

**'I'm like an octopus up there trying to get everything together.'**

— Albert Glasier  
one-man band

# Playing solitaire

## Performer is whole show himself

By Larry O'Connor  
staff writer

Thanks to technology, Albert Glasier doesn't have to buy any of his band members lunch.

Nor does he have to trip over them on stage or car pool with them. Heck, he doesn't even have to talk to them.

Why? Well mainly it's because the Redford Township musician doesn't have any fellow band members.

Glasier is making a name for himself, by himself, as a one-man band. He makes \$25,000 worth of music equipment sound like 25,000 people are playing it.

"I'm like an octopus up there trying to get everything together," Glasier said.

A digital piano, digital synthesizer, digital sampler, digital sequencer, digital drum computer and a harmonizer are the tools of this one-man band. He does his high-tech act at area restaurants and clubs.

BUT DON'T bother offering any towels for Glasier to cry on for loneliness. He likes being a Maytag man of musicians.

"I quit music for awhile," he said. "I had a duo but the guy was giving me so much trouble."

"One of the things (with being a one-man band) is there is a lot more money," said Elena Emanuel, his manager/agent. "Plus, you don't have the headaches."

"When you have two people, the other person tries to take over," she added. "Albert's not the type who likes a lot of aggravation. He's very easy-going."

Except, that is, when it comes to playing his music. Glasier performs anywhere from four to six nights a week.

Glasier, according to his manager, is booked through January 1988.

His repertoire includes more than 300 songs, ranging from the Moody



Redford Township musician Albert Glasier uses a battery of high-tech equipment to create a sophisticated one-man band sound.

ART EMANUEL/staff photographer

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— Albert Glasier

Blues to Mac Davis. The '50s and '60s music, he said, is the most popular with his audience.

But he keeps current with Genesis, Phil Collins and Bruce Hornsby tunes.

His older material, especially the Procol Harum numbers, draw the most response from listeners. He's billed as a former member of the late '60s, early '70s British rock 'n' roll band.

GLASIER SAID he met Procol Harum at the Grande Ballroom in Detroit.

"I became really good friends with them," Glasier said. "I used to be a fan, and they would come to my house to jam and play chess and have fun."

"When Matthew Fisher quit the group (in 1969), they needed a second keyboard player. They always had two keyboard players, and they went down, basically, to a four-man group."

"Now and then, I would get a chance to play organ for them."

But Glasier doesn't care to dwell on those days, preferring to concentrate on his own one-man show. He started his solo act in 1981.

"I'm doing this until I get enough material to try to make a go of it again," he said. "I guess you can say I'm tired of backing people up."

As far as being a one-man band, Glasier is not alone. There are other such acts around.

Glasier said there's something, though, which separates him from the rest.

"Most of these guys put everything on tape," he said. "To me, that's faking it. I use digital sequencers, harmonizers... That's the hard way of doing it."

Albert Glasier will be appearing through Saturday, May 30, at Benny's Pizza Restaurant, 31525 Joy, Westland, 261-3720.

## Work clothes hit a snag with boss

I dress more appropriately for my job than my supervisor. She's always making remarks about my "upright blazer suits" and "sensible pumps." I dress the way I was taught in business school. My supervisor tends to wear pants and sweaters, sometimes open-toed, sling-back shoes with casual dresses. I don't like her put downs, yet I don't feel like lowering my standards in order to get along. How can I handle this uncomfortable situation?

I'm the office manager for a staff of computer sales people. Every morning they have a staff meeting during which they all have coffee and rolls. All but one cleans up their own mess. He's young, and it's his first job. He seems to have a mother who cleans up after him, and he still expects it in the working world. I've called attention to his responsibility, but it just doesn't sink in. What can I do besides hit him over the head?

Leave the mess at the conference table. The next morning when he comes in make certain it's still there for him to see, even if you have to remove it for later meetings and return it at his place. Leave a memo attached to the soiled things saying, "In the business world each individual is responsible for his or her own mess — both figuratively and literally."

I'm afraid I made a mistake in my current job promotion. I went over my immediate supervisor's head to her director and convinced him to

## business etiquette

### Joan K. Dietch

give me more responsibility and money. Now my supervisor has it in for me, and she has enlisted the aid of her secretary and the other women in the department to make my job as difficult as possible. What can I do to solve this dilemma?

Not much, I'm afraid. When you had to go over your supervisor's head to improve your job status the writing was on the wall. No doubt your immediate supervisor already felt threatened by you and did not want to see you gain any more responsibility. The fact that her director gave you what you wanted only reinforced her fears.

You can try having an honest talk with her, take her to lunch, tell her

you are not after her job, you only want more experience so you can move in another direction with this company. All you can do is be open and honest with her, but that is no guarantee she will feel less threatened. There are several books by Marilyn Meats Kennedy on office politics that will help you avoid future career pitfalls.

Joan K. Dietch of Rochester Hills is a sales and marketing consultant who lectures on business etiquette and has written a business dress book. Address questions to her at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

## loose change

### Marty Redilla

the yield advantage, the more attractive the convertible).

ALL CONVERTIBLE securities feature an exchange or conversion privilege.

It's important that you look at the conversion value of your security — that is, the value of the common shares issued by the corporation upon exercise of the conversion feature. If you can convert each \$1,000 of the bond's face value into 20 shares of common stock and the stock is trading at \$40, the conversion value is \$800 (20 times \$40).

The difference between the conversion value (face value) and the market price of a convertible is the conversion premium. It can be expressed as a percentage or in dollars. If the market price of the bond is \$800 and the conversion value is \$800, the premium is \$100.

Finally, the investment value is the estimated market value at which a convertible might trade if it did not contain the conversion privilege. This is the estimated price of the security if it was a non-convertible issue.

Investing in convertible securities is a constant trade-off. Convertible bonds won't provide the same high interest and safety of principle most other bonds feature; the price of convertible bonds will fluctuate more widely, based upon the successes and failures of the issuing company. And you may not experience the same price appreciation as common stockholders.

But you will receive a rare opportunity — the ability to receive higher current income than currently available on the underlying common stock and the opportunity to participate in gains of the common shares. In short, benefits of both the world of stocks and the world of bonds.

Marty Redilla is an account executive with E.F. Hutton & Co. in Plymouth. For more information on convertible securities, write Redilla at E.F. Hutton & Co., 459 Main, Plymouth 48170.

## Cicada nymphs' debut 17 years in the making



## nature

### Timothy Nowicki

ter 17 years of development underground, nymphs will be emerging this summer in some areas of southeast Michigan. One area is not too far from the Matthaei Botanical Gardens near Ann Arbor.

During May and June nymphs will burrow from underground where they have been feeding on the sap of tree roots. They will crawl up the trunk of a tree and change into adults. Oak trees in a mixed hardwood forest are preferred for this event.

Along the back of the nymph a split will occur in the "skin" allowing the adult to emerge. Adults will then proceed to the tree tops to begin their loud continuous buzzing call. Empty nymph cases will be left behind as telltale evidence of this periodic event.

Though all six species of cicada found in Michigan have a distinct call, the periodic cicada's call is the most resounding. It is produced by special membranes of the thorax that are adjacent to hollow cavities. Muscles cause the membranes to move, and the hollow cavities serve as amplifiers.

MALES CALL to attract a female who will lay its eggs in a small slit in the tree twigs. Eggs hatch and produce one-millimeter-long larvae which fall to the ground, burrow unfed into extended piners. When summer arrives, the nymphs leave the water and miraculously transform into winged adults.

Listen this spring for the sound of the 17-year cicada, which will only last a couple of weeks until another life cycle of the periodic cicada. After 17 years have gone by.

Lifestyles of the rich and famous are not nearly as interesting or unique as the lifestyles of the small and inconspicuous.

For instance, dragonfly nymphs hatch from eggs laid in the water. They develop and spend the winter as voracious predators and aquatic animals. Their mouth parts are modified into extended piners. When summer arrives, the nymphs leave the water and miraculously transform into winged adults.

EQUALLY INTERESTING is the life cycle of the periodic cicada. Af-

## Convertibles offer 2-tone investing

By Marty Redilla  
special writer

Convertible securities are hybrids in the investment world — they share some of the characteristics of stocks, others of bonds. Thus they are well-suited to many investors seeking both income and capital appreciation potential.

Issued as either bonds or preferred stock, convertible securities offer a unique advantage — they offer fixed income combined with the option of converting them into a specific number of shares of common stock. In other words, convertible securities offer some of the potential capital appreciation of stocks along with the current income of bonds. Here's how they work.

Convertible securities rise and fall in price in relation to both the bond market and the price of their underlying common stock. If the price of the common stock drops, the price of your convertible also will fall — but generally not as quickly. This is because the interest paid on the bond will limit the downside response to stock price fluctuation.

But the converse is also true. If the common stock price rises, the convertible's price will rise, but not as quickly, and you won't experience as great a gain as the common stockholder. In return, you receive greater income from the convertible than is paid on the common shares.

As with most investments, when selecting a convertible security you should consider the following: the

soundness of the issuing corporation, the company's likelihood for short- and long-term growth, economic conditions affecting the company's industry, current interest rates and anticipated economic trends.

With convertibles, you should also consider these four features unique to convertible securities: yield advantage, conversion value, conversion premium and investment value. (The typical convertible security pays more in interest or dividends than dividends are paid on the underlying common stocks. In evaluating the convertible security it is important to note how much of a yield advantage exists between the two securities. Generally speaking, the larger

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