

# Exchange students discover new life

**HEATHER MULLINIX**  
Entertainment Editor

When students hear that Hugo Cortes gets out of school at 12 noon, they think, "Hey, I can deal with that!" Suddenly their smiles turn to frowns when they hear that he goes to school at 7 a.m. in the morning. That is how they do things at the private school Cortes attends in Colombia.

Cortes, one of the three exchange students in school, is not the only person who has had to adjust to a change in schedules. Anne Edwards, from the island of Barbados is accustomed to a nine to three school day; however, classes last only 35 minutes. After three periods, students get a 30 minute break. Edwards receives a one hour lunch break. Bard Nordby, from Norway, starts school at 8:30.

The schedule for the school day is not the only thing that is different. The teaching style is different. Nordby said, "In the school I attend, teachers do not lecture. They give the basic ideas on a piece of paper." Cortes said, "In Colombia, the teachers, not the students, change classes."

Exchange students are familiar with dress code. "I never had to think about what to wear to school," said Edwards, "In Barbados, I had to wear a uniform." Cortes is accustomed to wearing a uniform, also.

In Colombia, Norway and Barbados, the dating scene is basically the same as in the U.S.; however, there are a few differences. "In Colombia it is considered an improper display of affection to hold hands in public," said Cortes.

How would you feel if you had to be 18-years-old to get your driver's license? That's how it is in Norway. Norwegians have to be 18-years-old to get a license and students cannot drive to school. Edwards and Barbados does not have that privilege either. Surprisingly enough, Colombian Cortes is allowed to drive to the private school he attends.

All three exchange students say that there isn't a big drug problem in their schools. Edwards headed a project called "Clean-up Campaign." There were some students who were experimenting with drugs, so she and some of her friends decided



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## Getting involved

Exchange student Bard Nordby helps his new classmates with senior preparations before the first day of school at the home of Todd Wallace. Nordby assisted in decorating t-shirts and posters.

to talk to them. The program worked because now there are no drugs circulating in her school in Barbados.

Another cultural difference is in the curfew familiar to American teens. Nordby does not have

one; however, he does have to call his mom and let her know where he is.

First impressions of this country are not the same. Cortes said, "It bothers me that I can not speak English. It especially both-

ers me at home when all the members of the Davis family are talking, and I cannot understand them. It also gives me a problem

## S.R.A. collects fee

**MISSE LARSEN**  
Business Manager

When the Student Representative Assembly met on the afternoon of Sept. 7, they decided to do away with the early fundraiser. In place of the fundraiser all students will pay a \$5 activity fee. The fee was collected Sept. 25-29.

The SRA decided on the fee because the fundraisers have not always worked in the past years. The reason that the fundraiser did not work was that students did not raise enough money to support school activities. The fee of \$5 should cover all activities.

The money collected from the fee will support such activities as the Prom, the Twerp dance, and some senior activities like the picnic. If enough money is raised, then there is the promise of more activities, possibly more dances.

There will be no separate class collections for the fee. Students who pay the fee will be allowed to participate in these activities. Not paying the fee will bar the individual from any school activity that the money helps to support. For instance, students who do not pay the \$5 fee can not go to the Prom under any circumstances. "There will be no last minutes collecting of fees," said SRA advisors Linda Tharin and Dina Pitt.

  
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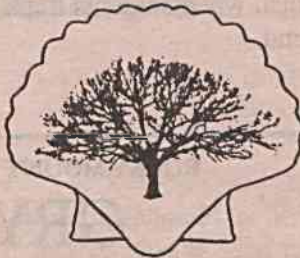
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