

# Brevard Students Tell Of Summer Trip To Europe

## Lathrop To Show Slides Of Trip

**By Jim Patterson**  
This past summer four students from Brevard College had the opportunity to spend half a summer in Europe. Burton Kennedy, Bob Hill, Pam Boyce, and Lynn Pickelsimer studied at the University of Graz in Austria. They were involved with the ACUIS program, which organizes such trips for qualified students of certain Methodist colleges and universities. The purpose of the program is to give American students the opportunity to study courses under conditions dissimilar to those in colleges in the United States and at the same time expose American students to European life. Of the four who went from Brevard, only Pam and Lynn are returning students.

The Brevard students arrived in Washington on the fifth of July and there they met the rest of the expedition. Orientation lasted the remainder of the day. They left for Vienna on the 6th and arrived there on the 7th, from which point they took a bus to Graz.

Pam and Lynn began their studies three days later and attended classes four days a week. Lynn took a course in Russian Literature and one in Russian art. She enjoyed the courses immensely primarily because of their quality. The professors of both courses were experts in their fields and were excellent teachers as well. Lynn had the opportunity to get to know her Russian Lit professor and found him to be a genuinely great person.

Pam studied International Ecology and Comparative Education. Pam observed that European teaching methods are very similar in many respects to our own. Lynn found the courses to be very demanding yet at the same time very interesting.

Both students agreed that if they were to return to Europe they would not go to study. Both agreed that in such a limited amount of time, it was frustrating to be stuck in class when there was so much to learn by simply visiting other cities and mingling with the people.

The American students lived in the same coeducational dorms as many of the Austrians and Germans which greatly facilitated interaction between the different cultures.

Both agreed that the dorms were very nice. The rooms were small and the plumbing was poor by our standards, as it is throughout most of Europe. Each student did however have

a private room. Both girls met Austrian and German students frequently. Pam observed that they were all very intelligent and knowledgeable. Europe's system of higher education is vastly different from ours. The Europeans are, for financial and other reasons, much more selective in choosing those who will attend a university. Therefore, as Pam noticed, the students she met were among the intellectual elite of Austria and Germany. Both girls were astounded at how politically oriented they were in general. The Austria and German students were very much concerned with the Vietnam War in particular. Other topics of unusual concern were the Nixon-McGovern race and what the European males termed as the "American Virginity complex." Both Pam and Lynn agreed that in regard to American issues Europeans were not so much uninformed as they were misinformed. Their vision of America was blurred and partially distorted.

After classes on the week days there was time to devote to whatever one wanted to do. Lynn often chose to force herself to go out into the city of Graz. Graz is a large city (250,000) but has an unusual small town atmosphere. Graz has over five hundred buildings which are older than the entire United States. According to Lynn, it was alone in the midst of a language she hardly knew, and a culture which was completely foreign, that she learned the most about both.

All of the American students went on school affiliated field trips. Lynn went to Russia and was astounded. She first visited Moscow and was disgusted with it. She was amazed at the intrinsic sadness, the pervading sense of gloom and the overwhelming poverty. Very few people ever smile in Moscow. The Russians are trying to modernize Moscow and because of poor workmanship many of the new buildings are falling apart. Lynn stayed in Moscow for five days and then went to Leningrad. According to Lynn, Leningrad was nicer than Moscow. Because it is a sea port, it has a great deal more western influence in it than does Moscow. In route back to Moscow from Leningrad, Lynn traveled by AEROFLOT which is the Soviet Airlines. She was again amazed at the gross inefficiency of the Soviets. Because of scheduling problems, the Americans were held up nine and a

half hours in Leningrad awaiting a flight to Moscow. The accommodations of the jet and the airport were Spartan in nature. Only the bare essentials were available.

Overall, Lynn was fascinated but at the same time disgusted with Russia. She says she would like to go back and by going a second time again a truer view of Russian life.

Pam went to Czechoslovakia and her reaction was similar to Lynn's. Pam said the country and the people appeared lifeless and depressing. Budapest, Hungary was her favorite because of its great sense of the historic and for its remarkable beauty. Prague, a major city Pam visited in Czechoslovakia was dull, poor and depressing.

While in Prague Pam had an unusual experience. She suddenly came down with an intestinal infection which required a brief period of hospitalization. She said, oddly enough, that the hospital was clean, efficient and the doctors were very competent. The building was old but inside was very much like an American hospital. The Czechs had a vast amount of sophisticated technical equipment. Pam, like Lynn was very saddened by Czechoslovakia.

But aside from the field trips there was much time on the weekends for travel. The Europeans have a very elaborate, efficient, and inexpensive transit system. Therefore, it is easy to travel from one city to another in a short amount of time. It was hard for both young

women to realize that one could travel as little as 150 to 200 miles (the distance from here to Chapel Hill) and be in a completely different country and different language. In such a short time styles could also change drastically. Both Pam and Lynn agreed that the styles of Austria were slightly behind those of our own. Yet both girls agreed that the styles of Germany, especially Munich, were definitely ahead of ours. Behind the Iron Curtain there are almost no styles. It seemed to both Pam and Lynn that the clothes of Russia and Czechoslovakia were only functional and had little of any consideration for taste or style.

On her free weekends Pam went to Vienna twice and Munich once. Lynn went to Vienna and Salzburg. Pam saw Vienna as a slow and very old city, very settled in its ways. Lynn liked it because of its unusual sense of culture. It seemed to her quite obvious and beautiful that Vienna had been such a capital for culture for so many centuries.

Pam very much liked Munich. She was thrilled by its spunk and vibrance. Munich is a city on the move with plenty to do. At the times she was there, preparations for the Olympic Games were being made and the city was very crowded.

Overall, both Pam and Lynn sincerely enjoyed their trip. Both very much and want to go back. Hopefully ACUIS will sponsor other such programs in the future.

## Violence: Attitudes Of America

Ann Arbor, Mich. (I.P.) - Violence is a major concern of American men, even though they do not always agree on definitions. Protest and dissent, often seen as essential to a free society, are termed "violence" by large numbers of men - regardless of whether or not the acts are destructive of property or persons.

Calling an act "violent," they say, may escalate the amount of counter-violence men will justify in retaliation. America's reaction to domestic protest, the authors say, is reflected in the actions which men see as violent. When asked to indicate which of nine specific events they considered violent, more than half selected draft-card burning and "police beating students."

Authors of "Justifying Violence" are Dr. Monica D. Blumenthal, psychiatrist with the U-M Mental Health Research Institute and ISR program director; psychologists Dr. Robert L. Kahn, director of ISR's Survey Research Center; and Dr. Frank M. Andrews, ISR program director; and Kendra B. Head, clinical intern at the U-M Institute for Human Adjustment.

"Justifying Violence" distinguishes between violence as an instrument of social control (certain police actions) and that used for social change (as in campus disturbances). The book reports on an extensive study of attitudes toward violence, conducted by the ISR under a grant from the National Science Foundation. The study showed that many more men were worried about civil disorder and protest than about the much-discussed issue of crime.

At the same time, large numbers of men tolerate and justify the use of substantial violence by police to control social unrest. The study revealed that up to 32 per cent of the men said the police should "shoot to kill" in certain instances of ghetto disturbances and in situations involving "a lot of property damage by hoodlums or student demonstrators."

## Witek Talks Of Journey To Poland

This past summer Coach Norman Witek, Track and Cross Country Coach here at BC, took a month-long 3,000 mile journey through Europe. Accompanying him on this trip were his wife, Lynn, his sister and brother-in-law, and his parents. Their trip started out from Frankfurt, Germany. From there they traveled along the Rhine to Austria. They took a one-day visa through Czechoslovakia, and from there they took a ten-day visit in Poland. Then back to Germany and on to Amsterdam where they flew on to New York to spend a week with relatives.

From New York they drove home to Brevard.

Since Coach Witek's parents had always wanted to go to Poland, the trip was his Christmas present to them. Both sets of Mr. Witek's grandparents were born and reared in Poland and the whole purpose of this trip was to find out where they lived and if he has any other relatives there. Coach Witek found the respective farms where both sets of his grandparents lived. He also found a whole town in which no one but Witeks live, and found out that they are all his relatives. One church on his father's side

had all the original records of the family dating back to 1721.

One of the interesting points of the Witek's trip was the orange micro-bus they rented, which somewhat resembles a Volkswagon. This was their means of travel throughout most of their trip.

Along with all the wonderful memories that Coach Witek brought back with him, he also has over 200 slides, behind each of which is a story in itself. Possibly he would show these to anyone that would be interested in his trek through Europe.

**CO-ED**  
**TODAY THRU SAT.**  
**"SKY JACKED"**

with  
Charlton Heston  
"Rosie" Grier  
Yvette Minieux

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Sun. - Mon. - Tues.  
Shirley Maclaine  
in  
A Supensful Trip  
Into The Super Natural,  
**"Possession Of  
Joel Delaney"**

**ALEXANDERS**  
**PROMART HOME CENTER**  
**COLLEGE SHOPPING CENTER**  
**PAINT & DECORATING SUPPLIES**  
**HARDWARE & TOOLS**