

# The Clackamas Print

First copy FREE, additional copies 1¢

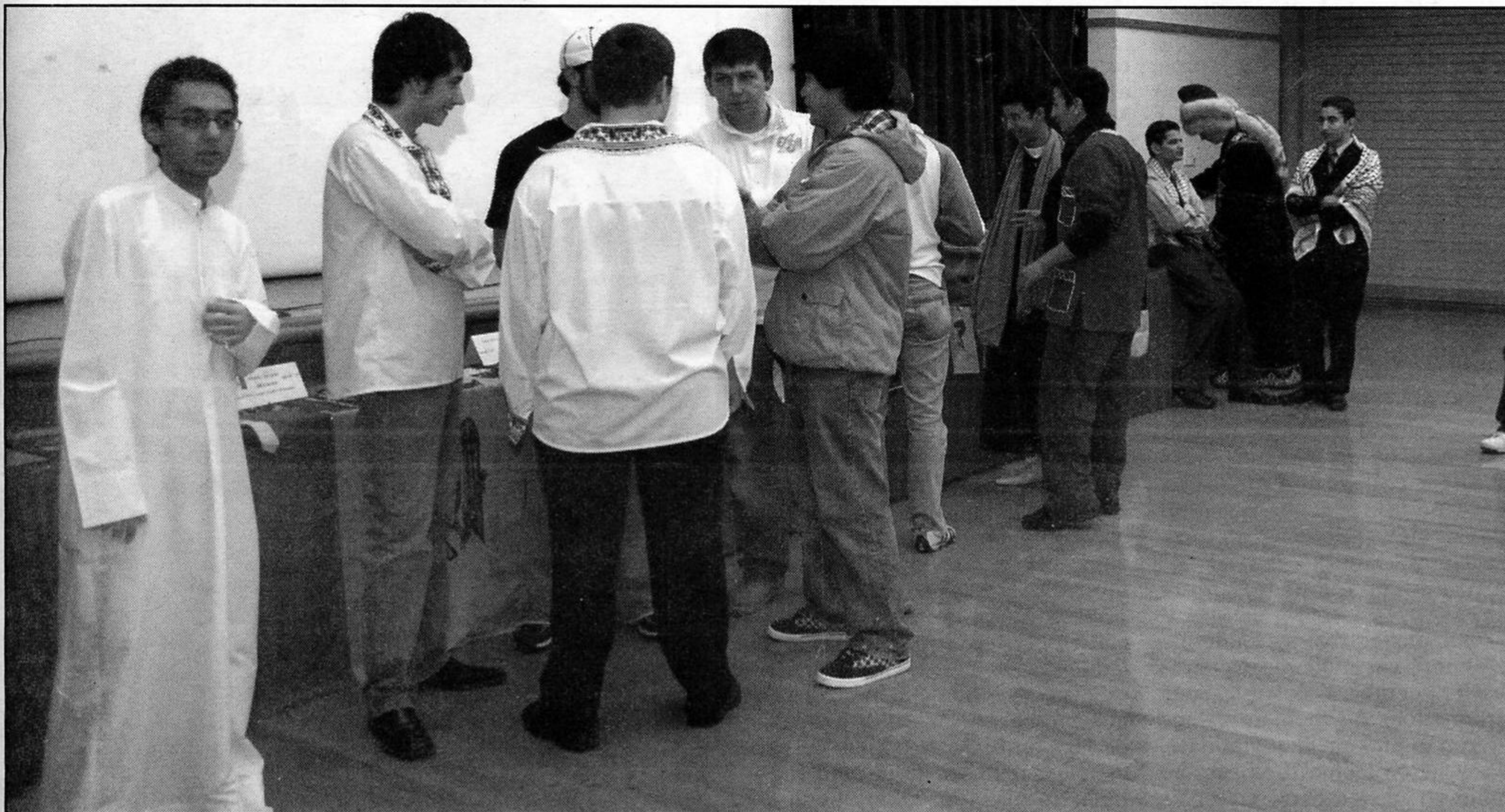
An independent, student-run newspaper since 1966

Clackamas Community College, Oregon City, OR

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2007

Volume 40, Issue 13

## Messages of international peace



Photos by Megan Koler Clackamas Print

### Megan Koler

News Editor

Eighteen different countries, including Kazakhstan, Iraq, Moldova, Russia, Kuwait and Palestine, were represented by student ambassadors in the Gregory Forum yesterday to promote diversity in education.

All the students participate in a non-profit, educational organization called "Student Visions" that is involved in many different programs, such as mentoring, tutoring and SAT/ACT preparation.

"The program we are going to be focusing on a lot today is the United Nations of Young Ambassadors," said Christina Pham, one of the organizers of the event. "We are actually going to be presenting some of the topics we are speaking of today to the United Nations General Assembly next month in New York."

The presentation before the U.N. next month will be the first of its kind in U.N. history.

Before the two presentations yesterday, each representative prepared a display with little pictures and objects representing their country, along with a short speech concerning their country and its place in the

world.

Assel Zholdybayeva, a student ambassador from Kazakhstan, stood next to pictures of her country and a model of a traditional Kazakhstani yurt, and spoke briefly about her experiences in Student Visions.

"Look at us; we are all from different countries and different languages, but now, here we are speaking English," said Zholdybayeva. "The most important part for us is to learn to live in peace."

Hussain Qasem, a Kuwaiti student ambassador, was one of the students who rejoiced in the opportunity to inform his international peers about Kuwait and misconceptions regarding it.

"We hate Saddam Hussein, and we have many Americans in

Kuwait," said Qasem.

Most of the students felt the same as Qasem, and they see this whole experience with Student Visions as an opportunity to inform Americans and the world about the side of their country that isn't represented as much in the media.

Anyone interested in Student Visions or learning about the visit to the U.N. can find out more at [www.studentvisions.org](http://www.studentvisions.org).



ABOVE: Student ambassadors present Clackamas students with miniature presentations about their country.

BELOW: Zholdybayeva tells an onlooker about her native country of Kazakhstan and about her time with Student Visions.

### Clackamas gets a sneak peek of the soon-to-be historical student ambassador presentations

The presentations by the various U.N. of Young Ambassadors members were designed to be informative and advocate peace.

Hamza Al-Shaishani, the representative from Jordan, discussed the tribal wars in his country, and how these rival factions were ignorant of each other's cultures. His presented solution was diversification education in a child's early school career, as well as government support for extra-curricular activities to advocate and further the blending of cultures.

Angela Zuki, the Lebanese representative, discussed the recent military actions from 2006 in which Israel attacked Lebanon in response to Hezbollah aggression in Northern Israel. She touched on the loss of innocent life in Lebanon, and possible solutions. Zuki also emphasized the frustration, social and political confusion that war breeds.

The two Palestinian natives, Samer Anabtawi, from the Northern Bank, and Rami Ziara, from the Gaza Strip, discussed Palestine's conflict with Israel.

Anabtawi's presentation encompassed the political atmosphere of the two sides, the social impact that it has both in his life and his peers', and the steps people involved with the war are taking towards peace. Anabtawi is part of peaceful groups; their purpose is to integrate Jewish and Palestinian youth through talking and shared travels.

His presentation ended with a summarization of the message that the whole group seemed to push: "Partners in Pain; Partners in Peace."

- Compiled by Matt Olson  
The Clackamas Print