

Visiting Professors Get Taste of American Life

BY CRISTINA SMITH
STAFF WRITER

They came to the United States less than two months ago. Their new home in Chapel Hill is thousands of miles away from the homes they left behind in Russia.

As scholars with the Junior Fellowship Development Program, three university instructors from Russia have come to UNC to focus on their specialties in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication and learn about life in the United States.

Professors at the People's Friendship University in Moscow, Alexei Malakhovskiy and Valeri Mouzykant, have different fortes. Malakhovskiy is concentrating specifically on the history of journalism. Mouzykant's expertise is in advertising and public relations, and he has recently authored the first book to be published in Russia on these topics.

Sergei Dobrynin, an instructor and lecturer at the Pedagogical Institute in Siberia, specializes in the linguistics aspect of journalism.

Mouzykant said the three came to study at the University on the invitation of the U.S. government. He said Gorbachev's perestroika and lifting of the "iron curtain" had lessened tensions between Russia and the United States and had opened a world of new possibilities for cultural interaction.

"That's why we are here," Mouzykant said.

For Malakhovskiy and Mouzykant, this is their first time visiting the United States. Dobrynin spent a summer visiting friends in Albany, N.Y., two years ago.

Mouzykant said he remembered his first impression upon arrival in the United States. "Our plane was four hours late," Mouzykant said. "I was afraid no one would be waiting for us. But we got there

and there was this beautiful smile waiting for us — it was Professor (Robert) Stevenson."

Stevenson, a professor in the school of journalism who is the coordinator of the Russians' stay here, has been a big help in assimilating to life in Chapel Hill, Mouzykant said.

The three agreed that they had, so far, found Americans to be open, friendly and sincere.

"I don't feel like an outsider here, which is good," Dobrynin said. "And it's thanks to the people who make it a very warm and welcoming atmosphere. It's very easy to make acquaintances here."

Malakhovskiy recalled the way Americans were stereotyped in Russia. "It was imposed on us that the people in America are always competing with each other and never helping each other," Malakhovskiy said. He also talked about the Americans portrayed in Russian films as being pressure-driven drug addicts.

As this stereotype of Americans has proven false for Malakhovskiy, he said the American stereotype of Russians also should be disregarded.

"Russians are not evil," he said. "We are normal people. We make mistakes just like Americans make mistakes."

Malakhovskiy recalled a Russia with a history of endless tragedy, never quite fitting into European or Eastern culture. The character of the people reflect the history of their country, he said. He described Russians as being cynical and pessimistic, wrapped in self-denial and self-demolition.

"We always looked at ourselves as being backwards," he said. "But when you travel, you become wiser. Like you will see America in a different way, so I see Russia in a different way now. Now I see Russia is a really great country."

Spirit Squad Gives Teams Support From the Sidelines

■ The four different groups of cheerleaders try to inspire the crowd and the athletes.

BY MARY CAMERON
VANGRAAFEILAND
STAFF WRITER

The cheerleaders may be UNC's number one team sports supporters because, according to assistant coach Mark Lyczkowski, "During football and basketball season, they are always on the sidelines."

Lyczkowski said the UNC Spirit Squad consisted of much more than pompons and megaphones. This group of more than 50 athletes is composed of four different squads: the Varsity co-ed, Varsity all-girls and Junior Varsity cheerleading squads, and the High Kicking Heels dance team.

The squads are under the supervision of head coach Don Collins and four assistant coaches: Lyczkowski, Sandy Bass, Donna Sigmund and Courtney Greer.

Collins has served as head coach for 10 years, but his coaching staff has been assembled over a shorter period. Sigmund has been involved with the Spirit Squad for almost eight years and Lyczkowski for four years. Greer and Bass are both new coaching recruits.

Out of the coaching staff, Lyczkowski and Bass are both former cheerleaders. Lyczkowski cheered at UNC-Wilmington. Bass cheered at Durham Jordan High School and then at UNC for four years. Both agree that cheerleading has changed a lot since they were in their prime.

"They do not just do splits and cartwheels anymore; it is not about that," Bass said. "If you do not have tumbling ability nowadays, you will not make the squad."

Bass said the squads had more gymnastic and athletic ability now. "I cheered under Don Collins from 1989-1993, and he transformed me from a cheerleader into a gymnast," she said. "Today, we are trying to teach gymnasts to be cheerleaders."

The Spirit Squad participates in most major UNC sporting events year-round. "Varsity co-ed cheers at home and away football and basketball games during both semesters," Lyczkowski said. "The High Kicking Heels are present at most home football and basketball games."

He said the JV and Varsity all-girls squads have not yet cheered at a sporting event this year, but both plan to be present at most home football and women's basketball games.

Bass said the Varsity all-girl cheerleaders were a newly organized squad this year. "Don Collins wanted to give more girls coming out of high school a chance to cheer in college," she said.

Bass said prior to the formation of the all-girl squad, many talented cheerleaders had to be eliminated during tryouts be-

cause of their physiques. "There were so many skilled girls who were wonderful cheerleaders, but they were just too big to make the squad," she said. "In order to make Varsity co-ed, a girl has to be no taller than 5 feet 3 inches and weigh 100 pounds."

Bass said all four squads, including the Varsity all-girls were scheduled to cheer at UNC's Homecoming football game against Wake Forest University.

Bass said it was time to make an organized effort to pump up the UNC crowds. "We had to find some new ways to get the crowd more involved in the games."

"Student fans seem to get excited about the games, but a lot of alumni just want to sit in their seats, drink their wine and eat their cheese," she said.

"Leading the crowd is an incredible job," Lyczkowski said. "This year we are planning on trying some new stuff."

He said one new method is their emphasis on the "mike man." "Scotty Teel is one of our cheerleaders who is suffering from a broken hand, so we put him on the microphone at all home games," he said.

"He helps us do more cheers to orient the whole crowd, not just the home side," Lyczkowski said.

Terra Mangum, a junior business major from Raleigh, is a member of the High Kicking Heels. She said the squads were also trying a new "Go Heels" cheer at home games to pump up school spirit.

"The squads also have started to rotate sides at each quarter in order to cheer to both the home and visitor sides and get everybody involved," Mangum said.

Lyczkowski said he was putting emphasis on this year's slogan, "Be There, Wear Blue." "Games are such social gatherings and a lot of people forget they are there to support a team," he said. "We would really like to see more team colors and more activity from the crowd."

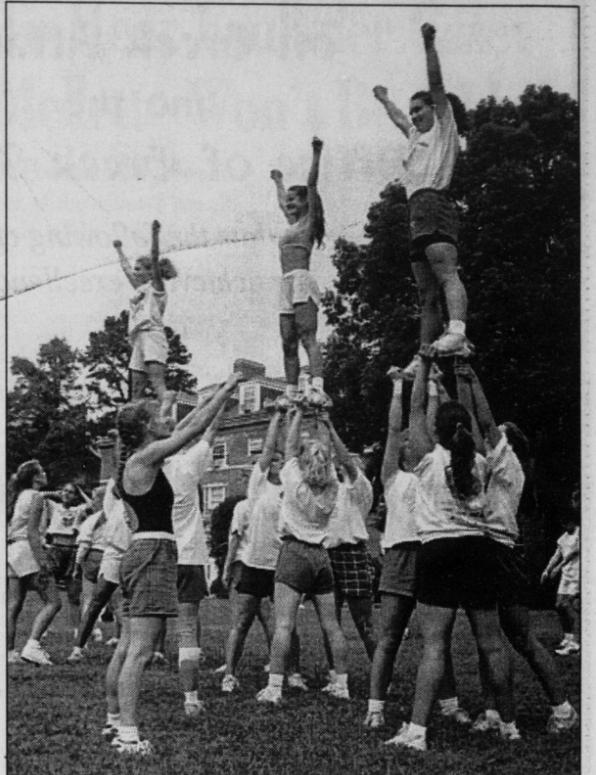
He said the squads saw the 1995-96 sports season as a particular challenge.

"Football has started off fairly well, but we are still anxious to get the crowd into sideline activities," Lyczkowski said. "Basketball will be tough. It was not too hard to get crowds going last year with a player like Jerry Stackhouse on the court."

Bass said in order to pump up school spirit with their performances at games, the Spirit Squad must find time to practice three times a week. She said the four squads practice together on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the Carolina Gymnastics room at Fetzer Gym.

"The squads use practice time to work on stunts, jumps, pyramids, basket throws, gymnastics, cheers, dances and sideline chants," Lyczkowski said.

With the amount of practice time, Bass said the cheerleaders were in tip-top shape. "The squads' bodies are just as conditioned as many team athletes," but just in a differ-



Cheerleaders from the Junior Varsity and Varsity all-girl squads practice their aerial routines on Connor Beach. (DITH/WARREN PRICKEIT)

"Student fans seem to get excited about the games, but a lot of alumni just want to sit in their seats, drink their wine and eat their cheese."

SANDY BASS
Assistant cheerleading coach

Lucy Flower University Professor of Sociology Director, Center for the Study of Urban Inequality, University of Chicago.

Author of the award-winning books, *The Truly Disadvantaged* and *The Declining Significance of Race*

N.C.'s Talking Dog Unimpressed With Sally Jessy Raphael Show

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VALDESE, N.C. — Barney the Talking Dog was looking uncharacteristically gloomy the other day, slouched at the foot of the sofa beside his mistress, Mable Wiles, in their mobile home in Valdeese.

He'd just returned from New York, where he and Mable had taped a segment for the Sally Jessy Raphael show. Barney, who is 12 years old — that's 84 in human terms — appeared on the Sally Jessy show to demonstrate his ability to speak English, which he does when it suits him and whenever he's coaxed with roast beef, chicken and baked ham. His most famous utterance in English is "I'm hungry." But he

only says it when he's really hungry. So everybody in New York was careful not to feed him until he was in front of the cameras. But that didn't happen until 5 p.m. — the dog went the day without a bite to eat. Barney is a naturally gracious dog, and despite his advanced age and subdued mood he was willing to go through his talking routine once more.

"See what I got?" asked Mable. "Mmm-mmmm!" said the dog. "Mmmmm, rrwguelm ... Ahm 'ongry. Ahm 'ongry!"

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William Julius Wilson

Lucy Flower University Professor of Sociology Director, Center for the Study of Urban Inequality, University of Chicago.

Author of the award-winning books, *The Truly Disadvantaged* and *The Declining Significance of Race*

Speaking On

The New Urban Poverty and the Retreat from Public Policy

Wednesday, October 11, 1995
8:00pm in Memorial Hall
UNC-Chapel Hill Campus

Discussion Session
What Future for Affirmative Action?
Toy Lounge, Dey Hall
October 11 from 2-4:00pm