

d eager to share experiences



that say "you aren't good enough to stay here." These are some examples of the negatives that I actually enjoyed as a challenge.

But the incredible fun I had with my ability to blend in was worth anything. All consumer goods can be bargained for in China. I got cheaper prices as a Chinese. Foreign tickets for sites and shows often cost three times as much money as Chinese prices. I took advantage of that.

On my travels on trains throughout China, I spoke to every kind of person. Businessmen would tell



relatives in Beijing. Hangzhou.

me about the Chinese free enterprise system. Communist Party members would tell what they could about the government. Families would tell me about their vacations. Having relatives in China that I had not seen for 11 years and living with them was joyous. We even had Chinese roommates at our college. They have become lifetime friends.

Being able to blend in and understand gave me quite a sense of accomplishment. It is not easy to do this in China. Everything presented to foreigners is a facade aimed at representing a China without problems that has a high standard of living and happiness. Most tourists never get to see the poverty, the homeless, and the government's oppression. Tourists are wheeled about from one luxurious five-star hotel to a manicured sightseeing area, then to a fabulous restaurant, and back to their stuffy hotel again. They don't get to talk to locals or ride public transportation. A common Chinese person just might die of a heart attack if they ever had a chance to see how many luxuries and how much money there is in a foreign hotel. Some people don't know that China is still a third-world country.

If you have the chance, go and explore this country; you'll never forget being one in a billion. Actually, 2.5 billion people to be exact.

Look next week for stories and photos from the Guadalajara semester abroad.

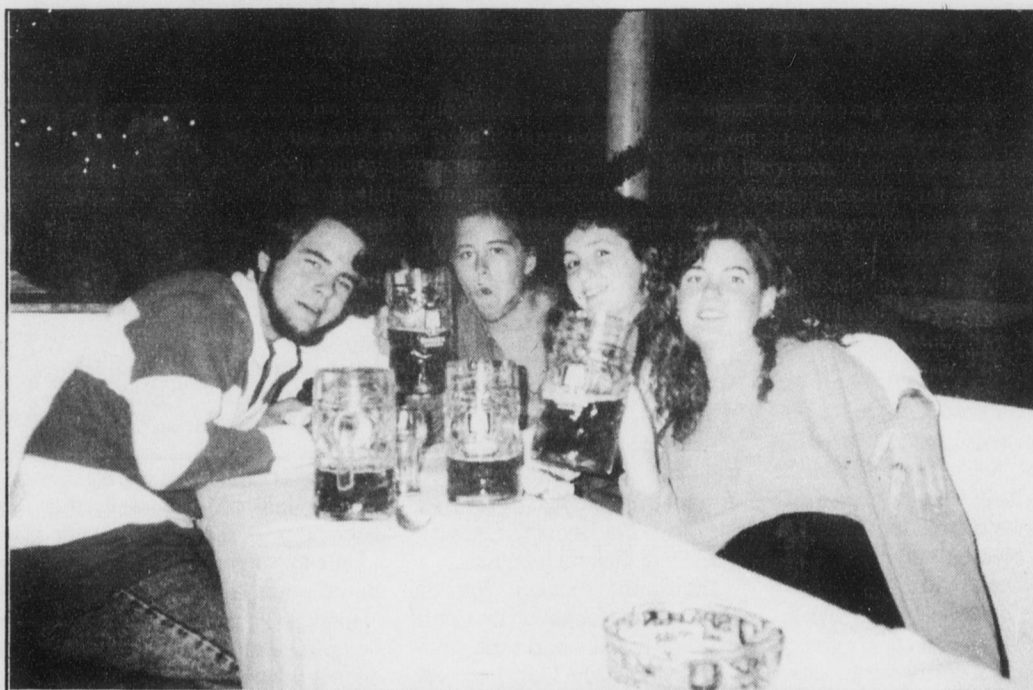
Germany

John Armstrong

There is so much I could say about all the art history, philosophy, language, and German history I learned during my Munich experience, but it would take forever and probably come out in a bumbling mess. I have brought back a new sense of confidence, independence, worldly knowledge, and a thirst for more of it all. I have also returned with many new friends — from Guilford as well as from Germany.

Although I am looking forward to travelling to other places, Munich was definitely a great location for my semester abroad. It is central to all of Europe, allowing students to travel almost anywhere in Europe. I encourage students on the future programs to visit former Eastern Bloc countries. They had a most profound effect on all that ventured there.

In Europe, and especially in Germany, there was an immense amount of history surrounding us,



Above: John Armstrong, Ellen Thompson, Amy Reid, and Robyn Severs enjoy their steins of German beer.

Below, left: History professor Tim Kircher, dances the night away.

Below, right: Robyn Severs, Amy Reid, and David Eyre visit the "Wall."

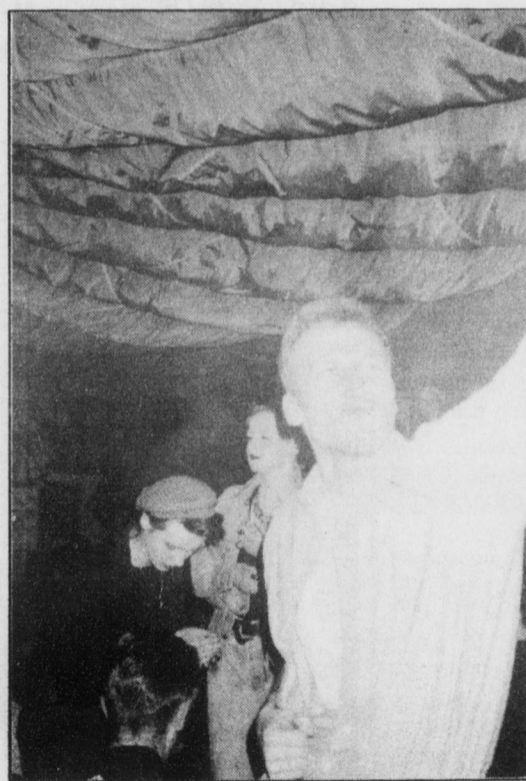
Photos submitted by Amy Reid

history that seems non-existent in the U.S. It's not a good or bad thing; it's just amazing to be im-

mersed in it.

It is awkward to be back, but I can't imagine taking away all that

I have learned, and I highly recommend such a program to all who are able to go.



Study Tips

Last semester an article on study tips appeared in The Guilfordian on how best to study for exams. Here are a few of those tips again that you might want to keep in mind as the semester begins:

- *Organize your notes as the semester progresses so you won't have to do that when exams hit.
- *Review in stages.
- *Pay attention to what the professor talks about in class discussions. This will help you predict what the professor will put on the exam.
- *Also, pay attention to the professor's style of teaching as well as testing.



Grief Process and Support Group

WE ARE OFFERING A SUPPORT GROUP FOR PERSONS WHO HAVE LOST A FAMILY MEMBER OR A CLOSE FRIEND. WE HOPE TO PROVIDE A SAFE PLACE WHERE PEOPLE CAN SUPPORT EACH OTHER AND LET FEELINGS OUT, WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT BEING JUDGED, OR THAT THEIR PERSONAL CONCERNS MIGHT BE SPREAD AROUND.

TIME:

Mondays, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

PLACE:

The Hur

JANE CARIS AND MAX CARTER