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15 UM STUDENTS TO BE IN FRANCE
THIS FALL UNDER "FRENCH FARM PROGRAM"

By Dennis M. Erickson
UM Information Services

MISSOULA--

Fifteen University of Montana students soon will travel to Burgundy, France, to work, study and make wine during the fall.

They will participate in the French Farm Program sponsored by the UM Department of Foreign Languages. The French Farm Program is a student foreign exchange program designed to allow French and American students a chance to observe the language and culture of another country by actually living, studying and working in that country. The program enables students to live with a French or American family and earn their room and board by working part-time for the family.

Four French students are currently living and working under the program with families in the Missoula area.

The UM students registered for French or omnibus courses at the University before departing for France for a three-month visit.

Jack Mattingly, a French-Russian major from Great Falls, and Sara Wilbourne, a graduate student in French from Richmond, Va., participated in the exchange program last year and were able to offer some reflections of what it is like to study and work in France.

"My fondest memories are of the people I met and lived with," Wilbourne said. Mattingly agrees, saying that the people of Burgundy always made it a point to invite him to their celebrations.

"The people in that area were nice," Mattingly said. "I went to a party about once a week there, and I was always introduced to the girls at the party first."

Both students worked in the famous Burgundy vineyards, harvesting grapes and making wine from them. The families the students lived with made, bottled, labeled and sold their own wine.

Wilbourne and Mattingly said the only bad memory they had of France was the sore backs they both had following the grape harvest. Mattingly explained that most of the work during grape harvest is done in a stooped position which can affect a novice worker's lower back.

With that in mind, Mattingly offered some advice to Ricky E. Rollins, of St. Ignatius, and Carol Sylvia Holte, of Bigfork, two sophomores who will travel to France this fall under the exchange program.

"Before you go, do back exercises and build up your resistance to alcohol," he said.

"I think the most important thing for you to do is enjoy yourselves, and that won't be difficult," Wilbourne added.

Besides Rollins and Holte, other UM students making the trip to France this fall are:

Steven E. Macheledt and Marlene Kay Zentz, Billings; Mariam Elizabeth McCall, Bozeman; Lucy Antonia Evans, Deer Lodge; Mary Kathryn DeNevi, Harlowton; Janet Sue Waeckerlin, Helena; Christine Delessalle Armstrong and Danny M. Blake, Kalispell; Ann Monaghan Mohs, Miles City; Peggy Charlene Patrick, Swan Lake; Frank E. Brettholle, Carnegie, Pa.; Donald D. Blackburn, McLean, Va., and Debra Sue Parsons, Palouse, Wash.