

on the MOVE

HOIHO

away from

Story by Mike Latona

Marty Vaars and Andre Schlemper didn't know what to expect when they learned their foreign exchange host "family" was a single person.

A priest, no less. "I thought I'd have to wear nice clothes, always be nice and always pray," said Marty, 17, a native of Holland.

"I thought we would pray a lot during the day," added Andre, 16, who hails from Brazil. "I had a very wrong idea of what a priest was."

Marty and Andre have indeed become full-fledged participants at Church of the Epiphany in Sodus. However, they've also discovered that life with Father David Faraone has extended well beyond church boundaries.

The pastor has kept Marty and Andre constantly on the go - with a range of activities that includes trips to Toronto; visits to Rochester-area malls; weekly racquetball outings; quick bites at nearby restaurants; and dinner at parishioners' houses.

A particularly elaborate trip took place New Year's Eve, when Father Faraone escorted Marty and Andre to Times Square in New York City. However, Marty admitted he was less than impressed by the hoopla surrounding the midnight celebration.

"Five minutes after midnight, everybody went home," Marty recalled. "I thought we'd stay until 3 a.m. Last year (in Holland) I stayed up until 5:30."

Ewa Grieger is another foreign exchange student who is learning to expect the unexpected. Although she has a good grasp of the English language, she has discovered America football and European "football" - soccer, actually - are drastically different.

"Now I understand that the one main idea in American football is 'Kill them all,'" joked Ewa, a native of Poland. She is

residing through June with the Okrasinski family, who attend St. Patrick's Church in Owego. Ewa is sponsored through the Council on International Education.

Eva's host "sister," Karen Okrasinski, noted that other forms of American entertainment are even more difficult to decipher than sports.

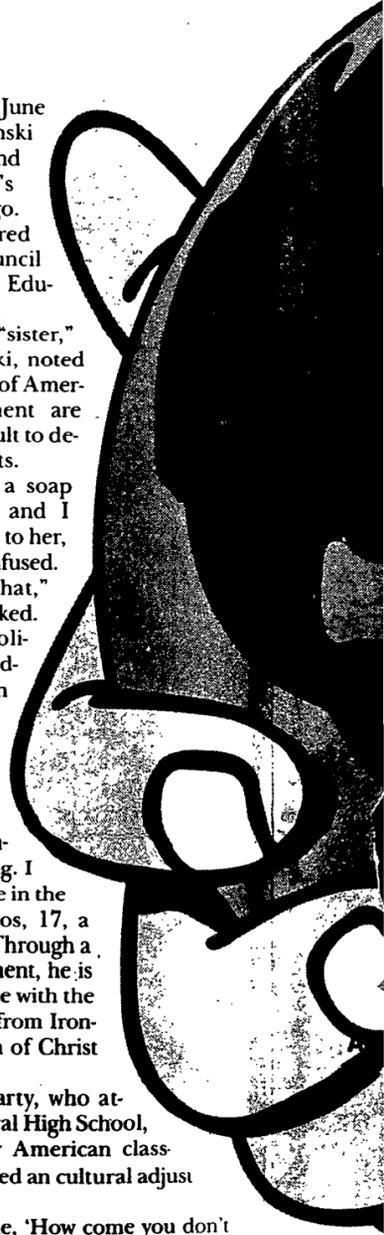
"We watched a soap opera one day and I tried to explain it to her, but then I got confused. And that was that," Karen, 18, remarked.

For Carlos Molina, his biggest adjustment came on his first day at Irondequoit High School.

"They gave me a schedule and I didn't understand anything. I was asking people in the halls," said Carlos, 17, a native of Spain. Through a private arrangement, he is residing until June with the Fettinger family from Irondequoit's Church of Christ the King.

Andre and Marty, who attend Sodus Central High School, noted that their American classmates also endured a cultural adjustment process.

"They'd ask me, 'How come you don't drink coffee or you don't like to play soc-



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