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Again, as in past years, the exchange program made it possible for two students to experience the American way of living. The 1991 students were Mamiko Asano from Japan and Christina Caro from Spain.

The two girls had an interesting thing in common. Both had brothers who had come to Walterboro as exchange students. They were Toshio Asano and Carlos Caro.

Obviously, prior to arriving to the States, the girls had a few anxieties.

"I was excited about coming to America, but I was also sad because I had to leave my family," Christina said.

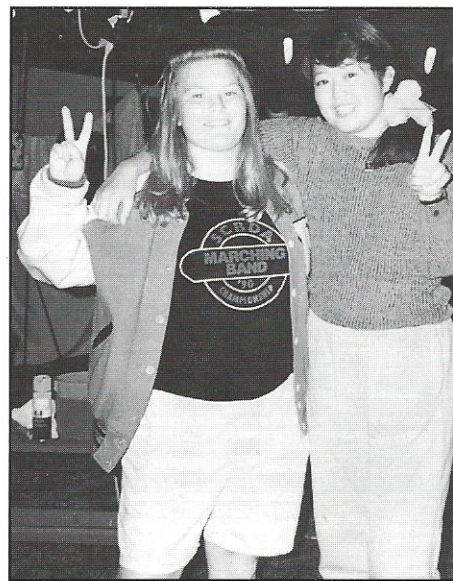
Mamiko felt the same and added, "I thought of America as very exciting but very dangerous."

After their stay, some of their views had changed. Mamiko enjoyed the freedom and felt that the US was not as dangerous as she had expected.

"Life in America and in Walterboro is very different than in Spain and in Seville. Life here seems much more calm," Christina said.

Of course, the war had an impact on the foreigners. Mamiko expressed concern for the families of friends who had relatives serving in the war. "My friends were very worried so I was worried, too. I didn't want them to die," she said.

Christina thought of her family in Spain. "I was very scared because Spain is close to where the war was. During that time, I missed my family and thought about them very much," she said.



Mamiko Asano and Christy Carter, both juniors, celebrate Halloween together. Mamiko's brother, Tashio, came to America in 1989.

Spanish student Christina Caro takes advantage of one of the many opportunities available to her in America, art class. Librarian Mrs. Taylor was Christina's US mom.