner Ranger District, P.O. Box 7, Heppner, OR 97836.

This decision is not subject to appeal pursuant to Forest Service regulations at 36 CFR 215.8(a).  
Published: July 29, 1998

### CARD OF THANKS

The town is in an uproar,  
The Waterpark, vandals and crime.  
The newspaper is full of stories,  
But last week, we had a good time.  
We would like to tell the town of Heppner,  
How very proud that they should be.  
We got the chance to watch some baseball,  
Oh what fun it was to see.  
We can't believe the front page,  
Of our paper didn't say,  
"Willow Creek Gets a Trophy at the Tournament on Saturday."  
The Willow Creek All-Star team,  
Made up of 13 talented boys.  
They went up north to Boardman,  
At that tournament and made some noise.  
Many people came to watch  
Our young men made us proud.  
They played in the heat by the river,  
In front of a cheering crowd.  
They played each and every day,  
With one loss to their name.  
They didn't seem frustrated and  
They never went insane.  
Saturday was the final game  
The scoreboard said we hadn't won.  
The tournament now was over  
And their season now was done.  
Next came the trophy presentation  
For first and second places.  
Our team was out there waiting  
With smiles upon their faces.  
Oh how proud we were of these kids  
And their talent is a special art.  
For their trophy might say "second,"  
But they are winners in our heart.

Grateful thanks to all who showed so much kindness to me during my recent illness.  
Fr. Gerry Condon  
7-29-1p

Thanks to the quick response of neighbors and friends; the lone, Lexington and Heppner fire depts.; John Boyer; and our son and son's in-laws for their help in our wheat fire on Monday.  
Mike and Marlene Gray and Uncle Bob  
7-29-1c

Thanks to the lone and Heppner fire depts. and a special thanks to neighbors and concerned people who brought their equipment to help fight out fire.  
Thanks,  
Dick Ruhl and family  
7-29-1c

The Heppner Day Care would like to say Thank You to the following people for donating items to a much worthy cause that brought in \$310 and would like you to know we appreciated your thoughtfulness and dedication to your local Day Care.  
Donations: Bonnie Buschke; Chuck and Carolyn Holt; Janet Taylor; Andrew Bara's grandma; Debbie Young; Tom and Sue Norton; Sandi Day; Ann and John Murray; Fran Greenlaw; Myrtle McMillan; Sandi Putman; Pat Wright; Les and Janice Paustian; Marcia Anderson; Jimmy Thompson; Marshall and Etta

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Lovgren; Marilyn; Marc and Janice Huddleston; Bill and Merilee McDowell; Sue Thompson; Fred Painter; Renee Yocum; Bonnie Grant; Robin and Mike Jones; Cindy and Mike Brosnan; Patti Pappas; and those who left their donations on the porch after hours.

Thank You to the following for setting up and cleaning up. With-out you, we couldn't have gotten done in time: Arletha Brannon; Kim A. Cutsforth; Michelle All-dritt; Lindsay Greif; Sue and Tan and David Norton; Brian; Russ Brannon; Renee Yocum; Som-baht Padberg; Cindy Brosnan; Patti Pappas.  
7-29-1c

### NOTICES

**Free counseling** for victims of abuse and sexual assault. 24 hr. Crisis Line, 1-800-833-1161. Shelter available.  
6-17-52c

**Have you felt threatened or intimidated lately?** Are you dissatisfied with police response? Need to find out what you can do? Come meet with the Committee of Concerned Citizens! Call 676-5253.  
7-22-tfc

We don't have a new sidewalk, but we do have a sale! Additional 10% off books and copies. **Twice Upon a Time...** Friday, July 31, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
7-29-1c

### HELP WANTED

**Occasional Part-Time Housekeeper** wanted. 19 hours or less per week. Day shift. Wages: \$7.37-8.28 per hour DOE. Apply: Pioneer Memorial Hospital-Human Resources. (541) 676-9133.  
7-22-2c

**Scale Attendant/ Clerical Assistant**

Finley Buttes Landfill Company, located outside of Boardman, OR., is seeking a Scale Attendant/Clerical Assistant. This position is the primary point of contact with the general public and requires good telephone, public relations and general office skills.

The ideal candidate will possess good math and computer skills, good oral and written communication skills, experience working with the public and handling cash. High school diploma/GED, a steady work history and a good attendance record is required.

Finley Buttes offers a competitive wage, an excellent benefits package and steady hours.

If you possess the required skills and experience, please call (360) 695-4858 for an application or send a resume with cover letter and salary requirements to:

Finley Buttes Landfill Company; Corporate Headquarters; Human Resource Department; P.O. Box 61726; Vancouver, WA. 98666

Non-smoking facility. Pre-employment drug screen. Equal Opportunity Employer.  
7-22-2c

Current openings for **CNAs, night shift** 11:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m. Full-time with benefits. Wages \$7.19-\$8.02. Apply-Pioneer Memorial Hospital, Human Resources. (541) 676-9133.  
7-22-2c

### Equipment Operator

Finley Buttes Landfill Company, located 10 miles south of Boardman, Oregon, is seeking a Jr. Equipment Operator.

Primary responsibilities include operating the tipper, water truck, and other equipment as assigned. This position may also perform waste screening functions and general facility labor tasks.

Requirements for this position are a minimum of 3 years operating mobile construction equipment, good oral and written communication skills in English, steady employment history, excellent attendance record and a high school diploma/GED.

Finley Buttes offers a competitive wage, excellent benefits and steady work hours.

To apply for this position, please pick up an application at the landfill between 8:00 and 4:30, Monday through Friday (73221 Bombing Range Road, Boardman), or contact the main office and an application will be mailed to you:  
Finley Buttes Landfill Com-

pany; Human Resources Department; P.O. Box 61726; Vancouver, WA. 98666. 360-695-4858.

Pre-employment physical and drug screen. Non-smoking facility. EOE.  
7-22-2c

**Part-time receptionist** needed. Send application/resume to: P.O. Box 572, Heppner, OR.  
7-29-tfc

**Ranch hand wanted.** Cattle, hay, etc. Excellent package. Call 676-9202.  
7-29-1c

**Workforce Development Specialist** position available. Position requires intensive planning and case management activities leading to unsubsidized employment for JTPA eligible participants.

Incumbent must possess excellent communication and record keeping skills, be able to conduct classroom sessions, be a team player and must possess knowledge regarding delivery of high quality, customer-oriented services. BA/BS degree strongly desired, relevant experience may substitute. Position is based at Hermiston office. For application, contact CAPECO at 276-1926, extension 100, or phone toll-free, 1-800-752-1139, ext. 100. Deadline for receipt of application is 5 p.m. on Aug. 3, 1998. Equal Opportunity Employer.  
7-29-1c

Morrow County is now accepting applications for temporary workers to do **litter patrol** at the Fair and Rodeo grounds during the week of Aug. 19-23 and **night security** Aug. 18-22, 1998. Pay is \$6 per hour.

Applications may be obtained at the Courthouse and must be returned to Andrea Denton, Morrow County Courthouse, P.O. Box 788, Heppner, OR. 97836 by 5 p.m. on Aug. 7, 1998.

Morrow County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of service.  
7-29-2c

### Morrow County Sheriff's Office Communications Officer

For an opening and to build an eligibility list: job requires typing, general office experience and ability to function in stressful situations. Duties include taking 9-1-1 calls, radio dispatching, teletype operation, working with word processing and computer files. Must be willing to work any shift. Office operates 24-hours a day. Pay starts at \$1,808/month.

Apply at Sheriff's Office, 325 Willow View Drive, Heppner, OR.; phone (541) 676-5317. Return by closing date, Friday, Aug. 14, 1998, 5 p.m.

Morrow County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age and handicapped status in employment or the provision of services.  
7-29-3c

### REAL ESTATE

Home For Sale: custom-built in 1949, 4114 sq. ft., Heppner, 655 Hager St. Contact Robert Mahoney, 676-5876, or Mike Mahoney, 676-5157.  
4-8-tfc

Heppner two story, 4 bedroom home, built 1900s. Outbuildings. 507 Gale, \$39,000. Call 360-834-0524.  
6-17-tfc

**Heritage Land Co.**  
180 W. Baltimore #5, Heppner  
676-5049

- 25,000 - one bedroom, one bath, lots of storage on two deeded lots, older single-wide mobile. Owner could help finance.
- 89,900 - 3 bdrm, 2 bath "A" frame house with great view on 2 acre lots M/L, has wood stove and hot tub. A nice place for a home or recreation at Blake Ranch.
- 7,500 - additional 1 acre lot at Blake Ranch. Water and utilities available.

Sharon Lewis 676-5233  
JoyceKay Hollomon 676-5542  
Bob Ployhar 676-9649

**RENTALS**  
**Blue Spruce Apartments**  
For rent. 1-888-982-3456.  
4-22-tfc