Rice Senior Selected In Iron Curtain Trip

By DEBBY ROMOTSKY

Rice senior Sperry Blake, of Maplewood, Louisiana, has been selected by the Division of Higher Education of the Methodist Church to participate in this summer’s Eastern-European Study-Travel Seminar.

Along with some forty other American college students, she will travel and attend courses and lectures in several countries behind the Iron Curtain.

Roberta Thompson, senior from Corpus Christi, was also accepted for the seminar but chose not to attend.

IN KEEPING WITH the theme of the seminar, “A Study of Marxism and Leninism in Contemporary Communist Life,” participants are expected to do preparatory reading from works on Soviet society, economy, literature, and politics—and on communism itself. Acceptance to the program is regarded as being conditional until the student has submitted a paper based on some aspect of Eastern European society.

WHILE ON TOUR members of the seminar will engage in discussions, lectures, and more informal relationships with students and professors from selected universities in Eastern Europe. The lectures at the universities in Moscow, Poland, and Czechoslovakia will be conducted in English. During the week spent at the University of Tashkent, in Central Asia, however, they will be able to attend classes with the regular students.

The 53-day itinerary, which provides for visits to nine countries, includes stops at the United Nations headquarters in New York, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Leningrad, Moscow, Tashkent, Warsaw, Krakow, Prague, Munich, Geneva, and Paris. In addition, a five-day vacation has been planned at the Black Sea resort of Sochi, where the students will be able to socialize with Soviet students and teachers, and to visit Kolkhaze, a collective farm.

At the end of the tour, Miss Blake, a German major, will remain in Europe, where she hopes to obtain a position in Austria with the World Council of Churches, or in Germany, as an assistant in a local school.