



- [54] **PLAYYARD CABANA**
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- [73] Assignee: **Evenflo Company, Inc.**, Vandalia, Ohio
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- [51] **Int. Cl.⁷** **E04H 15/04; A47C 29/00**
- [52] **U.S. Cl.** **135/116; 135/96; 135/90; 135/124; 135/137; 5/97; 5/414; 5/113; 5/98.1**
- [58] **Field of Search** **135/121, 124, 135/125, 90, 115-117, 136-137, 906; 5/93.1, 97, 98.1, 113, 121; D6/331**

5,517,707	5/1996	LaMantia	.....	5/97
5,666,986	9/1997	Fox	135/135
5,862,548	1/1999	Gerhart	135/117 X
5,913,322	6/1999	Gallant et al.	135/124 X

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Assistant Examiner—Winnie Yip
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Thompson Hine & Flory LLP

[57] **ABSTRACT**

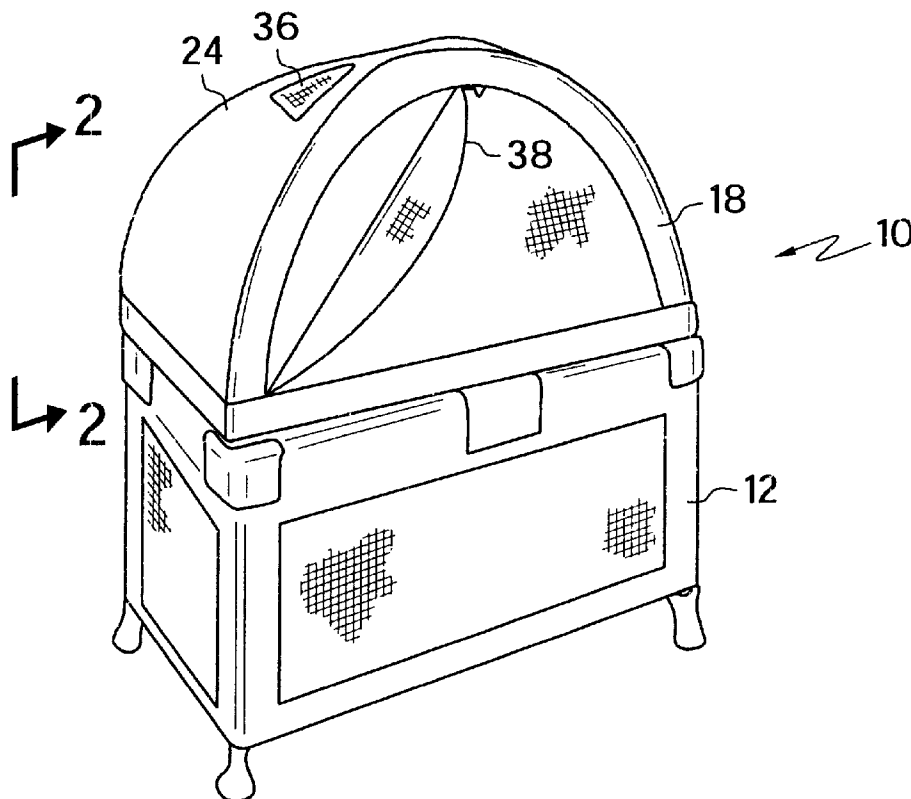
A cabana system adapted for use in a stand-alone mode is disclosed. The system includes a separable floor for use as a cover for a playyard of the type having vertically extending reception apertures in the upper corners thereof. The system is comprised of a frame fabricated of two flexible rods. Each flexible rod is hollow with free ends adapted to be received within apertures of a playyard. The rods are positioned in side-by-side relationship to thereby form a generally cylindrical central extent. The rod placement further forms spaced semi-circular planar surfaces on opposite sides thereof at the ends of the central sections. A fabric cover covers the tubes with a screen door in a semi-circular configuration in one planar face thereof with a fastener for coupling and uncoupling the screened panel. A fabric floor is formed as an extension of one planar face remote from the screen door and is adapted to depend downwardly over one side of the playyard when deployed thereon. The floor has a fastener to couple the floor to the lower periphery of the frame when used in a stand-alone mode independent of the playyard.

[56] **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

D. 366,978	2/1996	Mariol	.....	D6/491
D. 383,625	9/1997	Dillner	.....	D6/491
4,192,333	3/1980	Sato	.....	135/124
4,493,120	1/1985	Watts	.....	5/99.1
4,590,956	5/1986	Griesenbeck	.....	135/116
4,766,918	8/1988	Odekirk	.....	135/96
4,790,340	12/1988	Mahoney	.....	135/90
4,825,484	5/1989	Riegel	.....	5/97
4,837,875	6/1989	Shamie et al.	.....	5/99.1
4,852,598	8/1989	Griesenbeck	.....	135/102
4,862,534	9/1989	Gomez-Marcial	.....	5/97
4,945,584	8/1990	LaMantia	.....	5/97
5,002,083	3/1991	Kim	.....	135/98
5,311,813	5/1994	Fairbanks et al.	.....	99/645

8 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets



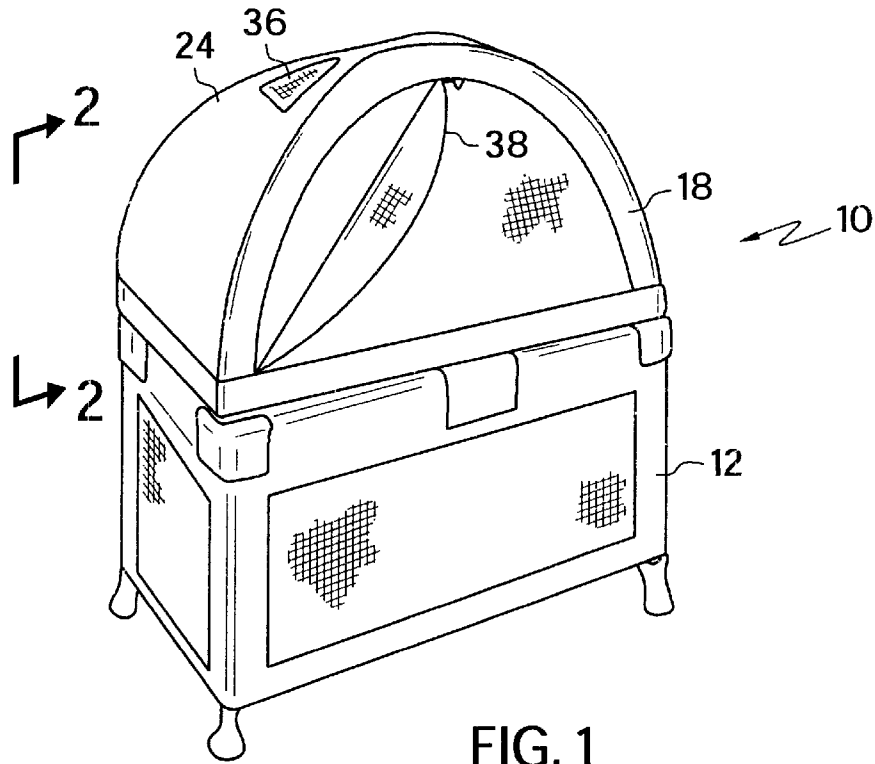


FIG. 1

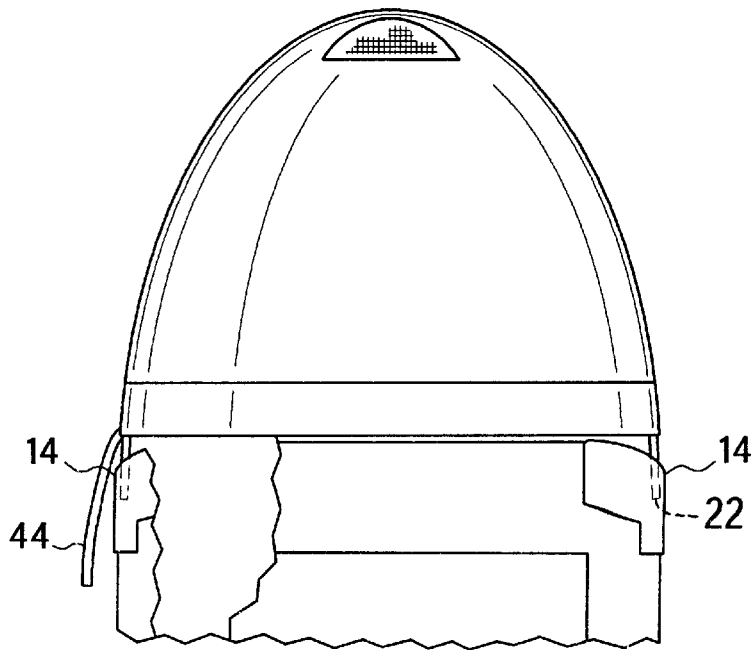
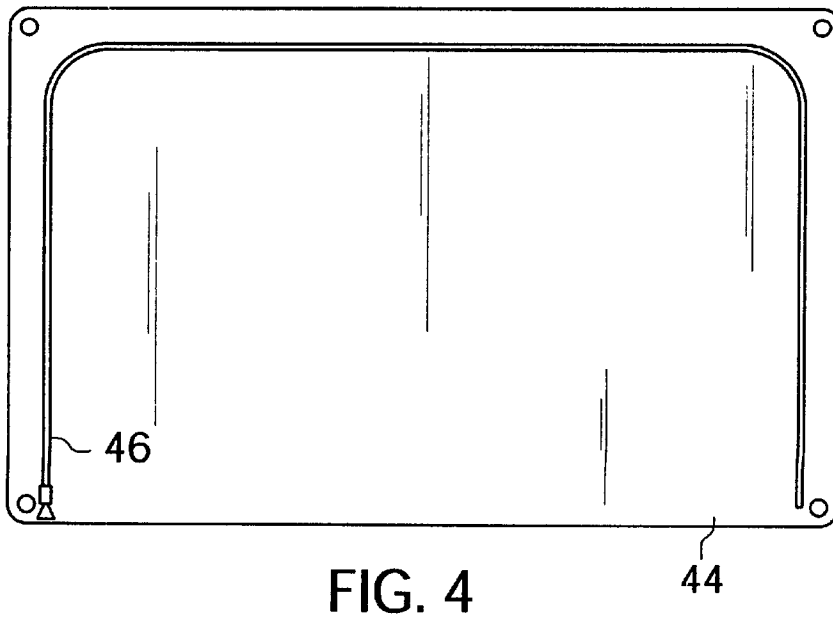
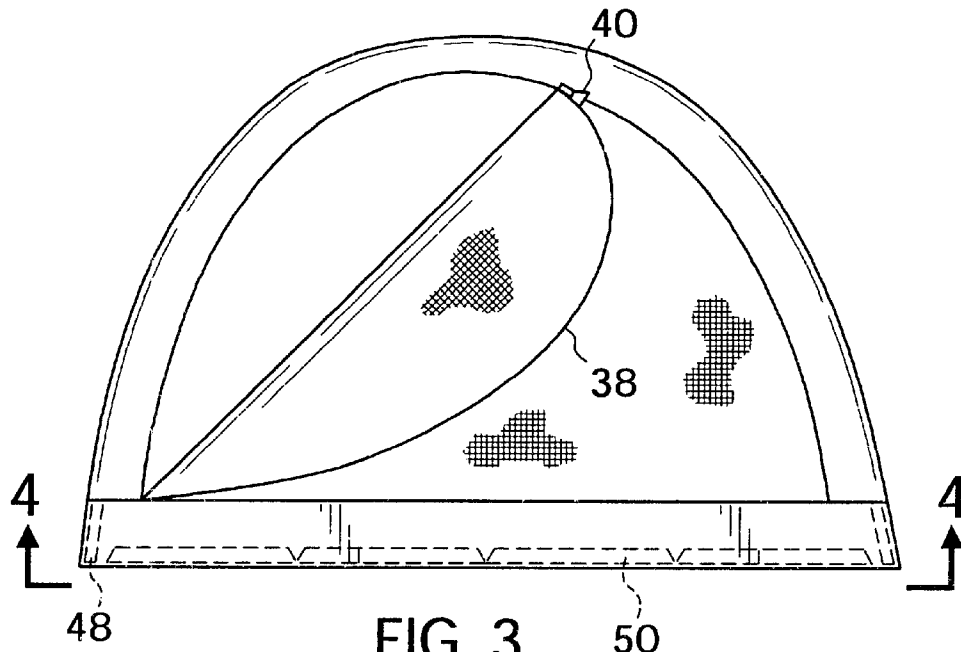


FIG. 2



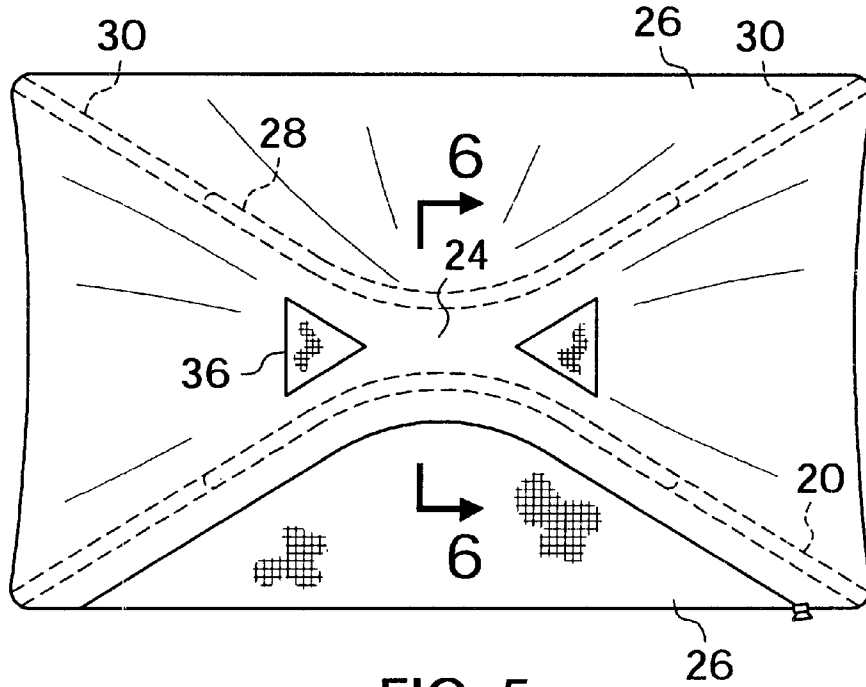


FIG. 5

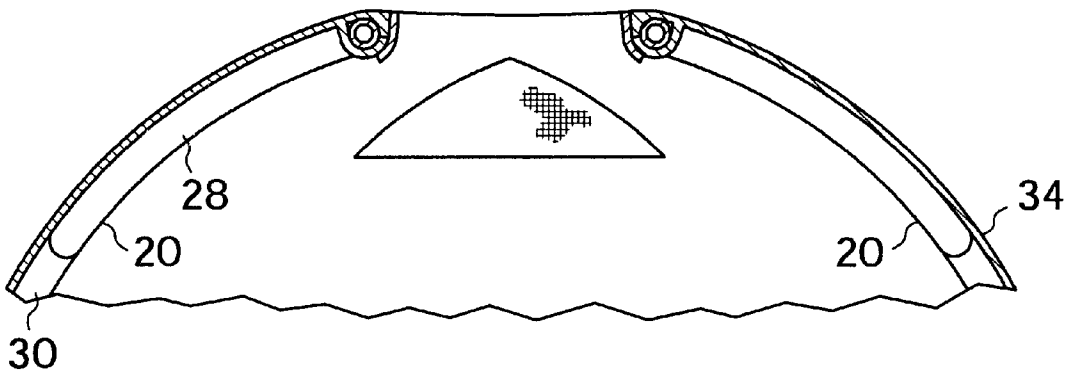


FIG. 6

PLAYYARD CABANA

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a new and improved cabana system adapted for use in a stand-alone mode or as a cover for a playyard and, more particularly, pertains to utilizing a cabana for the safety and comfort of a child either by itself or as a covering for a playyard.

2. Description of the Prior Art

The use of child care products of known designs and configurations is known in the prior art. More specifically, child care products of known designs and configurations heretofore devised and utilized for the purpose of adding to the safety and comfort of infants through known methods and apparatuses are known to consist basically of familiar, expected, and obvious structural configurations, notwithstanding the myriad of designs encompassed by the crowded prior art which has been developed for the fulfillment of countless objectives and requirements.

The prior art discloses a large number of child care products of known designs and configurations. By way of example, U.S. Pat. No. 4,590,956 to Griesenbeck, issued May 27, 1986 and unassigned on its face, discloses a bed tent. U.S. Pat. No. 4,766,918 to Odekirk, issued Aug. 30, 1988 and assigned on its face to Aspen Enterprises, Inc., discloses a convertible, inflatable shelter apparatus. U.S. Pat. No. 4,790,340 to Mahoney, issued Dec. 13, 1988 and unassigned on its face, relates to a canopy for a child's playpen. U.S. Pat. No. 4,825,484 to Riegel, issued May 2, 1989 and unassigned on its face, discloses a crib with safety-top. U.S. Pat. No. 4,852,598 to Griesenbeck, issued Aug. 1, 1989 and unassigned on its face, relates to a bed tent. U.S. Pat. No. 4,945,584 to LaMantia, issued Aug. 7, 1990 and assigned on its face to Tots-In-Mind, Inc., discloses a crib cover. U.S. Pat. No. 5,002,083 to Kim, issued Mar. 26, 1991 and assigned on its face to Baejin Corporation, discloses a tent cover retaining device. U.S. Pat. No. 5,311,813 to Fairbanks, et al., issued May 17, 1994 and unassigned on its face, relates to a cutting surface having a tent-like cover providing closeable access to the cutting board. U.S. Pat. No. 5,517,707 to LaMantia, issued May 21, 1996 and unassigned on its face, relates to a crib cover securing device. U.S. Pat. No. 5,666,986 to Fox, issued Sep. 16, 1997 and assigned on its face to Fox Design International Limited, discloses a tent frame device. U.S. Pat. No. Des. 366,978 to Mariol, issued Feb. 13, 1996 and assigned on its face to Lisco, Inc., discloses a removable playyard canopy. Lastly, U.S. Pat. No. Des. 383,625 to Dillner, issued Sep. 16, 1997 and assigned to Graco, discloses a canopy for a child play area.

In this respect, the cabana system adapted for use in a stand-alone mode or as a cover for a playyard according to the present invention substantially departs from the conventional concepts and designs of the prior art, and in doing so provides an apparatus primarily developed for the purpose of utilizing a cabana for the safety and comfort of a child either by itself or as a covering for a playyard.

Therefore, it can be appreciated that there exists a continuing need for a new and improved cabana system adapted for use in a stand-alone mode or as a cover for a playyard which can be used for utilizing a cabana for the safety and comfort of a child either by itself or as a covering for a playyard. In this regard, the present invention substantially fulfills this need.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In view of the foregoing disadvantages inherent in the known types of child care products of known designs and

configurations now present in the prior art, the present invention provides a new and improved cabana system adapted for use in a stand-alone mode or as a cover for a playyard. As such, the general purpose of the present invention, which will be described subsequently in greater detail, is to provide a new and improved cabana system adapted for use in a stand-alone mode or as a cover for a playyard and methods which have all the advantages of the prior art and none of the disadvantages.

To attain this, the present invention essentially comprises a new and improved cabana system. The system is adapted for use in a stand-alone mode. The system further includes a separable floor for use as a cover for a playyard of the type having vertically extending reception apertures in the upper corners thereof.

A first major component of the system is a frame fabricated of two flexible rods. Each flexible rod is hollow with free ends adapted to be received within apertures of the playyard. The rods are positioned in side-by-side relationship closer at their central points than at their ends to thereby form a generally cylindrical central extent narrower at the midpoint than at the ends and with spaced semi-circular planar surfaces on opposite sides thereof. Each of the rods is formed of a central section constituting about a third of the length with couplable end sections at the ends of the central sections.

The second major component of the system is a fabric cover covering the tubes and attached at their central extents. The fabric cover has triangular vents on the cylindrical central section adjacent to the top. A screen door in a semi-circular configuration in one planar face thereof is provided. The screen door has a sliding fastener for coupling and uncoupling the screened panel.

The third major component of the system is a fabric floor formed as an extension of one planar face remote from the screen door. The fabric floor is adapted to depend downwardly over one side of the playyard when deployed thereon. The floor has a sliding fastener to couple the floor to the lower periphery of the frame when used in a stand-alone mode independent of the playyard. Further, the floor has pockets for receiving the free ends of the tubes.

Lastly provided as a major component of the system is a floor panel formed of four coupled rectangular sections positionable either on the floor of the playyard when the cabana is used therewith or positionable on the floor of the cabana when standing independent of the playyard.

There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more important features of the invention in order that the detailed description thereof that follows may be better understood and in order that the present contribution to the art may be better appreciated. There are, of course, additional features of the invention that will be described hereinafter and which will form the subject matter of the claims appended hereto.

In this respect, before explaining at least one embodiment of the invention in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of construction and to the arrangements of the components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the drawings. The invention is capable of other embodiments and of being practiced and carried out in various ways. Also, it is to be understood that the phraseology and terminology employed herein are for the purpose of descriptions and should not be regarded as limiting.

As such, those skilled in the art will appreciate that the conception, upon which this disclosure is based, may readily be utilized as a basis for the designing of other structures,

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