**HONORARY CAJUNS** — Mayor Kenneth Bowen, left, welcomes Mr. and Mrs. Andre Hobus of Brussels, Belgium as “Honorary Cajuns” to Lafayette. The couple are guests of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin DuBos with the co-operation of the American Host Program in New York to see American life and inform his students in Brussels. (Advertiser Staff Photo)

**South Louisiana, First Choice For Belgian Couple**

**DEBBIE D’AQUIN**

Women’s News Reporter

“I chose south Louisiana,” exclaimed Andre Hobus, Brussels, Belgium. Accompanied by his wife, Liliane, the couple was chosen to visit the United States and stay with a family of a teacher with the American Host Program in New York.

Mr. Hobus wanted especially to visit Louisiana because of his interest in Cajun and blues music. Being associated with a Belgium radio and T.V. station, he has been commissioned to buy Cajun music to be played in Belgium. “We can’t find the music in Belgium. It is more interesting to listen to when you know the lyrics of the songs and have an image of what it is,” he stated. His hobby is working with musical groups.

The couple was impressed by the lack of population and the wide open unoccupied spaces in Louisiana. “Everything is so different,” they exclaimed. They were also impressed with the bayous and the Spanish moss hanging from the trees and the cultural differences.

When questioned about the food, they said they loved the gumbo, which was prepared for them Thursday night.

Commenting on Women’s Lib, Liliane said, “I’m for equality.” They remarked on how many more women in Belgium work compared to the U.S. “We think when a woman is confined to a kitchen she becomes small minded.” Liliane is a secretary for the government.

Mr. Hobus was stunned by how quiet American cars are. Even in New York, when they landed, the couple couldn’t believe how quiet they are. He said the Volkswagen was the most popular car in Belgium, since the luxury tax is so high and gasoline is extremely high. “I have a dune buggy with a Volkswagen engine,” he said.

“I have a dune buggy with a Volkswagen engine,” he said. They were amazed at the warmth of the people of Acadiana and the “beautiful nature” of the countryside.

“It’s a dream come true. We are here,” replied both, when asked how they feel about Acadiana.

The exchange program is for teachers of other countries to see American life and vice versa and to pass the information on to the students.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin DuBos are the lucky hosts for the couple. “They are a delightful couple”, remarked Mr. DuBos. Mrs. DuBos is employed in the Lafayette Parish school system.

Having visited St. Martinville, Rip Van Winkle Gardens, the capitol in Baton Rouge, the Lafayette Parish Court House and other places of interest, they also plan to visit the space center in Houston, Texas as well as New Orleans. In Baton Rouge, Liliane was fascinated by LSU’s mascot, Mike the Tiger.

Mr. Hobus is a teacher at a primary school in Brussels. “Basically we have the same problems as the U.S. schools”, he noted. Their biggest problem...