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Summertime Adventures in France

BY JOAN M. SMITH

What better way to use what you've learned in French than to pay a visit to France. And that is exactly what Katie Hahn and Terri Miller did through the North American Cultural Exchange Program. They left the U.S. on June 29 and spent a delightful month, observing and enjoying French culture while staying in various areas of the country: Katie in an exquisite ivy-covered chateau in Brittany, a province she described as "a land you would find in a romantic mystery." Terri resided in the town of Narrante just outside of Paris.

From the town of Dinard, Katie's French family took her on jaunts to the Islands of Jersey and Mont St. Michel the site of the famous Abbey and fortress which according to Katie, is a complex of narrow medieval streets and quaint shops.

She also toured Paris and "just liked watching the people and studying their culture." Fashion wise, she noted that flowered skirts and dresses were in mode and denim was "big."

In her travels, Katie found the French people curious about what Americans think of France and in her discussing their opinion of Americans discovered that their image was one of a people who ate petrol and steak!

During her visit, Katie had the opportunity to observe and help in the preparation of French cuisine since the family not only owned a delicatessen but also catered to wedding receptions at the chateau.

Though she was anxious to practice French everyone else wanted to talk English. She did, however, discover that her experience helped her think

faster in French than she could before her visit.

From Nanterre, Terri was able to travel down the coastline to Brest and Lourdes which she said was "too commercialized," and explained, "The walk from the parking lot to the cathedral was all shops."

Terri's French family liked to walk and "Their idea of a short walk was 10 miles!" she exclaimed.

In trekking around the countryside Terri found the innkeepers honored to have an American, staying on their premises. She had great fun at one inn where she helped the owner's employees with their English.

Terri's travels took her near the Spanish and German borders and she stated, "I had no difficulty in understanding the different dialects."

The girls made many friends who are planning reciprocal visits. Terri's acquaintances joked with her that when they do come to visit they'll bring lanterns, referring to New York's recent blackout.

Both girls are looking forward to their senior year. Katie will be busy with her dramatics, singing in the Perosian choir and as the school's National Honor Society treasurer.

Terri is a member of the Aquinas Performing Arts Club and will be active in Father Cullen's productions. She is also broadening her language expertise by taking first year Spanish. Her future includes an interest in accounting but she is also thinking of the travel opportunities as an airline stewardess.



Viva la France! describes Terri and Katie's opinion of their friendly ties with and visits to that country. Here they get together and trace their summer journeys and reminisce about their many exciting adventures.

Students Attend JA Business Week

It was a week of business and fun on the Indiana State University campus in Bloomington for the 2,500 junior achievers, from throughout the nation, who attended the National Junior Achievement Conference, Aug. 6-13.

The Rochester delegation included Mercians Marie Connolly and Susan Vergo along with Darryl Duge from Bishop Kearney and Michael Brown of McQuaid.

Not only were these young business entrepreneurs

awarded the week's trip but through their dedication and work with their individual JA organizations they also were recognized as outstanding personalities. Back in May, at the JA Awards banquet, Marie was named vice president of personnel, Susan as secretary of the year and Mike, vice president of sales.

A typical day, during the business week, consisted of general meetings which would start the morning off, followed by workshops dealing with how to run a business, the intricacies of business in-

vestments and business techniques.

Afternoons were utilized for group discussions concerning business morals and ethics.

The young adults also had the opportunity of hearing business representatives from leading corporations.

Another round of general assemblies would end the day's activities and where the business ended the social life began; talent shows, a disco set up on the tennis courts and a President's Ball.

Will Downstate Opponent Crown Kings?

By JOHN DOSER
(Continued from Last Week)

"We're no powerhouse," says Bishop Kearney High School athletic director and head football coach Don Della Vella, "and it will be a helluva long time before we are."

So, why does Della Vella go out and schedule a football game this fall against Vestal Central, traditionally among the five top high school football teams in New York State?

The answer is partly to present his players with a formidable challenge and partly because of the financial guarantee Vestal assures the Kings.

Part of the answer also is because Della Vella figures the game will be a shot in the arm for Bishop Kearney's football program.

For other schools, Della Vella explains, the situation might be different.

"You have to look at your schedule, your kids, what you hope to accomplish; everybody thinks I'm crazy, but I don't think so."

"I think (a) Vestal on our schedule this year, at the time they're scheduled (eighth game), will end up a good thing for Bishop Kearney."

Della Vella knows Vestal plays a lot of tough Pennsylvania teams as well as a lot of extremely capable teams from New York State on its independent schedule.

Years ago there were many football playing schools in New York State which played independent grid schedules, an era which Della Vella always enjoyed.

When the transportation crunch hit the schools, many of the independents sought membership in area leagues and conferences to reduce travel costs.

But there's an irony to all this, according to Della Vella, and it will be interesting to see what happens in the next few years.

"Maybe it's ill feeling, or dominance (of one or more teams over the rest of a league for a long period of time), or the fact some schools (like Kearney) are interested in building a more attractive football program by looking outside their current schedules."

Kearney has a minimum guarantee of \$2,500 to play at Vestal; they also had a choice of half the gate of the ballgame — and Della Vella played it safe and took the former.

"We're talking about a gate of from 5,000 to 10,000 spectators down there," which is just about all the incentive Della Vella needs.

Kearney home games at Holleder Stadium over the years have averaged 2,500 to 3,000 fans; the few games the Kings have played on their home field on Kings Highway may pull 1,000 fans.

Two years ago the Kings

played their first home game on their own field — without bleachers or a "control" fence.

Last year Kearney played three games at home, added some bleacher seats, but still lacked a control fence.

"This year we have a fence all around the perimeter of the field and the few bleacher seats. We're going a little at a time, but it's got a nice little look to it right now," Della Vella says.

The bottom line, he explains, is that Kearney can not afford the \$1,400 rent per game it costs to play at Holleder Stadium.

"Last year we played four games at Holleder and it's a helluva expense. We charge \$1.50 at the gate. Last year, for example, in our game against Aquinas, we got killed by the weather."

"There was a rain storm all day long, and there's no way you even make expenses. You take a helluva loss."

Catholic schools usually share the revenue from a game played at Holleder Stadium; Kearney offered Irondequoit a half 'n' half situation, but the Indians declined and Kearney took all.

"We made a helluva buck that night, but when you look at expenses, we made only a decent dollar," Della Vella says.

He is very much aware of Vestal's top ranking, year after year, in the state polls.

He also knows that big college coaches from the south (as well as other big name colleges elsewhere) like two areas best for recruiting in New York State: Vestal and Farmingdale (Long Island).

He knows too that the exposure his kids can get just by playing on the Vestal gridiron with scouts in the seats, may well be worth the trip.

Does that mean Kearney is playing with the idea of going an independent route with regard to football at some future date? Like the Aquinas teams of the late 1940s and early '50s?

No.

But Della Vella is vitally interested in seeing Section 5 improve its own football program; he says there's no difference between Section 5 and Pennsylvania football except in the programs.

"You can populate programs and reach for the highest type (of) program and there are kids who are going to spend all their time preparing themselves for playing this game, living and breathing it for 12 months of the year."

In conjunction with kids giving their all, Della Vella believes school people should do their part in accommodating that enthusiasm and dedication with appropriate grid programs.

The days of super high school teams and super independent schedules are gone,



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