



Thursday, August 14, 1986 O&E

(F)10

## Livonia shocks Detroit

Livonia Adray made its first meeting ever against Detroit Adray Appliance in the All-American Amateur Baseball Association (AAABA) World Series one worth remembering.

Appliance certainly won't soon forget it.

Don Vesling made certain of that. The Livonia lefthander who plays at Eastern Michigan handcuffed his Appliance adversaries on four hits Monday to lift Livonia to a 2-1 victory in the opening round of the 16-team, double-elimination tournament at Vo-Tech Field in Johnstown, Pa.

"It was a great performance from a great team. It wasn't because (Vesling) was overpowering or had a great breaking ball. The key was the location of his pitches. He had great location."

Those comments came not from the winning coach, but from the loser — Bob Atkins of Detroit Adray.

IT WAS A major triumph for the Livonia team over its more highly regarded opponent. Vesling, certainly, was the main reason. He walked three and struck out eight in going the full nine innings. The only run scored against him was unearned in the ninth.

Detroit had a chance to tie it in the ninth, with a runner at second and two out. But Todd Krumm, a West Bloomfield native who played last year for Livonia, fanned. Krumm finished 0-for-5.

Livonia had less trouble with Detroit pitcher Chris Czarnik, who was touched for nine hits and a walk. He struck out seven.

Still, the only runs Czarnik surrendered were unearned, both coming in the second inning. Dennis Bishart (Bedford Union) led off with a walk. Deron White bunted, and both runners moved up when Czarnik's throw to second was wild. Scott Welter and Vesling followed with ground outs to second base, each scoring a run.

Thanks to Vesling's pitching, those were the only runs Livonia needed.

"It was a great performance, it goes without saying," said Livonia coach Ron Heller of Vesling's job. "He went way beyond the call of duty."

Vesling, Bill Uile (Livonia Stevens) and Bob Foust (Livonia Church-Please turn to Page 4



Two-time O&E golf champion Geryl Repasky will not play in this year's tournament. Instead of golf, she is concentrating on finishing school at Bowling Green and her upcoming marriage.

DAN DEAN/staff photographer

## O&E champ closets clubs

**B**URN-OUT. What a familiar malady that's becoming in sports. A coach tires of haggling with players, officials, administrators, etc. So he quits, burnt-out.

An athlete wears of the constant travel, the constant pressure, the constant pain of his sport. Another casualty to burn-out.

It's become the epitome of alibis. But the label doesn't always fit.

Listen to some of the reasons Geryl Repasky gives for not returning to Bowling Green State for her senior campaign in golf.

"I was tired of it, yeah," she freely admits. "I just wasn't into it last fall. I did OK this spring, but not as well as I could do."

"It was a lack of desire, really."

Classic case of burn-out, right?

**NOT SO FAST.** You can listen to what Repasky has to say and believe that golf just wore her out mentally. And to an extent you'd be right.

But the Livonia native and Ladywood graduate looks neither listless nor apathetic, two symptoms I would associate with burn-out.

In fact, when I met briefly with Repasky Tuesday afternoon at Oasis Golf Center, where she is employed as an instructor, her demeanor was quite the contrary. Friendly, bright, happy, she didn't seem like an over-saturated remnant of her sport.

If she was, I don't suppose she'd be teaching golf, would she?

Repasky gave up her sport — at least for now. Her reasons were readily available:

- "I just want to finish up my schooling (she'll be a senior at BGSU). I'm taking 21 hours in the fall. If I was going to play golf, I'd have to go next spring semester, and I didn't want to do that."

- "I was getting tired of everyone supporting me (while I golfed) instead of me supporting myself."

- "I'm getting married next July."

Make no mistake, all these reasons played a role in Repasky's decision. But how big?

REMEMBER, this is a young woman — she's 21 — who practiced her game for hours every day, relentlessly pursuing excellence. Repasky won the past two Observer & Eccentric women's titles (her forfeit of her amateur status makes her ineligible this year) and was a solid



C.J. Risak

performer at BGSU.

If schooling were a factor, it would seem more logical to keep golfing and retain her scholarship. That reasoning also applies if someone is "tired of everyone supporting me." Through golf, the expense of college is minimized.

Is getting married a good reason to give up the game? A couple can save more money by cutting expenses (like the cost of a college education). And a wedding, if need be, can be delayed a month if lack of time is a consideration.

There was more to Repasky's surrender of her amateur status than these reasons.

"I played last summer on the mini-tour in New York," she told me,

Please turn to Page 4

## Tournament field ready

The field is set.

Come Saturday morning, 39 women will tee it up for the Observer & Eccentric/Whispering Willows Golf Course Women's Golf Classic.

The 18-hole tournament will have somewhat of a new look to it. For one, it will have a new champion. Geryl Repasky of Livonia, the overall winner for the past two years, has surrendered her amateur status and is ineligible.

This makes Ann Lauer, the 1983 champion, the favorite. Also a top contender in the championship flight is Kathryn Horiford of Farmington Hills.

For competitiveness, though, don't look to the championship flight's six golfers. Instead, watch the scramble in first flight (handicaps from 18 to 27), which has 22 women vying for honors.

Second flight (handicaps 28 to 40), too, could be interesting with 11 entries.

First tee times are at 9:50 a.m. at Whispering Willows. Results of the tournament will be in the O&E's Aug. 22 editions.

## Gone abroad

Grodzicki takes Fulbright exchange

By C.J. Risak  
staff writer

The adventure of a lifetime has begun for Greg Grodzicki and family.

Last week, Grodzicki and his family — wife, Virginia, sons, Matthew, 13, and Christopher, 10, and daughter Elizabeth, 7 — finished a four-day orientation at American University in Washington, D.C. On Friday they boarded a plane bound for London, from where they'll make their way to Swansea, Wales.

And that's where they'll spend the next year of their lives.

The Grodzickis are partaking in the Fulbright Teacher Exchange. In simple terms, the program allows teachers from different nations to switch places for a year.

THE GRODZICKIS will switch lives with Tony Ward of Swansea, the second-largest city (population about 200,000) in Wales, which is on the southwestern coast of the United Kingdom.

Ward will take Grodzicki's teaching position at North Farmington, while Grodzicki fills in for Ward in Swansea. They will also switch homes. Ward living in Grodzicki's Livonia house and the Grodzickis moving into Ward's Swansea home.

For any teacher, the program sounds like a dream come true. But Grodzicki approached it with some reservation.

YOU SEE, he had to surrender something he loved very much to take part in the program. Grodzicki has been North's girls basketball coach for the past six years.

"It was a very difficult decision

for me," admitted Grodzicki, who guided the Raiders to a 14-9 record last year. "Anyone who has coached on the girls' level knows what I mean. You develop a very special feeling for the girls."

"But I had to give it up because of the trip. I couldn't put it on hold for a year. That wouldn't be fair to the new coach coming in."

"I've had a great six years coaching."

GRODZICKI'S TEACHING position is secure because Ward will fill it for the year. Grodzicki will still be paid by Farmington schools, while Ward is compensated through the Swansea system. But, while Ward might be able to assist in coaching the soccer team, he has no background in basketball.

Which made Greg Capling, Grodzicki's assistant coach, the obvious choice as a successor.

"He was my recommendation," said Grodzicki. "He'll do a great job. The kids all like him."

Grodzicki first heard of the Fulbright Teacher Exchange through a friend who was trying to land a college teaching position. Grodzicki talked it over with his wife and decided such an opportunity would be worth the sacrifices.

HIS FIRST attempt failed, due to lack of a match. The foreign teacher has to be qualified to teach the same subject material at the same level. He would also have to have a house suitable for trading, and possible language problems must be considered.

Grodzicki didn't give up. He reapplied.

"They notified me in May that

they found me a match," he said. "That's when I thought, 'We're going for sure.' That wasn't true."

As Grodzicki discovered, there was still a mountain of red tape to scale. Credentials on both sides of the Atlantic had to be cleared by all school systems and consulates involved.

THAT WASN'T finished until the beginning of July. Which left little time for the Grodzickis to get their house in order for a yearlong guest, to sell both cars (which the Fulbright people suggested), and to pack enough for a family of five to last a year.

Then came last week's orientation, when the Grodzickis were able to meet Ward in person. The orientation is the only part of the exchange program paid for by the government. The Grodzickis must finance all other expenses themselves.

But as Grodzicki noted, "When would you ever get a chance to do this?"

MORE THAN 200 teachers and their families attended the orientation process to be instructed in protocol and what to expect in their new homes. The Americans going overseas will visit the palace in London before heading on to their new assignments.

It will be an adjustment for the Grodzickis. The school and stores are within walking distance of Ward's house. Weather is moderate, with temperatures ranging from the mid-20s to the mid-70s. Rain is a constant threat in coastal Swansea.

Please turn to Page 4



# MERCEDES-BENZ



## 300D TURBO

### - NOW AVAILABLE -



### 1987 300D TURBO SEDAN

Mercedes-Benz lifts the diesel to a level where it is almost too smooth, too quick, too quiet to be a diesel. A diesel engine like none before: six cylinders, three liters, turbocharged.

### Estate Motors

464 S. Woodward Avenue  
Birmingham, Michigan 48011  
(313) 644-8400

Open Mon. &  
Thurs. 'til 9 p.m.


