By Karl Nilsson special writer

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In hone of National Stupid Question Week. I am interrupting our regular series on self-hardening clay to answer those burning questions from readers. How they caught fire is another story allogether.

Q. Tm trying to organize my closets. Any polit is hanging on to my old fingernall clippings?

A. Don't toss that collection yet. They're useful in the manufacturing of artificial animal hooves, it used to be that when a prize show horse split a nail his career was ruined. Now, thanks to new "press-on fashlom hooves," the judges never know the difference.

Q. Wby did "Big Band" music fad

ifference. Q. Why did "Big Band" music fad

Q. Why did "Big Band" music fad away?

A. In the days before music videos, top swing bands relied on unusual rhyming names to promote audience recognition. The most popular of these catchy monikers was "Les Brown and His Band of Renown."

Brown's overnight success spawned a host of imitators like "Corrad Rust and His Band of Brown and His Band of Twits." Soon, all the good names were used up, brighing the Band of Twits. "Soon, all the good names were used up, brighing the Big Band sound enjoyed a brief resurgence — this time with the Latin flavor of Ricky Ricardo.

Q. Where did the same of haket-

with the Latin flavor of Ricky Ricardo.

Q. Where did the game of basketball get the nickname round ball?

A. Surpisingly, it was not derived
from the spherical shape of today's
familiar orange ball. Instead, it was
r reference to geographical location
as in the phrase, "that's what we
long round note."

In actual fact, the original game
wasn't played with a ball at all, but a
cluder block. Since dribbling was
more difficult, this early game emphasired passing and shooting. The
witch to a rubber ball occurred durling the great cement shortage of
1922.

1992.
Q. Any ideas why the Detroit Tigers' performance was so disma!?
A. I'm dired of people blaming the Tigers for something that wasn't their fault. My research department has uncovered three reasons why Detroit lost more than 100 games

this scason:
1. Poor hitting — Hidden cameras revealed the Tiger bat boys were

street seen



Karl Nilsson

Karl Nilsson
handing the bals to the players upside down. Knowing this, can our
suggear scally be blamed for using
the wrong end of the bal?
2. Poor fielding — Most reports
concentrated on the Ians falling
alteep in the stands, but my investigation revealed narcolepy in the
cutfield, too. This outbreak of frequent and uncontrollable sleep may
explain why fly balls kept bouncing
off our fielders' chests.
3. Foor pletning
the problem
here was communicated by the problem
here was comm

reer.

When the extra-terrestrials return for one final undersea pod, they get an unexpected surprise. Instead of an alien life force, out pops Aunt

an alien life force, out pops Aunt Bea.
When she is fully revived from her suspended animation, Mayberry's best cook peels off her rubbery face mask to reveal she is secretly Barney Fife, who then pulls off his face to reveal he is actually Sherlif Andy, who rips off his face to reveal he is face to reveal he is face to reveal he is really and truly Ople Taylor, space traveler.

### STREET SENSE

## Sleeplessness is common problem

Dear Barbara,
I have difficulty sleeping at night.
I both have difficulty falling asieep
and staying asieep. Then during the
day, I am often tired and cannot stop
nyself from snapping.
The doctor has prescribed sleeping
pills, but they make me feel groggy
and from what I have read, can possibly be dangerous. I am in my late
40s and have had this problem for
about five years.

Sleepless in Livonia

Dear Steepless,
Your problem is common. One-third of the American adult popula-tion complains of insomnia and 7-8 percent take some kind of steep medication.

medication.

To dilagnose and solve this prob-lem, you must use many approaches. If you haven't already had one, a complete physical is a beginning. If no cause can be determined from this, then you need to go to a sleep disorder clinic, such as the ones that they have at Henry Ford Hospital or the University of Michigan Hospital. At these labs, your sleep will be

monitored, resulting in a greater chance for appropriate treatment which could be medical, psychological, behavioral or all three.

Until then, some simple things to think about are the amount of caffeine you are consuming and the regularity of your particular cycle. It has been found that people sleep better and are more alert when they are aware of and maintain the same sleep-wake times. However, as I have sald, nothing can substitute for detailed monitoring at a sleep disorder clinic.

Dear Barbara,
Until recently, I enjoyed a close relationship with my grandchildren. They are two girls ages 4 and 7. My daughter divarced ber husband when the youngest child was only one. I have helped her since that time by caring for the girls while she worked.

Now she is planning on remarry-ing. This man is a beast. He dislikes me and wants to control my daugh-ter. I believe my daughter wants to marry bim for financial reasons. He

is quite well off.

My daughter no longer wants me
to see my granddaughters. In fact,
she will not take my calls. Sometimes I drive by the bouse just to get
a glimpte of them. I know they must
siss me, too.

Is there anything I can do? Do I
have any rights? I am a widow and
this is my only child and grandedlidren.

Lonely in Novi

Dear Lonely, Yes, you have rights. There have been laws since the 1970s, which al-low grandparents to initiate legal action when, because of divorce or death, their relationship with their grandchildren has been terminated without cause.

A group called the Grandparents Rights Organization is trying to have further legislation passed that would expand those rights. Call the organization at 66-7177 and they will counsel you on finding competent legal representation.

I wish you luck.

Barbara



Barbara Schiff

If you have a question or com-ment for Barbara Schiff, a trained counselor and experi-enced therapist, send it to Street Sense, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

# X means victory for Phil Glebe

Continued from Page

Every weekend, from February to November, Glebe Is in a different city to do the same task. Prize mon-ey for a race can be as high as \$10,000.

\$10,000.

The circuit is grueling, the rewards plenty. He travels east, west, north and south in pursuit of championship points during the race

SOMETIMES RACING points are the last thing on Glebe's mind. Like, for instance, the time he went over Lake Michigan from West Bend, wils, to Lansing. The flight reached an altitude of 10,000 feet in subzero

an attitude of 10,000 feet in subzero temperatures.

Then there was his time in the sun, when he nearly landed in the Gulf of Mexico. The flight originated out of Naples, Fla., with winds blowing

Naptes, Fra., with what showing east to west.

As he flew over woods, swamps and condominiums, Glebe began to took for an opening to land the craft.

"That hole never developed." he said.

All of a sudden he was staring at a vast blue body of water. He began to tel air out of the balloon. The basket skimmed along the top of some of palm trees, slowing down the craft.

The basket hit the beach, dumpling cliebe out onto the sand. The canvas balloon landed in the occan.

LUCK WOULD seem to play a part. But with 13 years experience as a licensed balloon pilot, skill had a say in Glebe avoiding danger.

Glebe trains balloon gilots as owner and operator of Renalssance Balloons. In order to receive a license, a person must pass a Federal Aviation Administration written examination, and obtain 10 hours of light time with one hour as a solo run, passing a flight test with an FAA examiner and a health certifi-

Those were the requirements for Glebe. Then what was a hobby grew bigger than that.

"I WAS always fascinated with balloons all my life," said Glebe, a graduate of Eastern Michigan Uni-versity, "I just fell in love with it."

So much so, he gave up his 11-year job in sales to devote his full time to the sport, which is grown to more than 700 pilots registered with the National Balloon Racing Association based in Statesville, N.C.

Balloons cost between \$8,000 to \$15,000 to build, though costs are easily offset with sponsorship.

"The sport is a natural for advertisement," Glebe said, "What you are is a 70-foot billboard."

GLEBE IS only interested in one sign on race day — the one marked with an "X."

A typical race involves a lead bal-loon, the hare, being released. The lead balloon travels for 30 minutes and marks off a spot. The hound bal-loons are then released, dropping two-ounce sand-filled bags as close to the "X" as possible.

The competing hot air balloons are launched two miles from the festival site and vie for the spot. Once there, they release sand-filled bags that are decorated with brightly colored streamers.

"Racing adds another dimension to a spectacular sport already," Glebe said, "Number one, it sharp-ens your flying skills."

ens your Hying skills.

Even Glebe can relax a bit and appreciate the beauty that ballooning has to offer. In a flight over Plymouth and through Novi, he lowers the bailoon above a pond in a field.

"If you look below," he said, peer-ing over the edge, "you can see a re-flection of the balloon."

The image of the massive red bal-loon perfectly mirrored in the body of water is met with a smiling pilot. The finish line could wait.

## Benmiller resort reflects past

ART EMANUELE/staff photographer

Phil Glebe gets ready to turn on the propane burners that will heat the air inside his hot air balloon and cause it to rise.

Continued from Page 1

but in those days it was a busy indus-trial center full of looms, saws, mill stones and other ingenious devices that served the settlers.

that served the settlers.

Benmiller had its own water power, so Gledhill's Woolen Mill and Pfrimmer's Grist Mill stayed alive through World War II, but by 1972 it was a ghost town.

was a ghost town.

IT WOULD probably still be a ghost town if a man called Ivy, nostalgic for the woolen blankets of his youth, bad not driven this way while on a wacation in Grand Bend. There were the old mill buildings, tucked into the trees near two Huron County roads, with nothing but the roads to let a traveler know that he was in the 20th century, approaching the 21st.

It took a lot of restoration and rebuilding, but the Woolen Mill opened as the Bermiller Inin in 1974 and the grist mill became The River Mill in 1976. By 1979, two wings had been added to the private home of former mill owner Vern Gledchill, a third-generation Benmiller Inn today.

day.

If you decide to stay at the Benmiller Inn, the hardest part is finding it. There is one amal is sign where
County Road 1 turns off Highway 8
just east of Goderich.

If you ask directions in Goderich,
hey will send you in the back way—
"Follow Highway 21 across the
bridge, take a sharp right, go
through Saltford, turn right when the
road nhead turns to gravel and you'll
see the red brick church on one side
of the road and a small green sign
for the village of Benmiller on the
other."

other."

Don't go too fast or you'll miss the right turn onto County Road 1 and the gabled rooftops of the lan while whizzing past in a blur of trees.

You check in at the Woolen Mill, with its bar, dining room and guest rooms. Old hands like to stay there because the rooms are in a slightly

rustic setting, but many prefer larg-er rooms and suites a few hundred yards downstream in Gledhill House or the River Mill.

IF YOU STAY downstream, you IF YOU SIAY downstream, you drive away from the registration building with a clutch of keys — one of your building and into your room, one for the River Mill, where you can use the big indoor swimming pool, and two small keys for the mini bar and a second bar full of videocassettes in your room.

two small keys for the mini bar and a second bar full of videocasettes in your room.

All the rooms, except those in the Woolen Mill, have a sink and refrigareator tucked away behind doors, with an etectric kettle and toaster, as well as the lixings for a continental breakfast in the refrigerator.

A sutte in Gledhill House is likely to be two big rooms with a king-sized bed in one, and the television, fire-place, couches and other accourtenents of a living room in the other. All have small baleonies so you can strand watch the river. All have small baleonies so you can strand watch the river. All have small baleonies so you can stand watch the river the fourth-floor has a regular room, with a smaller deck, for less money.

If you insist on being busy, walk up the gravel road to the tennis courts at the top of the hill in season, take a bike and ride through the changing autumn leaves. You can swim in the Olympic-sized pool, or use the sauna, Indoor Jogging track and table tennis facilities at the River Mill.

IF YOU ARE allergic to that kind

and table tennis facilities at the River Mill.

IF YOU ARE allergic to that kind of exercise, walk around, with may be one stop at the store, coffee shop and general store that are the sum of downtown Benniller — It's the only shopping place for miles except for the gift shop at the lin.

None of this is for the budget-conscious. Rates are from \$125 for a smaller room to \$225 for a suite, including continental breakfast, plus five percent provincial tax. (Those prices are in Canadian dollars. Remember that \$100 in U.S. money

buys \$118 Canadian.)
Ask about special packages. If you can travel mid-week, excluding Christmas and some popular snowy days in February, your room costs \$160 Canadian a night.

S100 Canadian a night.

To ge there take 1-94 to Port.
Huron, Cross the Bluwarter Bridge.

Bluwarter Bridge.

11 North through Grand Bond to Goderich, Take Highway 8 East four miles to Huron Road 1 and turn left lar miles to Benmiller. The village is on any Ontario map, just east of Goderich, Chote: There are no gas stations in Benmiller.

Call toll-ten Grand Grand.

Call toll-free (800) 265-1711 or write the Benmiller Inn, RR#4, Goderich, Ont. N7A 3Y1.



Walch the world-champion Pistons take on the New York Knicks in a benefit game for the Detroit Science

WHEN: Friday, October 20th 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Palace

TICKET PRICES: \$7.50, \$15.00, \$17.50 and \$25.00. \$200.000 tickets available for courtside seats Including after-glow reception.

Get your lickets at The Palace or any Ticketmaster location.







#### A honey of an idea

Halloween isn't the only time children love to play dress-up. Loretta Lorion in Bloomfield Plaza has a com-Bloomfield Plaza has a complete line of dress-up attire that will provide hours of play lime fun for your child. There's the little honey bee and prima ballerina costumes, priced at \$22 and \$34, as well as an astronaut, clown, cowboy, bride, fairy princess and rhinestone cowoirl.

# Holiday

Ornamentrix is a Christmas decoration you'll treasure year after year, it's sym-metrically designed to re-flect lights off colorful balls, creating an aura of its own. Four-tiered, it's available in solid or color combinations
— silver, gold, green, red or
blue — for \$24.95 plus \$4

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