Silly Putty Timers, One More Time
By John Oldenkamp

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Heavy rains and the subsequent nasty, knee-high weed crop have stymied flying sessions but the pursuit of more effective smokeless DT systems moves along.

Several nearly OOS, eight minute plus flights led to a second look at Stan Buddenbohm's 2004 mock-up that features his dead simple mechanics. For the record, the drawing above does not reproduce any schemes previously seen in El Torbellino, nor does it reflect Gerry Sullivan's latest timer, which may eliminate more bits for lower weight and complexity. The layout is pure Buddenbolm, with an Orbiteer fillip -- the wing pop-off innovation.

The [Buddenbolm] Better Mousetrap DT components:

1. Viscous Timer cutout. (Plywood or hard balsa backing are recommended.)
2. 10 lb. monofilament, double loop, load line.
3. 1/16" I.D. aluminum tubing crimped on.
4. FliteTech 1/2 or 3/4" spring.
5. 10 or 15lb dacron fishline.
6. Pin. Tie off #4 securely + very small drop of C/A.
7. .025 wire mousetrap bar.
8. Release arm bent at a approximately 80° to left of vertical.
9. Pin.
10. Optional pin with aluminum tube "roller" for smooth operation.
11. Front hold pin or peg.

A #14 band is stretched from the release arm, then goes under #9, up the pylon rear, over the wing to the front pin, #11. Wing-to-tail end is light mono and #12 or 14 fishing swivels are used.
to avoid tangling. This arrangement has been proof-tested on my P-20, and will soon go into some P-30's and Coupes, as well as the Vargo Gollywock. So far the action has been swift and snappy, although the teeny 3.5" P-20 pylon length made calibration a chore. Thanks to Stan B. for the impetus.