



ABOVE: As a gift to the group, they received their hanbok, a traditional Korean dress, from the Lions Club. The hanboks and shoes were donated to the Lions Club.

LEFT: Besides seeing all the sights of the country, the group also learned how to make traditional Korean meals. Here Emily (left) shows off what she made along with Caitlin Tomko from New York.

Steckler said there were 11 other students ages 18-26 who went on the trip along with four chaperones. The entire trip was planned out with a full itinerary of activities, she said.

“Every moment was planned,” she said. “Which was nice because we got to see a lot and do a lot of things in a short two-week span.”

When Steckler arrived in Seoul, she said she was overwhelmed by its size.

“It was huge,” she said. “There are 11 million people living there and on any given day there are more than 20 million people there including visitors and those that come in from outlying areas to work. I’m not used to big cities so it was just unbelievable. There was so much to see and do.”

In addition to adjusting to the size of the city, Steckler said it was difficult at first to deal with the language barrier.

“City life in itself is foreign to me,” she said. “Then there were so many people around not speaking English and so many new looks and smells. The first day I only knew how to say “hello” in Korean. The second day I learned “thank you” and “how much does this cost.” Every day I learned a new phrase. I really want to learn Korean because I know I’m going to go back there sometime, not sure when, but I will go back.”

In addition to touring, the group had the chance to spend the night in a traditional Korean home in a more rural area, stay in a temple overnight and spend time with

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