

Designers eye Carter for ideas on posters . . .

CHICAGO (AP) — Pres.-elect Jimmy Carter will make good poster material, whereas Pres. Ford didn't and Nixon art is gathering dust, say designers.

They say posters, described as "disposable art," track the temper of the times. Gone are those showing Nixon, Watergate, the environment and antiwar sentiments.

Sales are booming for those featuring celebrities Farrah Fawcett-Majors, Elton John, J.J., the Fonz, Mary Hartman and King Kong.

Robert Cenedella, a New York designer who created two current Carter posters, says Ford did not inspire many posters, but that

"poster people will be willing to spend more energy developing poster ideas" after Carter becomes president.

. . . as well as Peanut seats

CHICAGO (AP) — Like something different for your living room? Try a Peanut love seat.

The Peanut, with its cushions that look like peanuts in a shell, was the big attraction at the winter home furnishings show this week. The two-seater is 89 inches long, with a backrest on each side so people can sit facing one another.

Commissioners make \$9,000 cut in own pay

Lane County Commissioners voted Wednesday to temporarily cut their own salaries by almost \$9,000.

The decision to reduce salaries to \$20,000 a year was supported by the commission's two newest members, Archie Weinstein and Jerry Rust, who both campaigned on the salary issue during the November elections.

The cuts become effective Feb. 1 and will be reviewed in four months.

The commission's third member, Bob Wood, opposed the salary reduction, charging it was "arbitrary" and not based on "good sense."

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Baseball collector Lance Shelton files his cardboard treasures in just about every niche of his house. What began as a childhood

hobby for him is full grown into a 40,000 card collection valued at more than \$2,000.

Collector fields ball cards

By **JOCK HATFIELD**
Of the Emerald

Most of us have in our early lives collected, or at least possessed, baseball cards before leaving them behind for more complex pleasures. But Lance Shelton is not one of us. When he sees something good, he holds on to it.

Shelton, at the age of 29, has a baseball card collection now totaling more than 40,000 cards.

He started the collection inconspicuously enough, watching baseball games on TV as a kid and buying 10-packs of cards for a nickel. In high school the number of his cards grew with his enthusiasm, only to suffer a major setback when his mother threw out a good portion of his collection after he left for college.

Three years ago, as a social studies teacher and part-time coach at a Eugene high school, he again began trading what was left of his collection with his students. Soon he was advertising in papers, buying bubble gum packs by the score and even ordering cards by mail. A kid's hobby made it to the big time.

"I have always felt bad about those cards I lost, especially the ones I had when I was little," Shelton says, remembering his high school loss. "Those are the ones I really wanted to get back."

Leading the way past a full 10-foot Christmas tree, still beautifully lit up and green on the Jan. 10, Shelton sheepishly enters a room and opens a cabinet. Inside are shoeboxes of cards, stacked rows of cards, packets of cards — five shelves of them. Boxes, unnoticed before, are now seen on a table and on the floor. They, too, are filled with baseball cards.

"I open the cupboards all over the house and find baseball cards," says Cuyla Shelton of her husband's hobby. "You wouldn't believe some of the junk he has in there. He even saves gum wrappers!"

What drives Shelton to do this? For one thing, he says he has always been interested in sports, as is attested by his fit figure. "I have always loved sports and anything to do with them," he says. "I played on three teams in high school and I'm coaching sports now."

In addition to carrying a picture of a player on front, baseball cards have information on the back detailing personal statistics about the player. These statistics have helped make Shelton a master of trivia. "I know statistics on games and players from 1950 on up," he says.

Shelton also admits that nostalgia draws him to the cards. "I guess my favorite card is my 1954 Jackie Robinson," he reflects. "He was my favorite player when I was growing up

and I have always had sort of an attachment to his card."

Shelton values his collection at more than \$2,000. "There are lots of collectors in the United States," he says. "I am the biggest in Oregon, but there are some larger collections in the Midwest and East. Baseball cards are really a good investment," he says. "Their value is always growing."

Like most collectors, Shelton claims he is ready to sell his collection when the need for money comes along, but he has not yet sold any of it.

The value of any particular card, according to Shelton depends on its condition. Cards can range in condition from mint to fair. Shelton says "superstar" cards of players such as Aaron, Mays and Mantle, along with sets from particular years draw the highest price.

The price of many cards has risen well above the original five for a nickel. A 1908 Horace Wagner, for example, is worth somewhere around \$1,500.

"They used to put the cards out with tobacco," Shelton explains, "and Horace didn't like tobacco, so he forced them to stop making his cards. There are only about eight of them in existence today."

But more important than his interest in sports or nostalgia is the genuine satisfaction Shelton gets from collecting. According to his wife, he often spends two hours a night sorting his collection. "It's the hunt for the cards I enjoy," explains Shelton. "I can buy cards from a catalog, but it's more exciting to look through the want ads to find old collections for sale, or even to buy the gum packages not knowing what's going to be inside."

Asked what his friends think of his collection, Shelton replied, "At first they think I am a little strange but after a while they realize that things like electric trains have been owned and enjoyed by grown men for a long time. They learn that just because kids enjoy something doesn't mean we can't enjoy it as well."

Shelton hopes one day he will be able to start a club in Eugene with other adult collectors, giving baseball card collecting a more respected name. He urges anyone with baseball cards to give him a call at 345-7748.

Although Shelton has managed to carry his childhood hobby into his adult life, the transition is not complete. "I'm afraid of what the parents in the neighborhood are going to do to us," says Cuyla Shelton. "Lance keeps giving away sacks of his stale sugary bubble gum to the neighborhood kids. He won't eat it himself."