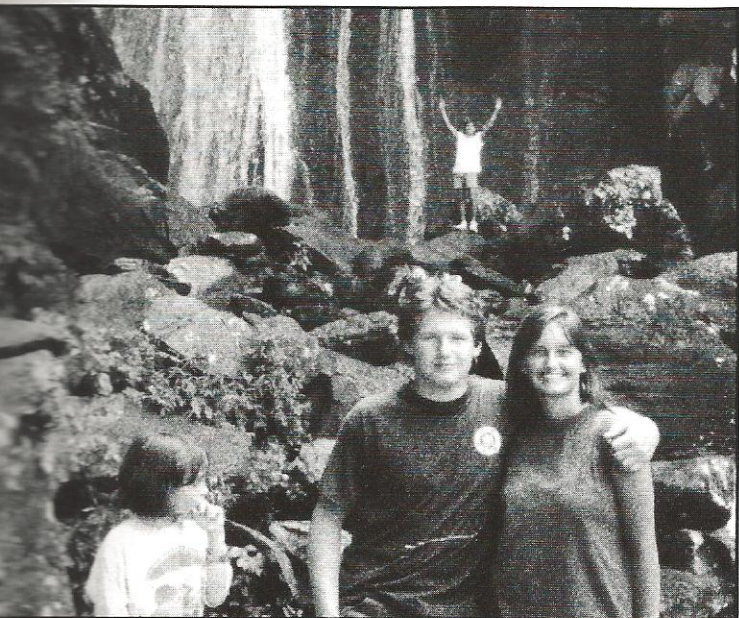


A Bell in the Islands

Senior Visits Puerto Rico



Leah and her cousin darken their tans and enjoy the "fun in the sun" in Puerto Rico.

While most students spent their summer vacations at the beach or just "around the house," Leah Bell, a senior, traveled to Puerto Rico to visit some of her relatives. In addition to attending her cousin's high school graduation, Leah toured the island. She went to Old San Juan, the most historical city in Puerto Rico, where the streets are paved with blue cobblestones. She also visited a rain forest in El Yunque, the island's only U.S. national park.

Not only did Leah visit fascinating sites, but she also met a variety of interesting people. "Almost everyone there spoke English," explained Leah, "and if I couldn't understand them, they would apologize to me!" On one occasion a native began speaking to Leah in Spanish, thinking that she was Puerto Rican because of her dark brown hair and sun tan.

Although the Puerto Rican lifestyle is not very different from that of the U.S., Leah commented, "They put tile on everything! They tile the floors, the walls, and even the ceilings!"

Leah enjoyed experiencing a different culture during her summer vacation and expressed, "It was a once-in-a-lifetime trip! I was thrilled at having the privilege of going!"

By Amy Ledford



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