

Brevard College students abroad in Costa Rica

by **Judy Hoxit**
Contributor

Backo Radosav, Henri Erti, Will Hartzog and Tiffen Tapia are the third group of Spanish minors from Brevard College who are spending the semester in Costa Rica studying at Amistad Institute.

During my two-day visit in February to check on the program and the students, the following observations made a surprising and wonderful impression: their enthusiasm for speaking only Spanish among themselves and with everyone in the neighborhood where they live; the mutual love and respect between their host family and themselves; their ability to adapt to the “Pura Vida” life style while still attending to class requirements; the number of female admirers they have attracted.

All four live and eat with host families, take three classes at Amistad Institute and volunteer in the community. Will works with the canopy/zip line tours, and with his guitar, he serenades his family and all students and staff at Amistad. Henri is putting his experience in hotel management and accounting into practice at a small hotel. Backo is working in the neighborhood soup kitchen where he learning to cook rice and beans. Tiffen is helping at a medical clinic.

In order to study abroad in Costa Rica for the Spanish Minor in Language and Culture, a Brevard student must complete Spanish 301 and 302 at Brevard College. Please see Judy Hoxit MG 109 for more details. The following are quotes from three of the students. Unfortunately Tiffen did not have time to write.

Henri Erti---“Costa Rica, translation is actually Rich Coast. That truly is true. I prefer to call Costa Rica a paradise. Always sunny, smiling people with souls full of joy. When one gets to live in a place like this, it changes you a lot. We only have one life and I came to this realization in Costa Rica. Food, culture, nature, beaches and beautiful girls sound pretty amazing

to me! Pura Vida! See you in May, tanned and full of life!

Backo Radosav---As an international traveler, I claim that a semester in Costa

and Culture, but I will also explore a completely different culture, civilization and region. I would strongly recommend it to everyone who is thinking about it.

Will Hartzog—Pura Vida!—translation: the “pure life” and that ain’t no joke. People be livin’ right down here. Fresh fruit on the trees wherever you may roam; hot sun and a cool breeze and no cellular telephone, the families that we live with treat us as if we were their own. The mountains here are just as beautiful as the ones back home but lacking my friends with which I wish to roam. Recommendations from me would be to enroll rapido in the classes of español. Shout out to my

musical peeps and all those others who are my sisters and brothers. So buy yourself a ticket so cheapa and get yourself to Costa Rica.



From left to right: Tiffen, Will, Backo, and Henri

Rica is by far one of the most exciting things I have done. Not only will I have a unique chance to master my Spanish skills and finalize a minor in Spanish language

The Clarion

Senior Staff

Editor in Chief:	Travis Wireback	Managing Editor:	John Climer
News Editor:	Open	Copy Editor:	Open
Business Editor:	Open	Layout & Design:	Travis Wireback
Opinion Editor:	Travis Taylor	Photo Editor:	Marc Newton
Arts & Life Editor:	Will Byers	Business Manager:	Emily Clark
Sports Editor:	Open	Faculty Advisor:	John B. Padgett

Other Staff

Karam Boeshaar
Dabney Farmer
David Alexander

Megan Street
Dimitri McCloghry
Michael Eleazer

Unsigned editorials represent the collective opinion of the staff of *The Clarion*. Other opinions expressed on this page are those of respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of Brevard College.

Letters Policy

The Clarion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit letters for length and content. All letters intended for publication must be signed.

All correspondence should be mailed to:

The Clarion, Brevard College, One Brevard College Drive, Brevard, NC 28712