

# Coming To America Did They Expect This?

Spending the year in a foreign country was not always as exciting as it would seem to be. Aya Eguchi, an exchange student from Japan, expected South Carolina to have exciting parties, crazy people with wild clothes and hair styles and tropical climates year round. Peter Herm of Sweden also had similar expectations. They found Walterboro to be different from this. Jose Cavales of Spain stated, "I'm glad I came to the United States because it is a great experience, but there is nothing to do on the weekends." Jose was accustomed to living in Madrid, Spain, so he was surprised about the population of Walterboro.

To add some extra-curricular activities to their schedules, many exchange students played a sport.

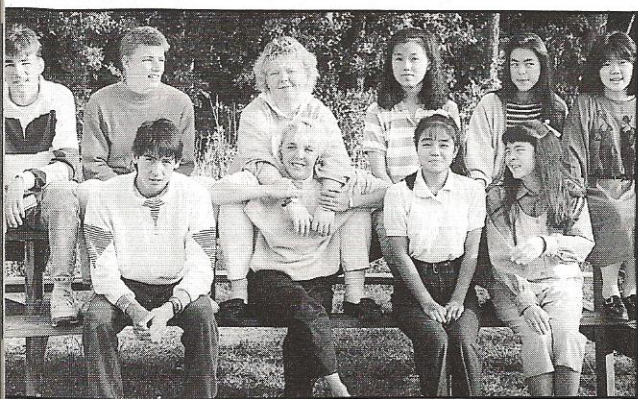
Tennis and soccer were the most popular ones. Tobias Norby of Norway found that going fishing was also an excellent way to spend a day.

After a few weeks, most of the students began to feel slightly homesick, but they knew they would not see family members for almost a year. Leticia Cuñetti of Uruguay was very happy to hear from her family members and friends who gathered together and called her for her birthday. Mrs. Julia Waddell said, "For thirty minutes, all I could hear was 'Hola! Como esta?' " Hearing from loved ones helped lift the spirits of the students.

— Brandy Butler

**"I am glad I came to the United States because it is a great experience, but there is nothing to do on weekends."**

— Jose Cavales



Gathering for a group photo, the foreign exchange students are: (First Row) Toby Norby, Anna Mette Jensen, Miwa Muranaka, Atsuko Kashiura, (Second Row) Peter Herm, Jesper Ostergard, Kirstie Tilbury, Aya Eguchi, Tomoko Tsukano and Hideko Mori.

Jesper Ostergard expresses his elation after receiving his first '100' in the United States. Jesper was one of a handful of foreign exchange students from Denmark.

