

**Blood and guts**

**How teacher gives handicapped self-esteem**

By Gary M. Cates  
staff writer

Before the class started 6-year-old Eric Davis of Canton cried, telling his father he didn't want to go. But his sobs were soon forgotten as Eric bounced up and down on a trampoline in the Farrand Elementary school gym.

Eric is a member of Jim Glasgow's class for students with learning disabilities and perceptual and coordination problems. The major lesson in the class is to keep trying — failure here occurs only when the effort stops.

Glasgow, a resident of Westland, has been teaching the class for 16 years. It is currently being offered in Plymouth-Canton, Farmington, Dearborn and Novi.

The students, like Eric who has cerebral palsy, acquire self-confidence and usually leave the class with an enhanced self-image, says Glasgow.

"MANY OF THE kids are afraid at the start. But kids like Eric (who could be heard crying in the background) will want to come to the class in six or seven weeks.

"They develop a greater self awareness. Instead of having a negative attitude about doing things they will give it a try," says the former Garden City physical education teacher.

"If you put a little blood and guts into it, it really pays off."

The pay-offs come in the form of smiles, like the one Eric had as the class applauded him for hopping up and down on one leg.

Another pay-off came when a former student, who once wouldn't participate in school sports, told Glasgow about scoring a goal in a floor-hockey game.

**JUST PARTAKING** in the exercises during Glasgow's class is many times a moral victory for the students. Whether or not they do the exercises

right isn't of concern. "I don't expect anything out of the kids, just that they try to do the things."

Running through the obstacle course brought plenty of laughs for Bob Lubeck, 12, of Livonia. He tumbled, jumped, hopped and raced on a scooter board.

Five-year-old Julie Abraham of Plymouth Township bubbled with excitement as she did different exercises during the light game. Glasgow signals

the children when to start and stop with either a red, blue, green or yellow light.

When the class ran in place, Julie, her blond hair in pony tails, smiled and shrugged her shoulders saying she couldn't do it. Her mother chuckled and said she did it at home all the time.

Julie proved her mother was right after encouragement from Glasgow.

**GLASGOW BECAME** interested in teaching such a course while occasion-

ally working with handicapped children as a gym instructor.

The program he uses was developed in cooperation with George Barachal, a professor in clinical psychology and education at Wayne State University.

Along with building positive attitudes, Glasgow tries to improve some motor skills. Several of the exercises are designed to help build muscles which have restricted use.

The courses in Plymouth and Novi

are presented through the schools' continuing education programs. The courses in Farmington and Dearborn are funded through the Michigan Association for Children with Learning Disabilities (MACLD).

Persons seeking more information about the courses, offered to children between 5 and 15, should call 459-1189 in Plymouth, 477-8968 in Farmington, 348-1200 in Novi and 278-2338 in Dearborn.



Instructor Jim Glasgow helps Eric Davis of Canton on the trampoline. Glasgow stresses recognition and awareness for the learning disabled students.



Bob Lubeck, 12, of Livonia begins a backward roll on the obstacle course. He is watched and helped by Leslie Greenleaf of Dearborn.

**INSIDE ANGLES**

**THE FIRST CAREER CONVENTION** for women in Michigan — at least that's how it's being billed — takes place 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday in the Westin International Hotel in Detroit's Renaissance Center and 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13. Guest speakers scheduled to appear include Jessica Savitch, NBC-TV anchor and news correspondent; Amy McCombs, general manager of WDIV-TV; Corin Gilb, director of urban planning for the city of Detroit; Ralph Nichols, president of Dale Carnegie courses of Michigan; Beverly Payne-Draper of WJBK-TV and Samuel Irwin, president of Irwin International Industries, director of the High Tech Task Force for the State of Michigan. The convention costs \$20 per person per day and can be obtained by phoning A Better Way at 352-4320 or writing to them at 4000 Town Center, Suite 103 Southfield 46075. Promoters of the event are responsible for the spate of "Ask me why I'm smiling" buttons seen on lapels around town. Tickets can also be purchased at CTC ticket outlets around town.

**GYMNASTICS FOR ADULTS** is available at the physical education department of the Jewish Community Center's West Bloomfield branch. The date of the class will be set at a later date if enough persons are interested in attending. Instructor will be Mike Freidin, former trainer of the USSR National Gymnastics Team and former champion gymnast in the Ukraine. Freidin holds a master's degree in physical education from Kiev University. To sign up for the course call Rick Kaczmarek, director of the program, at 661-1010, ex. 181. The Jewish Community Center is located at 6500 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield.

**SNOW SCULPTURES** will be judged beginning Saturday, Feb. 20, in a contest sponsored by the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department. Persons must register by Feb. 17 to enter but sculptures can be built at any location in Farmington, Farmington Hills or the Farmington school district. There's a \$3 fee per entry; winners will be announced Feb. 22. The material is abundant; fresh ideas are needed.

**THE SENIOR MESSENGER** edited by Loretta Conway of the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department passes on a few helpful hints, as usual, for seniors as well as younger persons. Her newsletter notes that the Farmington branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is sponsoring the SAGE program which stands for Senior Adults Giving to Education. The group is looking for volunteer "grandpersons" to initiate the program. It should be noted that you doesn't have to be an actual grandparent to join. SAGE volunteers will work in a Farmington elementary school teaching children a special skill, craft or lesson. "It could be birdwatching, stamp collecting, poetry writing, a love of art or music, a skill at a handicraft — anything which brings seniors and children together in an exchange of ideas." Sound like a laudable effort to IA. If you're interested in applying, call Phyllis Cummings at 476-4735.

**DENTAL SERVICES** are available to homebound elderly residents through the Tri-County Dental Health Council. Elderly persons whose physical or mental condition prevents them from being treated outside the home as well as nursing home residents can contact the council by calling 559-7389.

**GROUP HOMES** for the retarded and community resistance to the idea is the topic of a panel discussion today from 9:30 a.m. till noon on the 13th floor of the Book Building in Detroit, located at the corner of Grand River and Washington Blvd. Panelists include State Sen. Doug Ross, whose district includes Farmington and Farmington Hills; Irene Ametrano, Ph.D. at Eastern Michigan University who has made a pilot study of community resistance to group homes for the retarded; the Rev. Phillip Seymour, chairman of New Life Committee; Julie Cunningham, who lives next to a group home and is staff member of WFUM-TV in Flint; Anne Sipher, administrative assistant for the Association for Retarded Citizens of Oakland County, and Laurel Berger, community liaison coordinator for the Macomb-Oakland Regional Center for the retarded.

**How to design with sheets**

Patsy Price, owner-designer of the West Bloomfield enterprise Patsy Price Designs with Sheets, will offer a one-session workshop at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 15, in Farmington Community Center. The session will cost \$7.

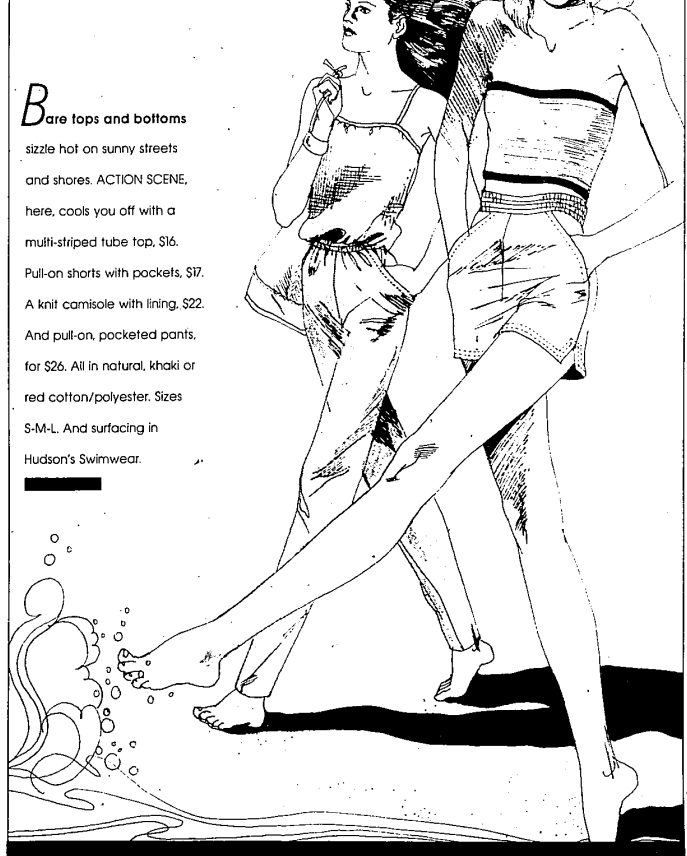
Price uses today's designed sheets in a variety of ways to decorate and enhance the home. The seven or eight square yards of fabric in the average

sheet are economical for drapes, bedspreads, tablecloths and other items used in decorating or accessorizing the home.

Price said working with sheets is practical and economical and provides fabrics that are easy to care for.

Registration is in the center, 24705 Farmington Road, or call 477-8404 weekdays from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**MAKING WAVES**  
at hudson's



**B**are tops and bottoms sizzle hot on sunny streets and shores. ACTION SCENE, here, cools you off with a multi-striped tube top, \$16.

Pull-on shorts with pockets, \$17.

A knit camisole with lining, \$22.

And pull-on, pocketed pants, for \$26. All in natural, khaki or red cotton/polyester. Sizes S-M-L. And surfacing in Hudson's Swimwear.