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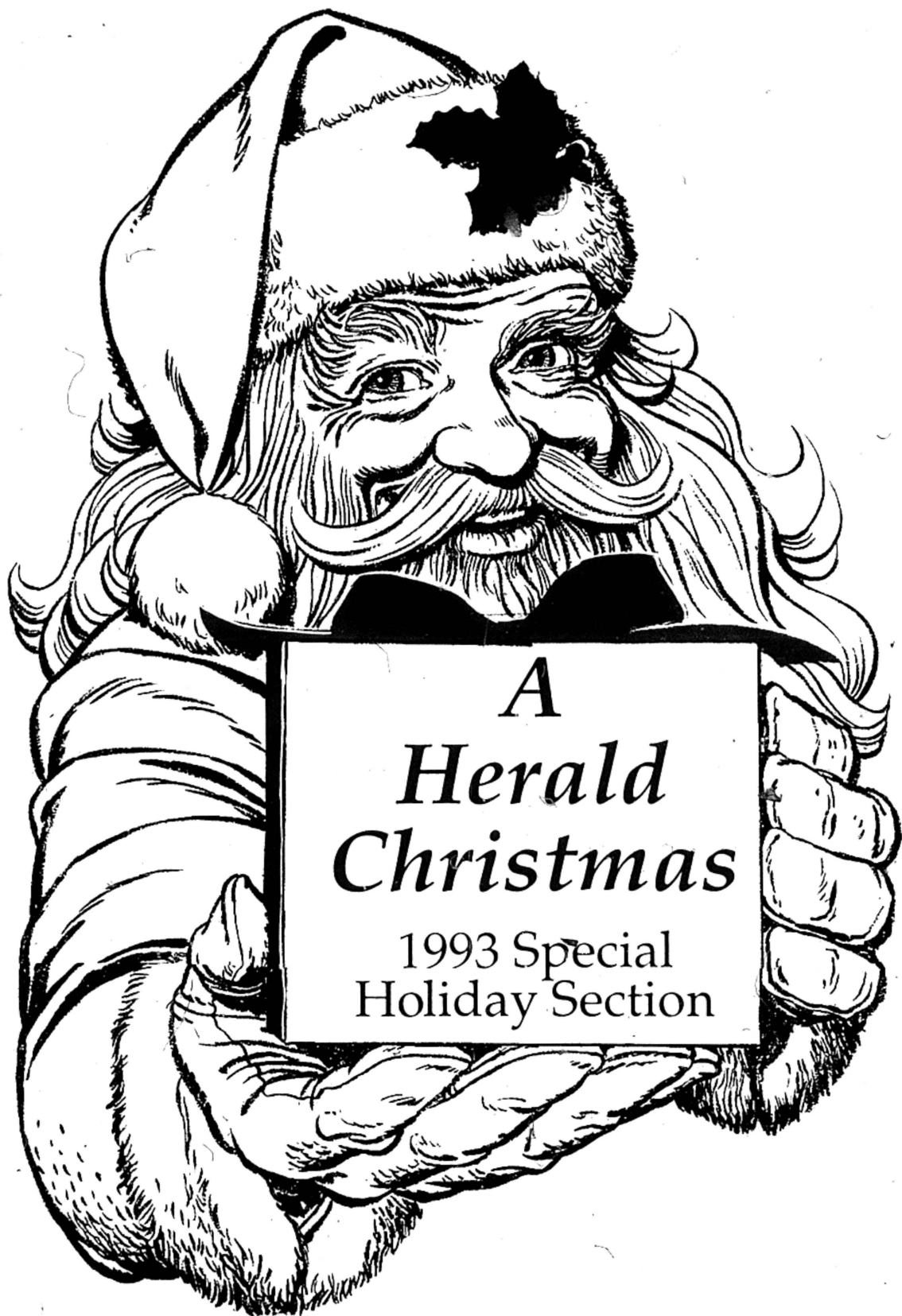
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A
*Herald
Christmas*

1993 Special
Holiday Section

Bourbon, brand names top savvy shoppers' lists

◆ Students learn to balance their budgets while shopping for friends' favorites

By JENNIFER BROWNING

Leaving their hectic class and work schedules behind, some Western students are taking time out to get into the holiday spirit and the season of shopping.

While there are still some students who have to watch their spending, others admit they have a hard time keeping their money in their pockets.

Henderson senior Melissa Parker said she doesn't set a budget for herself during November and December, but

still puts Christmas before the rest.

"I just spend until everything's gone," Parker said.

And while some don't seem too concerned about their money during the holiday season, others admit that school costs cause problems for

those who enjoy giving gifts.

"Most of my money goes to

◆
"It's hard to control myself because I'm an impulsive shopper."

— Donald Wen
Bowling Green senior

school," said Joel Deglow, a sophomore from Vandalia, Ohio.

"But if I have free money I'd set a budget for it."

Elizabethtown senior Scott Crutcher said it doesn't matter to him how much he spends.

Crutcher said he shops for Christmas gifts for his fraternity brothers, friends and family. But he said choosing the

perfect present for his friends is easy, most of the time — just get them liquor.

department, said customers like to purchase brand name items such as Ralph Lauren, Polo and Laura Ashley.

"I usually buy Kentucky bourbon, especially if the person is out of state," Crutcher said.

Bowling Green junior Teresa Lee said she buys gifts for close friends, immediate family and her boyfriend and spends a total of \$500 to \$600.

Lee said when she shops she just concentrates on what people seem interested in. "I usually try to pay attention this time of year to see what they would like," Lee said.

She said she usually buys clothes, gift certificates and things people need.

Castner Knott employee Jean Price, who works in the home

Some department stores like Castner Knott hold certain promotional days such as extra discounts for charge card and VIP members. Castner Knott also offers giveaways for items such as round-trip airfare and tickets to the Sugar Bowl or a five-night trip for four to Florida, Price said.

But for Bowling Green senior Donald Wen, price is no object.

"Whatever will do, will do," Wen said. "It's hard to control myself because I'm an impulsive shopper. It's crowded out there, but that's part of shopping."

◆ Movie review

Christmas wishes and holiday humor make 'A Christmas Story' worth seeing

By JEFF NATIONS

If you happen to be in that infectious holiday spirit, or you desire to become so infected, let me suggest "A Christmas Story," a movie that is guaranteed to have you raring to go for another crack at the mall in hopes of finding that "perfect gift" for your loved ones.

The movie, based on Jean Shepherd's book "In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash," was made in 1983, but its timeless nature (it's set in 1950s Americana) makes its age irrelevant.

What is relevant is the Red Rider BB gun, with a compass in the stock and this thing that tells time, as Ralph (Peter Billingsley) describes the possession he most desires to acquire.

Throughout the movie young Ralph tries to plant this wish with his parents, his teacher, and finally with the man himself, Santa Claus.

Along the way, Ralph gets

caught up in several of the most hilarious sidetracks on film. His chief antagonist, Scut Farkas, torments Ralph and friends Flick and Schwartz, until the fateful throwdown in the snow.

Ralph's father (Darrin McGavin) also plays a huge comedic role in the movie. His obsession with his "major award," his Indianapolis 500 dreams, and his ire at the Bumpus hounds will keep you giggling the entire movie.

Shepherd narrates the movie, and his distinctive voice and dialogue help move the storyline along until another funny episode grabs our attention.

Needless to say, I won't reveal the outcome of Ralph's campaigning for an air rifle or any of the other conclusions. And even if you already know that old Scut gets it in the end (oops), the movie, if anything, seems to get better each time it's viewed.

"A Christmas Story" doesn't necessarily have to be watched during the holiday seasons, but

with most students returning home for the holidays to be trapped in the house with parents and siblings, now is the time to rent it.

Not all Christmas movies are as entertaining as "A Christmas Story," although there have been many who've tried. Here are some of the worst:

*"Silent Night, Deadly Night" — This movie (and naturally its sequels) is about a man who dresses up in a Santa Claus outfit and goes off on an ax murdering rampage. Not exactly a cheery subject, it's sure to make your Christmas Eve a little less joyful.

*"Ernest Saves Christmas" — It's an Ernest movie...need I say more?

*"Francer" — This movie is about an injured reindeer who is helped by a child. It's plot borders on sappy, and usually crosses over into sickeningly sweet. If you're looking for a family flick, try a Disney movie.

for the Ceramic Art Association. Today will be the last day for the sale and though this is only the second year for it, it's been a success, Coakes said.

"Everyone is getting better, learning new things," she said. "And more people seem to be interested in purchasing the crafts this year."

Potters wheeling, dealing today

HERALD STAFF REPORT

Anyone looking for a little something different for Christmas presents might want to head down to Downing University Center lobby today.

Pottery will be for sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and all of it is made by about eight or nine art students.

"It's functional pottery," art professor Michelle Coakes said. "That means it's intended to be used and you can eat and drink out of the things there."

Prices range anywhere from \$2 to \$30, she said, with some of the money going back to the students.

The rest is used to bring in visiting artists or put in a fund

Planetarium lights up for Christmas

HERALD STAFF REPORT

Any stargazers and people looking for a little more than the usual bells and sales this holiday season are in for a special treat, courtesy of the physics and astronomy department.

A presentation entitled "The

Star of Bethlehem" is designed to show the audience the Bethlehem sky around the time Christ was born and discuss several astronomical possibilities for the Christmas Star.

The show begins at 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday through

Dec. 19 in the Hardin Planetarium and is free to everyone.

Doors open 15 minutes before show time and no one will be admitted after the lecture begins. Children under 13 should be accompanied by an adult.

For more information call Hardin Planetarium, 745-4044.

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The American Grill



Photo by Dave Smith

Getting ready for the holidays, Terri Gater, a junior from Hartford City, Ind., Smith's Grove senior Jennifer Marohnic and Hardinsburg senior Pam Keenan trim a tree as part of the Horticulture Club's annual event. The three, along with Henderson senior Amy Fagerlin, also put up Christmas bunting in the Environmental Sciences and Technology Hall last night.

Holiday season blooms with club's poinsettias

HERALD STAFF REPORT

In the season of joy and sharing, many college students find themselves in a pinch for money. But Western's Horticulture Club is providing an inexpensive way to "say it with flowers."

For more than 12 years, the club has raised and sold poinsettias during the Christmas season as an educational experience for students. For the past two years, however, the club has gotten the

plants from a grower in Franklin. Because of an inability to keep a steady temperature in its greenhouse, the club has not been able to grow the plants on its own.

The club generally makes a few hundred dollars selling the poinsettias at \$7 a plant, making it the major fundraiser of the year.

Originally, the money went to the agriculture department with the club getting a certain percentage. But with the plants being tended off-campus, the students have taken over the project and all money is funneled back into the club.

The money is used for projects such as landscaping and traveling. Usually, the club takes a spring trip to Florida or Georgia.

Jim Martin, agriculture associate professor, pioneered the project and said the trips provide "a combination of educational experience and a chance to get out together and see something lovely."

The poinsettias, originating from Mexico, are planted in August. Poinsettias grow in response to the number of daylight hours they receive and naturally bloom during the holiday season.

The Horticulture Club will be taking orders for the poinsettias this week at a table in the Environmental Science and Technology Hall. Orders can also be made by calling 745-5690 today and tomorrow. Delivery is free.

◆ The red plants have become a hot item around the holidays.

Your Christmas Calendar

The following is a short list of activities offered for your holiday enjoyment:

- Dec. 4** — "Christmas Past, Present & Future" Jaycees Parade. Begins at 9:30 a.m. in downtown Bowling Green.
- Dec. 10** — "Winter Reveries: An All-Tchaikovsky Concert." Begins at 8 p.m. in Van Meter Auditorium and sponsored by Bowling Green Western Symphony Orchestra and The Medical Center at Bowling Green.
- Dec. 12** — Christmas (Music) in the Cave. Begins 3 p.m. at Mammoth Cave National Park. The halls of the world's longest cave will be filled with holiday music during the 14th annual event. The Mammoth Cave Barbershop Chorus and others will perform a 45-minute program.
- Dec. 18-19** — Christmas carriage rides will be offered 2 to 8 p.m. in downtown Bowling Green, leaving Fountain Square Park every 20 minutes.

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CATALOGS: Students letting their fingers do the shopping

BY MITCHELL QUARLES

'Tis the season for shopping, and the mad dash of the crowd to department stores has some Western students running to catalogs instead.

"It's easier because you don't have to go to the malls and fight the crowds," Bowling Green sophomore Julie Jones said.

And for Glasgow freshman Bobbi Thomas, it makes a lot more sense to sit at home and find out stores don't have what you want than to take a chance at the shopping center.

Another plus to catalog shopping is having access to everything at once, Louisville senior-Yuka Iwato said.

"Catalogs like Spiegel's have everything from clothes to stuff for your home," Iwato said.

Students also might shop through

◆ Many students are turning to mail order catalogs for shopping

catalogs to buy merchandise not available through department stores. "Sometimes catalogs have better things that you just can't find in stores," said Peggy Snyder, a junior from Houston, Ohio.

But although catalogs allow buyers to shop at ease, receiving merchandise before Christmas can be a problem. Just ask Jones.

"I ordered some Christmas gifts, and recently found out that what I ordered won't be available until the second week of January," she said.

Community offers spirit of Christmas in plays, exhibits

BY DAWN ANG

With only two weeks before students head home for the holidays, some might want to take advantage of a few local Christmas activities. If that's the case, there's plenty to do.

◆ "The Nutcracker," presented by Ballet South, will be performed at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Capitol Arts Center. Tickets for the main floor are \$25.50 for adults and \$12.50 for children. Balcony tickets are \$20.50 for adults and \$10.50 for children.

◆ Christmas Voices and Brass, presented by Western's music department, will be at 8 p.m. Dec. 7 in Van Meter Auditorium. Tickets are \$2 for students and

senior citizens and \$3 for all others.

◆ "A Christmas Carol" is being performed from now until Dec. 12 at the Horse Cave Theatre. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays, with additional shows at 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets are \$14 for adults and \$7 for children under 14.

◆ The University Center Board will be organizing a craft show tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third floor of Downing University Center. Also, from 2-4 p.m. the Amazing Tones of Joy will perform in DUC's lobby during the annual Hanging of the Greens.

◆ The Trees of Christmas will last through Dec. 20 at 1115 Adams Street. Tickets cost \$1 for adults, and 50 cents for children. For more information, contact the Houchens Center at 842-3416.

◆ The Kentucky Museum will sponsor a doll exhibit through Jan. 1. For more information on times and dates, contact Earlene Chelf at 745-5283.

◆ A Victorian Christmas Tour continues through Dec. 17 at Historic Riverview at Hobson Grove, 1100 W. Main Ave. The tour runs 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and begins at 1 p.m. on Sundays. For more information call Sam Terry, 843-5565.



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LIQUORS



*Tree
trimming:*

After assembling an artificial Christmas tree at the Kappa Delta house, Owensboro junior Julie Wade helped her sisters last night by adding a string of lights.

Photo by Jamal A. Wilson

*Herald's top ten
holiday tunes*

1. "Hark the **Herald** Angels Sing"
2. "Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)," U2
3. "Little Drummer Boy," Bob Seger
4. "Grandma Got Ran Over By A Reindeer"
5. "Blue Christmas," Elvis
6. "Jingle Bells, Batman Smells, Robin Laid an Egg..."
7. "Let it Snow"
8. "Santa Claus is Coming to Town"
9. "All I Want for Christmas is my Two Front Teeth"
10. "Deck the Halls"

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Chad Ress/Herald

Like many other Western students, Lorelei Schweichert works part-time to earn money to buy Christmas presents. The Shelbyville freshman works in the Greenwood Mall as Santa's helper. Other students, though, are relying on their charge cards to make it through Christmas.

When money's away, the plastic will pay

◆ Some people are putting away the plastic and making gifts

BY CATHERINE WHIPPLE

Pinching pennies is a way of life for a lot of students, and during the holiday season cash seems especially scarce. So when playing Santa, many students resort to charging on credit cards to the max and thinking of creative ways to save money.

"When I went shopping yesterday, I decided to charge everything," said Libby Oldham, a sophomore from Hendersonville, Tenn.

In order to pay her bill, Oldham plans on working over break at Chi-Chi's in her hometown and possibly getting an

extra job in Bowling Green to cover the rest.

And if that isn't enough? "I'll pay the rest off whenever," she said.

Another student is using the plastic as well, but in Bowling Green junior Jennifer French's case, it isn't her own.

She is using her mom's card for Christmas gifts and then paying her back when she has the money. But in the process, she says, she is trying to save.

"I went shopping at the department store where my mom works to get her discount," she said.

Some students are staying away from the lure of the credit card altogether by finding alternate ways to get money for presents.

Taylorville junior Michelle

Whitaker is putting off shopping until the last minute.

"I'm waiting to use the money I get back from books and from the deposit on my apartment," she said. "Or I'll make stuff on my own."

Danville junior Lesley Wolfgang planned ahead for the holiday money crunch and started buying gifts two months ago.

"I'm paying it off little by little instead of having one lump sum," she said. "but I'll have to charge the rest when it gets closer to Christmas."

Wolfgang is resuming her

summer job at Colonial Pets in her hometown over the break, partly to help pay the bills and also because she loves working with the animals.

But not everyone is so worried about the holiday season. In fact, at least one student is bypassing the Christmas shopping charge altogether.

"I'm not buying any presents because I'm a poor college student and my family understands that," Lebanon sophomore Elizabeth Flanagan said. "I'm not worrying about it a bit this year."

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



The Herald editorial board wishes you a Merry Christmas.

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HURLING AT YOU DECEMBER 10

Nose hair clippers makes most hated gift list

◆ *It's easy to remember the cheesiest, chintziest Christmas gifts because they come from well-meaning relatives*

BY CHRISTA RITCHIE

Christmas was always a favorite holiday for Owensboro sophomore Jen Austin. That is, until the year she unwrapped what she calls her worst gift ever — a fluorescent outfit from her mom.

"It was a hideous orange shirt with black zebra stripes on it," Austin said. "It also had black leggings with an orange and black zebra striped skirt attached."

Although she hated it, Austin said her mom made her wear the outfit because she thought it was stylish.

For some, however, a bad gift can be a simple, everyday item.

Hendersonville sophomore Michelle Fox said because her family is "always losing little things, like tape, scissors and pens," her mother got her and her two sisters a roll of tape and a tape dispenser for Christmas last year.

Fox said when she opened her gift she was surprised because she never thought her mom would get her such an off the wall gift.

Then there are those dreaded clothes that you get from a relative you haven't seen in years, who thinks they know your style.

"The lime green beret and matching yellow and lime green sweater from Aunt Phyllis is the worst Christmas present I have ever gotten," said Louisville freshman Julia Kent.

Kent said she was 12 years old when she received the "tacky" hat and sweater. But the worst part about it was when she had to get her picture made while wearing them in front of her family.

Sometimes people think they are going to get really good presents and end up being surprised.

This was true for Karin Egloff, modern language and inter-cultural studies assistant professor, who received her worst Christmas present during her freshman year in high school.

"It was the first present I opened and I thought it would be good because it was in a big, heavy box that was special

ordered from a bookstore in Paris," Egloff said.

But instead of the wonderful present she thought it would be, she found only a Latin dictionary in its place.

"You should have seen my face," she said. "I was very disappointed and crushed."

Other students end up throwing away or purposely misplacing gifts they consider stupid and useless.

Stephan Frazier, a freshman from Jackson, Tenn., said his worst Christmas gift was an electric hair and nose trimmer from his grandparents last Christmas.

Frazier thought that it would have been a good gift if he was about 50 years older.

Morgantown freshman Jeremy Brown's useless Christmas gift was a lint brush in the shape of a car.

Brown said his grandmother gave it to him a couple of years ago and he has never used it, but still has it around somewhere.

Shiny pink earrings made out of ceramic, in the shape of bows were LaGrange freshman Carolyn John's worst Christmas present.

"They were the cheesiest, chintziest things I ever got and I ended up throwing them away," she said.

Getting one bad gift is enough for most people. But physical education and recreation instructor Mary Cobb said she once got a bunch of the same terrible gifts.

"When I was 11 years old the trend in England was to give people embroidered handkerchiefs with their initials on them," she said.

"But instead of getting just one of these," she said, "I received 13 embroidered handkerchiefs for Christmas."

Who could forget those embarrassing moments of opening gifts that make you blush?

That happened for Sean Carney, a freshman from Fargo, N.D., when he got leopard skin bikini briefs from his grandmother.

Carney could not believe she would actually give him a gift like that and said, "I was embarrassed because it was grandma giving them to me, so I ended up taking them back."

LaGrange sophomore Courtney Gagel offered advice for not offending a bearer of bad gifts.

She said not to be rude and make it known that you despise it, but "try to act like you like it."



Photo illustration by Patrick Witty

It's the season to be shopping for those gifts that will be remembered for a long time. Unfortunately for some students, the gifts they remember the most are the ones they hated the most.

Can't find the perfect gift?

◆ *Glow in the dark undies, whoopee cushions and more...they can be found here in town*

BY CHRISTA RITCHIE

If you are searching for the perfect gift for that special family member or friend, there are some reasonably priced, funny and off the wall gifts for every one on your shopping list.

Spencer Gifts in Greenwood Mall has long been a favorite for the Western student when it comes to that something out of the ordinary. Some of their hot selling items:

◆ **STRESS X** — A stress reliever made out of rubber that you can squeeze and form into different shapes. Good for sitting on your desk and using as a paper weight. Sold for \$10.

◆ **"The Hilarious Sounds of Seymour Butts"** — Seymour make, electronically synthesized body sounds...back, vomit, and belch. Sold for \$10.

◆ **FUNDIES** — Underwear for two. Includes four legs and two rears. Sold for \$6.

◆ **Over The Hill Fortune Teller Balls** — It answers those gnawing questions about the

future. Ask it a yes or no question and then turn the ball over and the window reveals the answer. Sold for \$8.

◆ **Glow in the dark underwear** for women and men. Sold for \$10.

◆ **3-D prints** that depict a variety of scenes are found in almost every novelty store, and are very popular this year. They come in many sizes and designs.

There is also a variety of novelty T-shirts, underwear, key chains, bumper stickers and post-it notes that have humorous messages.

The typical usual gag gifts, such as whoopee cushions and fake ice cubes with bugs in them, are usually found for under \$5.

Ren and Stimpy, Garfield, Harry Feet, Moose and Gorilla house slippers are sold for between \$10-\$20.

◆ **Coach Housie** in Greenwood Mall on Scottsville Road has a variety of homemade items for every craft lover.

The store sells such novelties as decorated picture frames, country style gifts that are hand painted for the home, framed poems, covered photo albums, Christmas ornaments and other Christmas items, and a wide variety of ceramic and glass novelties.

Shopping for your Christmas gifts in Bowling Green saves time and money — and there's a great selection for everybody on your list. Shop at businesses that advertise in the **Herald**. They care about you.

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