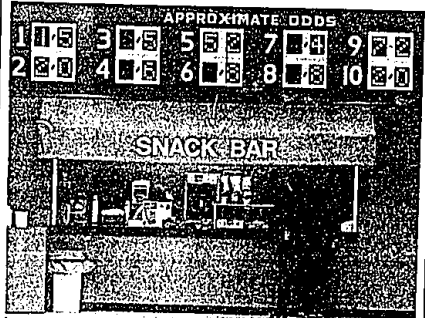


# What's new blends with old look



STEVE FECHT/staff photographer

The Gluckmans used colorful awnings to make interior snack bars more inviting. To go along with the new look, a variety of new concession food items were introduced this season.

## DRC facelift big on color

Continued from Page 1

Ladbroke Racing Corp.

It took something like 7,000 gallons of paint to transform the "yellow submarine" into a red-hot vehicle of fun and excitement.

Every nook and cranny was brightened and all food areas were given new treatment, including colorful awnings to add to a lively atmosphere.

The first thing that hits the eye upon entering the front of the clubhouse area is a mural of horses — each in a different color but in compatible tones.

The fusion of color conveys the feeling of horses in motion, explains Gluckman. It was his answer to the "open railing, prison look" that formerly greeted visitors.

MORE COLOR comes from jockey silks hanging from the suspended (they did that, too) ceiling. The silks reflect those in use at the Kentucky Derby, Gluckman explained.

"Color," Gluckman believes, "is the most versatile and economical design tool that can pro-

**'Color is the most versatile and economical design tool that can profoundly affect the way space is used.'**

— Hank Gluckman  
Gluckman Designs Inc.

foundly affect the way space is used."

Probably the most spectacular change was in the creation — in a scant 23 days — of the upscale members-only Turf Club with all the friendly warmth and ambience of a country inn.

Ladbroke officials were delighted with the finished product, but the best measurement of the effect of the improvements is the fact that market research has shown that the colorful renovation at the race course is a major factor in improved attendance.

For the Gluckmans, it's the same as being neck and neck in the homestretch — in a tight race against the clock — and coming in first with colors flying.

**S**HAVE MY beard off?" I exclaimed in horror. "I have had this beard for 14 years! How can I just shave my beard off?"

My overreaction to my wife's suggestion set us both laughing. "Why not shave it off?" she asked. "Adam has never seen his Daddy without his beard."

"But I've forgotten what my chin looks like," I said. "Maybe I've got a cleft in it or worse — a dimple. Then again," I added, "maybe there are two chins by now."

With a protective gesture, I patted my chin and said slowly, "besides, I'd have to have a new photo for my column."

"Well, what's wrong with a new look?" she said. "If you don't like the new look, just grow your beard back again."

I DO LIKE new friends, new art jobs and new art materials, but I don't think I'm ready for a new look. While I try to decide, here are a few products that are relatively new.

Most people who casually enjoy calligraphy probably already know of the Elegant Writer by Speedball. This line of felt-tip markers offers a variety of four tip sizes and six colors. What is new, however, is their "Classic." The Classic is a permanent marker available in the same tip sizes.

Talk about classic, you should see the new quarterly magazine called the "Calligraphy Idea Exchange." This magazine is full of ideas, tips

and insight into the fascinating world of calligraphy. At \$10, it is not cheap, but then again this is a "classy" magazine.

Speaking of new magazines, if you are at all interested in commercial art you must see "How" magazine. This bimonthly publication lets you look over the shoulders of the best in the business. At \$4.50, the January/February issue alone is a real find.

LET ME JUMP back to calligraphy again. The Double Header by Ilova is a great idea. This marker has a small chisel tip on one end and a very wide tip on the other. The ink is very black and the fiber of the tip is hard and sturdy.

I think the Oifa company's theme song is "Anything you can do, I can do better." They take old ideas and make wonderfully new products. A utility knife is certainly nothing new. But Oifa designed one with break-away blades so that one knife offers you 24 blades.

For the same \$4.98, other companies offer only four extra blades. Oifa also has a nifty little circle cutter for only \$6.98. It cuts up to a six-inch circle and comes with five extra blades hidden in a little compartment.

Did you ever wish you could put a felt tip pen in your compass and ink a circle? Or wish it could hold a tech pen, or a knife or a ballpoint pen? Well, there is now a thing called a universal adapter. It costs about \$5 and it will allow your compass to hold just about anything.

Deka has long been my favorite company for fabric dyes. Their colors are brilliant and do not stiffen the materials on which they are painted. I always have my airbrush students think their Deka paint down to a "creamy" consistency. At least I used to. Now my students can use Deka's new "Permal," which is already thinned and ready to be sprayed. This paint is equally brilliant and comes in a host of colors including fluorescent and metallics. A 2½-ounce bottle costs about \$2.59.

By the way, the beard is going to stay. I would especially like to take time to thank all of you who have called because you have missed my column. I appreciate your response.

This is another in a series of lessons on art and drawing by special columnist David Messing. He has taught for 10 years and operates two art stores, Art Store and More, 1638 Middlebelt, Livonia, and 265 N. Main, Plymouth. Messing encourages questions and comments from readers. You may call him at 522-8311, write to him at his store or in care of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 33203 Grand River, Farmington, Mich. 48024.



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Catholic Central High School will present its spring concert at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, at Mercy High School, Farmington Hills. Tickets are \$1 and may be purchased at the door or by calling 534-0660. The concert will feature the award-winning ensembles: symphonic band, stage band, men's chorus and varsity singers.



## Kottler featured

Detroit's beloved pianist Mihaela Kottler will join the Oakway Symphony in its final concert of the season at 3 p.m. Sunday in Harrison High School, Farmington. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$4 for students and senior citizens. The program will include Beethoven's Egmont Overture and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5. Kottler will perform Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2. For ticket information, call 591-5046.



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