

## **Will Television ever Replace the Newspaper?**

*Mary Baine (July 2011)*

No, you cannot swat a fly with a television!

I predict that television will never replace the newspaper...not for Mensans, anyway. Most of us like to READ! Besides that, I can't very well throw the television on the table at school so students can do their printmaking on it. Seriously, newspapers figure prominently in art. Besides being used to protect the art room tables from ink, they can also be used for papier-mache. If the text and images are relevant, they can be used for collages as well. To top it all, a glassblower of my acquaintance uses newspaper for steam pads, and shapes molten glass with it. He uses only the Wall Street Journal because of the high quality and low toxicity of the materials involved.

Artists are experts at using materials in multiple and/or unusual ways. Most people eat their food. Artists observe it, draw or paint pictures of it, make sculptures that represent it out of materials that are inedible, or use actual comestibles to stunning visual effect. For example, Wayne Thiebaud is famous for his paintings of dessert items. Claes Oldenburg, known for everyday objects made monumental, has also created sculptures featuring popular foods. Sandy Skoglund, who has an installation featuring jellybeans at the Dayton Art Institute, has been known to cover mannequins with "cheese doodles." This fascination is not limited to contemporary artists: Check out Giuseppe Arcimboldo!