

# Gaby Acquires 'Taste' for America

By GERRY CLEMMONS  
Special Writer



**EVEN A HAMBURGER** can be a delicacy if you have never had one. Gabrielle Glassing (right), 17-year-old exchange student from Hamburg, Germany, gets ready to enjoy her second one, prepared by her "sister"

for a year, Rachel Weaver, also 17, Gabrielle, better known as Gaby, will be living with the George Weavers, 440 S. Cranbrook, Birmingham, while attending Seaholm High School as an All-Honor math student.

It was natural for a girl like Gabriele Glassing to wonder about the United States as she flew over the Atlantic, wondering about the cities and the ways of the people.

"What, more than anything else, will fascinate me about America?"

As Gabriele's plane crossed the states from the eastern coast she stared wide-eyed over the ribbon-like highways stretching in orderly rows. They were not at all like the roads back home in Germany.

"Our roads are confusing because they criss-cross so much."

**BUT STILL** she did not think this astonishing. Soon, though, she was settled in the home of her adopted American parents, the George Weavers of 440 S. Cranbrook Road, Bloomfield Township. She wrapped her arms around her new "sisters," Rachele, Laura, Martha and Sara. Here she would stay, live and play and study, for one whole exciting year as an exchange student from Germany.

Gabrielle found it easy to fall into the American way—almost.

"I have no taste for television, but perhaps it is because back home I am so busy studying, visiting with friends, sailing on the Alster Lake in the city and playing the piano for a group called Musica. Then, too, it is not the fashion to own a television set."

**AND SO** everywhere Gabriele would go people would ask, "What has impressed you or startled you the most, Gaby?" She thought that the fashion Bermudas were peculiar in looks.

"We do wear shorts, short ones but only in the privacy of our home or on the beach."

Still, though, that experience of something special had not occurred to her. She enrolled in the Seaholm High senior class.

Her instructors were astonished over her mathematical background and had decided to place her in the All-Honor Student math program. They said her knowledge of calculus, physics, chemistry and biology was certainly unusual.

**GABY WAS NEITHER** displeased nor overwhelmed.

"I really am not interested in mathematics; you see, in our school system, we must take these courses. I do like languages.

"I am mastering French, but more than anything, now, I want to thoroughly understand the English language. I have only studied it six years."

Gaby made friends easily with her shy and modest ways. Eventually, the Weavers decided that it would be nice to have a cook-out and invite Rachele's friends over for the festivities.

**GABRIELLE NOTICED** the "funny looking stove on tall legs." This puzzled her. While the "strange looking food" was being cooked on this "stove" she looked out across the neighboring yards.

"People here are so friendly with each other, I cannot get over how everyone crosses over to visit. Back home, we grow tall bushes to separate the houses and the people seldom talk to their neighbors."

Then the food was served and finally Gabriele was surprised and

elated over this, her first real American thrill.

"But what is this piece of meat on a bun? It's out of this world," she said.

"A hamburger, Gaby."

"A hamburger? Never have I tasted anything like this. I love it!"

And then someone made that typical of typical American puns: "And you're from Hamburg, Germany?"

Gabrielle Glassing looked puzzled. Then she laughed. She knew that she had really arrived . . . in America.

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## 'Strike Up The Band!'

It's time for tubas, saxophones, clarinets and snare drums as chilly football winds move with the fall air.

"The first game" is the traditional first appearance for most high school marching units—and the Seaholm, Groves, Bloomfield Hills and Southfield high school rank and file are not about to break the tradition.

**BEGINNING TIME** for practice varies, however.

The "Sousa symphony" for Southfield begins practice this week, while the Bloomfield Hills unit won't start marching drill until Sept. 3.

Groves and Seaholm bands will have their first practice sessions on the first day of school.

**ALL THE** high school marching units will pep up half-time entertainment for all home football games that each respective school plays. It will be the first full season of half-time shows for the Bloomfield Hills band, which presented only two half-time shows last year.

## PTO, PTA Plan for Fall School Term

A 1963-64 calendar of events, including meeting dates for the PTOs and PTAs of the Bloomfield Hills school district, has been readied for distribution.

Nine schools have Parent-Teacher Organizations. These are Conant, Eastover, Vaughan, Pine Lake, Wing Lake and Both elementary schools; Bloomfield Hills and East Hills junior high schools; and Bloomfield Hills High School.

A Parent-Teacher Association is at Hickory Grove Elementary School.

Each of the 10 parent-teacher groups has its own officers, and holds monthly and special meetings.

**THE PTO Council**, composed of immediate past presidents, past presidents, school principals and superintendents, is the central agency to take charge of special projects.

PTO Council projects include preparing the calendar of special events, promoting "meet the candidates" activity at school elections and publicizing millage issues when new buildings are needed.

The PTO Council meets the third Thursday of the month, and its first meeting is slated for Sept. 19.

The various PTO and PTA organizations take turns packaging and sealing a school bulletin which goes out monthly from the Bloomfield Hills school office.

## IN RENOVATED CLASSROOM

# Special Education Program Readied at Vaughan School

By SAVILLA SLOAN  
Special Writer

A classroom is being renovated and equipped at Vaughan School to house an experimental program in the Bloomfield Hills School District which has evoked considerable interest among educational circles.

It will serve as an ungraded classroom in which highly gifted children will proceed to learn at their own individual paces, unhampered by a curriculum designed for a specific grade.

At present 10 children have been selected for the program. They represent age levels ranging from first to sixth grades. Each selection was based, not only on the child's extremely high IQ, but also on his level of achievement and creativity. Each selection was screened by homeroom teacher, principal, the school's educational consultant and teachers of special subjects.

**INTERESTINGLY**, there are seven boys and three girls selected for the program beginning this September. The classroom can accommodate four more children, should others qualify in the future.

Details of the experiment have been worked out by the Bloomfield Hills assistant superintendent of schools, Mrs. Kay Flint, with the approval and encouragement of Supt. Eugene Johnson. It has the full support of the Bloomfield Hills School Board.

Mrs. Flint exudes enthusiasm over the response to the experiment.

"The parents of the children selected have been extremely co-

When buying shoes, allow between 1/2 and 3/4 inch between the end of your big toe and the tip of the shoes.

operative," she said. "We had no refusals—only intense interest and appreciation for the program on the part of the mothers and fathers."

**SINCE THE** children selected come from elementary schools scattered in various sections of the school district, no bus service to Vaughan could be offered for the children. Their parents have agreed to furnish their transportation.

William Schrot, who has taught in the school district for 10 years and is considered by authorities as an outstanding teacher, has been selected as homeroom teacher. In other than academic areas the children will be integrated with their own age group.

Schrot holds both BA and MA degrees. He has majors in art,

science and mathematics. He will be aided in his job by special materials to help develop the potential of the creative child.

"These children need opportunity for expression, encouragement and freedom to experiment," according to Mrs. Flint.

**UNIQUENESS** OF the Bloomfield Hills school system's plan for gifted children is in the integration of special studies for the children without separating them from contact with other school children.

Other school systems have special schools for gifted children while the Hills children will be attending a regular school.

School officials will keep detailed records of progress of the experiment and constant evaluation will be made of the program, Mrs. Flint said.

## Buses Get Triple Duty In B'field Hills District

By ETHEL SIMMONS  
Staff Writer

Twenty-eight, 50-passenger buses will do triple duty mornings and evenings, for the high school, two junior high schools and seven grade schools, in the Bloomfield Hills school system this fall.

Previously 80 per cent of the student body rode the school buses. With present enrollment increased to 5,000 students, bus pickup has been adjusted to 65 per cent of the student body.

The "walking area" has been enlarged to three-quarters of a mile. This is still within the state regulations which allows distance up to one and one-quarter miles of the school as walking area.

Twenty-eight bus drivers, as

well as emergency drivers, have been employed for the fall term.

**PARKING** for buses, which proved difficult in the lot for this purpose at Bloomfield Hills High School, has been moved to East Hills Junior High School.

These buses will have a larger, blacktop, fenced-in parking lot. Later, the school system hopes to build some type of garage on the grounds.

Bus arrival and departure times to and from the schools are approximately 8 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., high school; 8:40 a.m. and 3 p.m., junior high schools; and 9:10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., elementary schools.

The buses cover the 28-square-mile Bloomfield Hills school district.