

months is **Fusion Medical Technologies Inc.**, a Mountain View, Calif., company that is developing products to stop bleeding during surgical procedures. "It's different than what we usually do," he says, noting that Fusion Medical isn't yet making money. "But the earnings potential is enormous."

The company's FloSeal Matrix, used in cardiac, vascular and other procedures, has received marketing approval in Europe and is expected to get U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval later this year, he says. It is less expensive and faster to prepare than competing products, he adds, which will lower the costs of surgery.

Mr. Keim says an agreement announced yesterday with a distributor specializing in the spinal-surgery market should lead to increased revenue for Fusion later this year. Fusion's stock closed at \$9 on the Nasdaq Stock Market yesterday.

Mr. Grefenstette is going with **Mastech Corp.**, an Oakdale, Pa., provider of information-technology services. The company has "successfully migrated into higher end value-added services," which now account for more than half of its revenue, he says. "They've actually done what everyone else wants to do," he says, adding that he expects earnings growth of about 30% a year for the next few years.

At \$17.25 on Nasdaq yesterday, "it's a cheap stock," says Mr. Grefenstette, who manages Federated's Growth Strategies Fund and its Large-Cap Growth Fund. He says Mastech "has been unfairly painted with the Y2K brush," a reference to companies working to resolve anticipated glitches caused by the transition to the year 2000, though such work accounts for only 10% of its business.

Safeway Inc., the Pleasanton, Calif.,

supermarket chain, is Mr. Puglia's choice for his first competition against the darts.

"The company is one of the best managed in the retailing area, especially in the grocery business," he says. Mr. Puglia manages the T. Rowe Price Blue Chip Growth Fund.

Management has "a tough but constructive relationship with its unions," which has led to productivity improvements, he says, and it works with suppliers to get the best prices. The stock price has been hurt by worries about the effects of Internet shopping and concerns that the company won't be able to make more acquisitions, Mr. Puglia says, but he foresees continued, albeit smaller, acquisitions, and he doesn't think the Internet is much of a threat. Safeway closed on the Big Board yesterday at 53.

For the contest ending Dec. 31, the four pros will be competing against a dartboard portfolio consisting of **Applied Digital Access Inc.**, **Argonaut Group Inc.**, **Dendrite International Inc.** and **Flagstar Bancorp.**

The amateur portfolio consists of **American Mobile Satellite Corp.**, chosen by Briana Pinney of Burke, Va.; **America Online Inc.**, chosen by Rex Chadwell of Schaumburg, Ill.; **Capital One Financial Corp.**, the selection of Patricia A. Stephens of Baltimore; and **Yahoo! Inc.**, picked by Manohar Mardi of Farmington Hills, Mich.

Results of the contest just ended leave the pros ahead of the darts by a score of 68 to 41 in the 109 contests since current rules were adopted in 1990. When pitted against the Dow Industrials, the pros are ahead by a narrower margin of 57 to 52. Meanwhile, the pros have posted an average six-month investment gain of 11.3%, compared with just 4.4% for the darts and 7.2% for the Dow Jones Industrial Average.