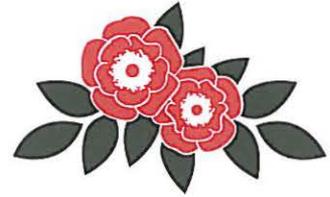


# NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY  
— OF CENTRAL —  
LANCASHIRE



## James and Kerris get a slice of American Pie

Southport students James Phillips and Kerris Bunting are currently enjoying the American way of life as exchange students in US universities.

James, 21 is on the second year of a degree course in Fine Art at the University of Central Lancashire in Preston, whilst Kerris is taking a degree in Surface Pattern Design. They are taking part in the University's very popular international exchange programme, which allows students to spend up to a year in places such as the USA and Australia, studying at partner institutions.

A former pupil of Tarleton High School, James is enjoying his experience and mixes with students from all over the world. Standards are high at the University of Illinois at Urban-Champaign and students are expected to work and play hard.

"We have good sporting facilities here", says James. "But academic standards are high too and they expect you to put in a lot of hours of work outside the classroom. Studying abroad, however, is a good experience because you'll make friends from all over the world and be exposed to different lifestyles, cultures and foods. It's also sunny and warm here, so what more could you ask for?"

Kerris is an exchange student at the University of North Texas and both she and James are currently home for the Christmas vacation before returning to complete their courses in the USA.

**6 January 2003**

nr194pca

**Photo Opportunity:** Kerris and James will be available for photographs during their stay in Southport. Please contact Pamela Culley, University Media Office, tel: 01772 894425 to make the necessary arrangements.