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# PHASE

*A special Herald holiday section*





Mike Sweeney/Herald

Tampa, Fla. Junior Jonathan Sheahen listens to Lakeshia Forrest, 7, describing what she wants for Christmas while her sister Jessica, 2, watches with apprehension. Right: Taking a break from listening to children's wishes at the Greenwood Mall, Sheahen kicks back and cools off.

## Santas more than students in suits

BY JENN HARMON

Not only are lights, wreaths and big red bows decorating the Greenwood Mall for Christmas, but so is Santa Claus.

He sits next to a toy store with Christmas trees and has little kids surrounding him. Jonathan Sheahen, a junior from Tampa, Fla., and J.J. Wolf, a junior from Springfield, Mo., are two students from Western working as Santa this year.

Children line up to see Sheahen and Wolf as Santa Claus. Not only do they tell

Santa what they want for Christmas, but many get their picture taken with him.

Sheahen and Wolf got the job as Santa because they know Maria Finney, the coordinator of the Santa Clauses at Greenwood Mall.

Many people applied for the positions, Finney said.

"I picked Jonathan and J.J. because I knew I could depend on them and I knew that they had fun personalities," Finney said.

There are many positives and not so many negatives to this job,

Sheahen said. He said he had only two problems with it — the suit gets extremely hot and sometimes the parent tries to force the child to sit on his lap. When that happens, the children scream.

"I never dreamed that one day I would be sitting here as Santa," Sheahen said.

The only time Wolf said he dreads being Santa is right before he goes on break.

"We have to wait for a dead spot in the line, even then parents get mad and start yelling at

us," he said. "Sometimes that gets really hard to work with. Some people just aren't in the right mood for Christmas."

Sheahen, an Elementary Education major, said he loves kids and most of the time he convinces them he is not just some guy in a Santa suit.

Sheahen said one teacher he observes for his education class decided she was going to bring her five-year-old daughter to see him.

The teacher told Sheahen all about the family pets and some of her daughter's favorite things. And when the girl came in, Sheahen started telling her about these things and her eyes got big with excitement.

Sheahen said she exclaimed, "You really are Santa!"

"My favorite part of the story happened when I asked her what she wanted for Christmas and she said 'I want to give you this.' Then she hugged me," he said.



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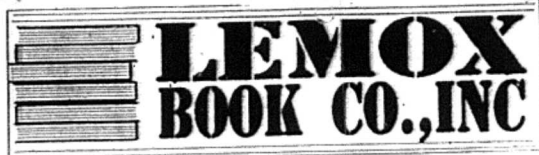
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*SEASONS GREETINGS*

**G**ive a little of yourself this holiday season with handmade gifts. Sure, it takes more time than picking something up at Wal-Mart, but think how much everyone will appreciate something you've labored over.

You don't have to be an artist to create something impressive. Craft stores are full of easy-to-use kits that produce almost professional-looking results.

The Piece Goods Shop on Campbell Lane has a variety of kits geared to beginners and offers classes to help them along.

Classes between now and Christmas include workshops in no-sew appliques, decorative bows, gift bags and painting on fabric.

The classes cost between \$5 and \$25. Some classes also require you to provide your own supplies.

A calendar of classes is available at the Piece Goods Shop, and arrangements can be made to schedule other times.

Patty Teague, a Piece Goods Shop employee, said those interested should register two days before the class.

If you prefer to do it alone, the store's staff can help you get all the supplies you need and provide some pointers, Teague said.

For the slightly advanced, Teague suggested pillows or cross-stitch crafts. The store offers ornament patterns and printed fabric especially suited for making pillows, she said.

"We have things that you can do with just the most basic sewing skills. If you can sew a straight seam, you can make a pillow," Teague said. "And the ornaments you could sew completely by

hand if you wanted."

For those with no sewing skills, the shop offers other crafts that include Christmas iron-on transfers, stencils and wreath supplies.

Teague said. "A lot of painting stuff or transfers, you just iron on and that's it," Teague said. She suggested them for decorating sweat-shirts, aprons or tote bags.

The stencils are another easy option. You can buy the stencil, brush and paints and use them to decorate bags, shirts or virtually any other fabric item, she said.

Easy or not, some students still don't want to make their own gifts.

"I'm too lazy," said Bowling Green freshman Emily Roberts.

Roberts still prefers giving handmade gifts, however, so she buys her handmade items from someone else, she said.

Stores around town, including the Kentucky Museum gift shop, offer handmade crafts. Even some students sell handmade items.

Art students in the ceramics department sell their wares individually and through the Ceramic Art Organization. Talk to individual students in the ceramics studio on the first floor of the fine arts center if you are interested, said art assistant professor Michelle Coakes.

Ceramics student Wendell Tisch likes the idea of buying and selling students' crafts.

"You're helping out another student," the Louisville junior said. "Plus, you're purchasing something of quality."

## Give gifts from the heart... and hands

Story by Rhonda Jenkins

## Plays, carriage rides brighten Bowling Green's holiday season

For students who want to start enjoying the holiday season before they leave campus, or for those who will be in Bowling Green during the holidays, many upcoming activities are sure to boost spirits:

▲ The music department will present the Delta Omicron Christmas Musicales at 8 tonight in the recital hall of the fine arts center. Admission is free.

▲ "The Star of Bethlehem" is showing now through Dec. 18 at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and at 2:30 p.m. on Sundays at Hardin Planetarium. Admission is free.

▲ Fountain Square Players will present "A Christmas Carol" — a comedy version — at the Phoenix Theatre at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and at 3 p.m. Sunday. Call 782-2787 for tickets.

▲ Horse Cave Theatre will present "The Dickens Christmas Carol Show" at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and Dec. 15-17 and at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday and Dec. 17-18. The theatre is located off Exit 58 on Interstate 65 in downtown Horse Cave. Tickets are \$14 for adults and \$7 for children 14 and under. For reservations, call 1-800-342-2177.

▲ "Blessing of the Manger" services will be

at 7 p.m. Friday at the Capitol Arts Center, followed by a procession to Fountain Square Park.

▲ Alpha Kappa Alpha's Skee-Wee Christmas Ball will be from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday in Garrett Ballroom. Tickets bought in advance are \$3 for single admission and \$5 for couples. Tickets at the door will be \$4 for singles and \$6 for couples.

▲ Mammoth Cave National Park will present the 15th Annual Christmas Sing in the Cave at 3 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free.

▲ Christmas carriage rides around Fountain Square Park will be available from 2-8 p.m. on Dec. 17-18. Rides are free and leave every 20 minutes.

▲ "First Night — Bowling Green '95 — A New Year's Eve Celebration of the Arts" will be Dec. 31 with children's activities from 4-6 p.m. and other activities from 6 p.m.-midnight. There will be more than 270 artists offering 100 performances in 24 locations around downtown Bowling Green in an alcohol-free atmosphere. Souvenir buttons must be worn for admission to all performances and are on sale at all Houchens Markets, the Capitol Arts Center and the Human Rights Commission for \$5 until Dec. 25 and after Christmas for \$7.

By Jennifer Coomes

Thursday, December 8, 1994 is the last day for students to cash personal checks at the ticket window at Downing University Center.

Friday, December 9, is the last day to cash personal checks in the cashier's office WAB.

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## Seasons Greetings from the staff of the College Heights Bookstore & the WKU Police Department

While you prepare for your finals during this hectic time, please remember to take care of your body and mind....

We offer these suggestions:

- Make a list of what you need to accomplish
- Set times for completing items
- Avoid unwanted interruptions but plan some time for relaxation, even if just a few minutes for a brisk walk
- Feed your body
- Laugh often, at least once an hour, just look in the mirror
- Rest your body, but don't forget to set the alarm

Avoid added frustration by remembering to secure your room and possessions. Campus crime rates go up at the end of the semester, help yourself with these tips:

- Lock your room door, always
- Keep your books, book bag, purse with you and in sight
- Lock your car
- Keep books and gifts locked in your trunk
- Guard your cash, checks, credit cards and jewelry

Remember the time-proven adage...an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Help yourself. Make finals a more pleasant experience.

Happy Holidays from the staff of the College Heights Bookstore and the WKU Police Department.

# Students, faculty get cooking with 'popular' gift ideas

BY KRISTINA GOETZ

Thanksgiving is over, and the turkey is almost gone. Now it's time to shop for holiday gifts, and some students are looking for original ideas.

Richard Patterson has one. "Food always goes over well. My wife and I have made special jellies and cakes. They are very popular," said the associate professor of consumer and family sciences. "We've also made liqueurs with either an orange or a raspberry base."

Marcia Crabtree, the owner of Swiss Colony, a seasonal Christmas business in Greenwood Mall, said her store sells food that makes good gifts.

"We have a wide range of things. The most well-known are gift boxes," she said.

The gift box assortments range from candies and nuts to sausage and cheese. Crabtree said an unusual gift is Northern Comfort maple syrup. The bottle is shaped like a Southern Comfort whiskey bottle, she said.

Crabtree also suggested a "popping cob." The kernels pop in the microwave right on the cob, she said.

"There are many people you don't see often enough to know what they need or want," she said. "This way, you don't have to decide what size or color to buy. Everyone likes food."

Kim Phelps, the owner of Baskin-Robbins on Fairview Avenue, said many ice cream cakes and gift certificates are available this season.

"In the past, people have come in with their own big bowl wanting a scoop of every flavor we had for a gift," she said. "That's about 35 to 40 scoops."

Some students also had ideas for food gifts.

"My mom makes caramel popcorn and puts it in a Christmas tin," said Jami Stuck, a freshman from Michigan City, Ind. "We give it to all the faculty at my dad's school. It's a good small gift for close friends."

Owensboro sophomore Laura Beth Lyon said she gets a package from her mom every year when it gets close to finals week.

"She puts a lot of time and effort into making each individual package," she said. "They have an assortment of cookies, chips and Christmas candy."

When it is time to open gifts on Christmas morning, Patterson said the gift selection is not always ideal.

"Probably every guy talks about a tie he got for Christmas that he would never wear," he said. "Or a girl can remember something that her mother gave her that she gave away with food, as long as it's not too outlandish, it goes over well."



# Christmas 1994

As we observe the Christmas season, we join Christians throughout the world in celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, the basis of our faith and hope. As Christian faculty and staff, we believe that accepting Jesus Christ and his teachings has made a difference in our lives. We invite you to explore the significance of Christmas with us.

The prophecy: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. [ca. 730 BC] Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)

The fulfillment: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV)



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*Christian Faculty & Staff Fellowship*

# 'Tis the season to be broke

BY LORI M. BECKER

As Christmas approaches, many students are heading for the malls. Parents, friends, boyfriends and girlfriends are on their shopping lists. But the big question for some is not what to buy, but how to pay for it.

The most common way to get extra money is from a part-time job. Some stores and restaurants hire people for extra help during the holidays.

Louisville sophomore Erin Schepman said she is going to wait tables in addition to her regular job.

"It's good because it gives me the tips," Schepman said. "I have cash right then instead of waiting for my checks."

Other students use their talents to get shopping money.

"I sing. I do weddings or Christmas programs," Louisville senior Marsha Dunlap said. "Or I call my daddy two days before he gets paid."

Some students turn to the power of persuasion. Mom and Dad are often targeted more than the retail stores.

"I kiss my mom's butt and try to get her to give me extra money," Louisville sophomore Sherri Wilson said.

But if the parents say no, students sometimes have to resort to selling their clothes, their jewelry or even their bodies.

"I'm selling my plasma," Eddyville junior Kyle Key said. "They say it is actually good for your body, and you're saving lives. I'm helping out humanity. I'm buying Christmas presents and I'm

getting needle tracks."

Louisville freshman Eric Milliner said he thought about selling plasma, but decided to stick to material objects.

"I tried to find a seasonal job, but now I'm thinking about pawning my chain," Milliner said. "I just don't buy big presents...unless it's someone I really like."

Some students, however, are more responsible with their money and start saving months in advance.

"Sometimes I take money that I have in my savings," Hodgenville sophomore Ashley Miller said. But, she said there is no extra money after Christmas because of her boyfriend.

"All that's left over goes to him," she said.

Despite the many efforts, some students say they never have enough money to finish all of their shopping. Broke and desperate, some students pull out the plastic.

"I charge it and pay for it later," Newburgh sophomore Stephanie Meredith said.

Since credit cards can reach their limits quickly, one student got a new credit card just to use for Christmas shopping.

"I knew I wouldn't be able to come up with the money, so I applied for a new card," Louisville sophomore Teresa Hand said. "It's free money."

And once students get the money, they have to decide how to spend it.

"You want to give something big so you can get something big back," Greenville freshman Samantha Mullen said.



**"I don't buy big presents...unless it's someone I really like."**

—Eric Milliner, Louisville freshman

## AWAY FROM HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Story by Shannon Leonard

When the dorms close for holiday break, many international students will have to make other plans...

Students soon will leave campus in droves, leaving dark dorm rooms and empty hallways that echo with the commotion of finals week.

Some will go home and celebrate the holidays with their families. But other students' families are halfway around the world.

When the dorms close for Christmas break, many international students will have to make other holiday plans.

International adviser Kim Diehl said International Student Affairs tries to make the holidays easier for these students by finding them places to stay during the break.

"We have contacts in the community," she said. Diehl said Elona Sabo, International Programs and Projects student assistant, tries to match international students with area families or Western faculty.

"Some will end up staying in hotels just for convenience... and some will house with other students living off campus," Diehl said.

Other students plan to travel within the United States to spend the holidays with friends.

Andrew Bujanov, a junior from Moscow, said he plans to spend several days living with friends in San Diego.

Bujanov, an Orthodox Christian, said Christmas in Moscow is celebrated on Jan. 7 because they use a calendar that is 13 days different from the calendar used in the United States.

In Moscow, Bujanov said, Christmas is a time to spend with family. "I get together with my grandparents and celebrate," he said.

Bujanov said he will be interested to see what a Christmas in America is like. Anna Schmidt, a junior from Earnaul, Siberia, also plans to travel.

"I might go to New York or Chicago, just to see a big city during Christmas," she said.

Schmidt said Americans celebrate Christmas more lavishly than Siberians do.

"We go to church and have a family dinner, Christmas tree—but it's not a big celebration," she said.

"Here, I guess, it is a really great celebration because people start getting ready for Christmas at the end of November and first of December. People are happy about it."

During the break, Eulogio Barandiaran, a senior from Bilbao, Spain, plans to spend one week in Cancun and 10 days in Colorado with his roommate.

Barandiaran said Christmas in America doesn't compare with the celebrations held in Spain.

"There are many different religions here. Maybe that's why it's not such a big deal," he said. "In Spain, it's a big party."

"We celebrate when Jesus was born on Christmas Day. We have parties that last all night. First you stay with your family, but then you go out with your friends... fancy hotels there hold dances for Christmas."

Barandiaran said that on Jan. 6 another celebration is held for the three wise men, or as they are known to Spanish children, "The Three Magic Kings." The kings bring the children presents if they were good and coal if they were bad—much like Santa Claus does in America.

Bessie Matchavariani, a senior from the Republic of Georgia, said Christmas is celebrated differently there also.

"Christmas is more a religious celebration than secular," he said. "New Year's celebration is more emphasized. It's a big celebration."

Matchavariani said families cook big meals and visit with one another, and everyone dresses up for the festivities.

"It is believed that the way you meet the New Year's Eve is how you're going to spend the next year," he said.

Give a little bit of yourself this holiday season. Donate blood. Open your time with someone who's lonely. Give to the needy. Put a smile on someone else's face.

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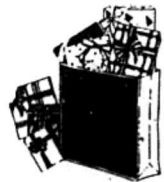
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# Christmas greed

I hadn't given much thought to the weather. It was wet and bitter, the cold kind of sleety rain that cuts through to your bones as you hustle toward the warmth indoors. I guess that's what brought him in.

'Twas the holiday season. The mall was stuffed with happy shoppers, children crying, parents shopping, jingle bells jingling, a homeless man searching for cover.

His tattered rags didn't do much to cover his bony arms and wrinkled chest. Hunched in a fetal position with his scarce belongings by his side, he looked rather out of place by center court. This was, after all, Santa's throne. It was here that all the little kids would come to voice their demands for Christmas morning. This was a happy place, a place where thoughts of homelessness did not exist.

Except for the man. His hands were clutched tightly around his shoulders; his dirty face hung low. He wore no jacket, no hat or gloves to keep in whatever heat his small frame might release. I saw him look up just once, his eyes dark and void of emotion.

Holding bags full of last-minute Christmas gifts — silly, needless items like perfumes and trinkets — I felt sick at my

own greed. I felt the kind of uneasiness that makes you turn your head from reality, the kind that made me turn my head from the man in embarrassment.

My mother did the same. Our tearing eyes met and we pulled my 5-year-old sister from the long line to Santa. No words were needed. There was more to this glorious holiday season than our material wishes.

We bought a blanket, long underwear, a flannel shirt, a hat and gloves. We tucked a few dollars for food into the bag, hoping he could put it to good use.

We didn't say anything as we set the bag by his rumped body. He had drifted off to a light slumber. We walked away and headed home.

Some might think it was a nice deed we did that day five years ago. But it wasn't. It was something we did to make ourselves feel a little better. The man was still homeless. We had done nothing to soothe his pain or solve his problems.

"Maybe God meant for him to be there for us to see," Mom later told me. "Maybe he was there to show us how lucky we are. Maybe he was there to teach us a lesson."

Maybe so.



**Julie Grundy**  
Commentary



Todd Stabing/Herald

**Checking twice.** McCormack Hall desk clerk Schella Jares, a Columbia freshman, works amid some of the Christmas spirit in the hall's lobby.

**Would you give someone you don't know \$100?**

*If you leave your books lying around, then you could be giving them that and more.*

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# TIM ALLEN AND SANTA DON'T MIX: 'Clause' is Ho-Ho-Horrible

**Movie Review**  
By Chris Hutchins

'Twas a few weeks 'til Christmas  
And through the movie house  
Not a creature was laughing,  
not even a mouse.  
The one-liners hung like a  
stench in the air  
As I hoped the end credits  
soon would be there.

The audience was sitting all  
snug in their chairs  
While previews tried to enter-  
tain this skeptical  
pair.  
My friend with some popcorn  
and I in my cap  
Realized we were victims of  
another Disney  
trap.

As the movie unfolded, my  
head hung in shame.  
Tim Allen's paying the price  
for his TV fame.  
He managed to win some  
Hollywood luck  
And worked for Walt's  
monopoly to make a fast  
buck.

The story was silly—cheesy at  
best.  
The thing Disney writers  
scrawl down out West.  
A selfish dad and his kid  
knock Santa off their  
roof.  
And the kid tells Tim to put  
on Kris Kingle's suit.

Although he's a dad with  
stale, cliched flaws,  
When Tim puts on Santa's  
suit, falls prey to a  
clause.  
The clause is a rule that Tim  
doesn't want to  
hear—

He's the one in charge of  
those crazy reindeer.

They deliver some presents  
and head to the Pole  
Where children play elves—  
boy, THAT's a  
new role.

Tim's told by an elf to prepare  
for next season  
We find out that's for some  
lame plot-forming  
reasons.

Here come the subplots—  
with bad puns galore  
Judge Reinhold's a shrink,  
bringing trouble and  
more.

He thinks the kid's emotions  
aren't up to par—  
And believes the polar trip  
gave him mental  
scars.

The shrink is mom's  
boyfriend, and also a  
jerk  
Suggests, "Take custody of the  
kid"—and mom  
takes the hook.  
The kid is upset, the dad is  
too  
Bad story gets worse: what  
shall we do?

More rapid than eagles, my  
complaints they  
came.  
As Tim struggled with jokes, I  
called them by  
name:  
"Oh noxious! Oh noisome! Oh  
putrid! Oh  
witless!  
"Oh heinous! Oh horrid! Oh  
wretched! Oh  
brainless!  
"Tim Allen's no Santa! I've  
seen better at the mall!  
Bad jokes! Bad jokes! Bad  
jokes, all!

So the acting was shoddy, the  
story was lame.  
Tim Allen's no actor,  
Reinhold's the same.  
The kid's lines were bad, his  
deliveries were  
worse  
I anticipated each script line,  
verse by verse.

The special effects weren't  
special, so out I must  
lash.  
After all, this was Disney  
they have enough  
cash.  
A good effect is one that you  
can't tell is there  
But these were bad ones, and  
how thin they did  
wear!

I could go on about this  
predictable flick  
How it made my stomach  
churn with its sappy  
kick.  
I'll finish the story—there's  
not much to tell  
On Christmas night, Tim lands  
in a cell.

Alas! Alack! Oh dear, girls  
and boys!  
Now who will deliver your  
overpriced toys?  
Alackaday! Oy Vey! It's too  
great to bear!  
But I found myself saying, "I  
really don't care."

Of course, all this ends on a  
sentimental note.  
The kind of ending Disney  
writers crank out by  
rote.  
Now some people may think  
that Tim Allen is  
nifty.  
I'm just glad the Herald's  
reimbursing my \$5.50.

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