

Swedish Students Enthusiastic About Salem

It is unusual for the senior class at Salem to get transfer students. Certainly then this year the seniors, along with the entire school, are fortunate to have Gunilla Brattstrom and Marie Blomquist joining them.

Both Gunilla and Marie are at Salem through one of the programs of the Sweden-America Foundation. Last year they each finished their three years of study at a "gymnasium." This state school is the equivalent to our senior year in high school and our first two years of college. Studies at the gymnasium are very intense and center around three fields; languages, science and civics.

If they had stayed in Sweden, Gunilla and Marie would be attending one of the Swedish universities. A liberal arts program is non-existent at a university in Sweden. Students are expected to continue with the field of studies they began in their gymnasiums. Once inside the structure of a university students are required to take courses only within their branches of interest.

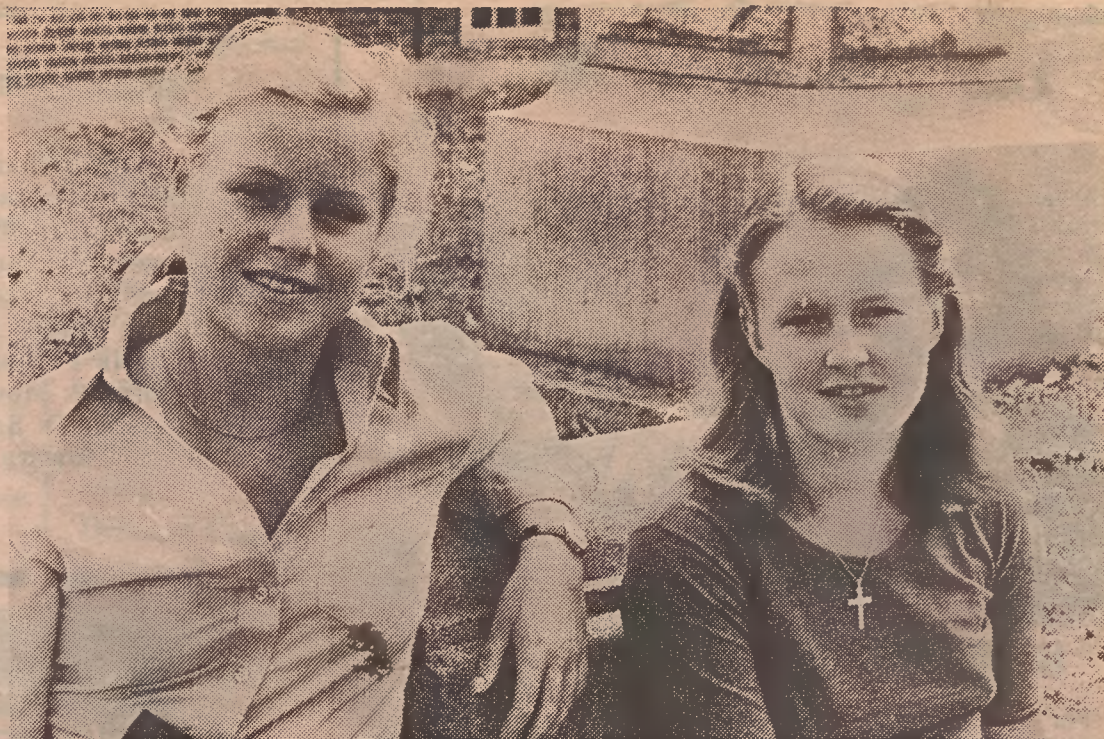
Gunilla, who studied sciences and Marie, who concentrated on civics, are both very excited to be at Salem and have the opportunity to take courses in a wide range of different interests. Both girls are taking American history and sociology courses. Gunilla is also taking an art course, since art is a hobby of hers. Marie is also studying American art and religion.

Though they get no credit for their courses from this year, both girls consider being here an invaluable experience. Part of their enthusiasm is from being able to take these courses which they could never have taken in Sweden, but the major cause of their ebullience is from being in America. Gunilla and Marie are both very interested in learning about America. They are both very curious about its rapid progress. Both girls would like to travel and see more of the country, as they realize Salem represents a small portion of American society.

At Salem Gunilla and Marie say they have been most impressed with the friendly atmosphere and the closeness between the girls. Though they find that in general academics are taken quite seriously, they also like the social aspects of life on campus. The two biggest differences they have found are in students attitudes toward politics and dating. In Sweden students are very politically oriented and political discussions are more frequent. Dating in Sweden is not as structured as what Gunilla and Marie have found here. In Sweden there is more "group mixing" and less one-on-one situations. They feel part of this is because the women's liberation movement has gone much further in Sweden than in the States.

Both Gunilla and Marie believe this year to be a challenging one. They need not only to make themselves understood, but to understand as well. Salemites should take this cue and accept the same challenge. Gunilla and Marie consider that what they make of this year is mostly up to themselves. Those are, without a doubt, words to the wise for all of us.

Laura Castellanos del Valle



Gunilla Brattstrom Marie Blomquist (Photo by Pam Snyder).

Cont'd. from three

Robin Maxey

sciences. That, however, was only the beginning. The American Ambassador, Louis Lerner, entertained

questions in an informal meeting one evening; a Palistinian propaganda film was shown during what was supposed to be a purely cultural "Arabian Evening;" there were weekly lessons in Norwegian folk dancing; there was a boat trip along one of Oslo's scenic fjords; there

stories along with refreshments of "sour cream porridge," reindeer meat, and flatbread. Activities filled

our days and nights. Perhaps the most enjoyed activity of

the summer was a party hosted by the mayor of Oslo held at City Hall. There students enjoyed tables of desserts, good wine, and dancing to the latest tunes

played by an orchestra. As at any school, students found it difficult to do homework with so many various activities going on. Still, many students

worked hard at their studies, enjoying themselves in their spare time. The International summer school was a total experience, one not easily forgotten, and one highly recommended.

Susan Maley

Americans are concerning the rest of the world. Moreover, the atmosphere of open exchange helped dispel

many stereotypes and myths held toward different cultures, religions, and political philosophies. It was in this atmosphere that we came to be friends with

Romanians and Red Chinese, Israelis and Arabs, Mexicans and Canadians. We were exposed to Africans, and Indians, and various other representatives of the Third

World. The fact that people of a variety of ages from forty-eight different countries could come together under one roof with no great tension is quite an accomplishment. This was possible because there was one thing we all learned at ISS, tolerance.

Tolerance toward different cultures and ideas and philosophies. This is the true learning experience that the International Summer School at Oslo offers - the broadening of perspectives, the outlets for international exchange, the personal growth and most importantly the friendship.

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NEWS BEYOND THE SQUARE

- The R.J. Reynolds Coporation is going to purchase the Del Monte Food Corporation at 48.50 a share.

Davis, California - Allan Bakke, the engineer who won the landmark Supreme Court "reverse discrimination" case attended his first University of California medical school class.

Bakke was welcomed by both white and minority group classmates inside the lecture hall. Meanwhile, outside the class, a group of racially mixed demonstrators shouted anti-Bakke slogans.

- Two planes crashed Monday in San Diego killing 147 people. It is the worst plane crash in United States history. A commercial plane and a small private plane crashed in mid-air causing the fatal accident.

-President Carter said Monday he will soon announce new measures to promote exports control inflation and help build a stronger U.S. economy that will support the dollar.

Salemite deadline, staff meetings every Tuesday, 3:30 p.m. Salemite office (below Student Center).