

The best graduation gift depends on the graduate

But if you can't decide what to get, remember the heart-warming effects of cold hard cash.

By B.J. Thomsen
Of the Emerald

Are you wondering what to give your favorite graduating senior?

That question is no doubt rattling around in the heads of countless parents this spring as they prepare to reward their son or daughter for four years, usually five years these days, of grueling classes, midterms and

finals.

A job probably tops the list of a graduating seniors' most wanted gifts.

But that's probably not practical for most gift-givers because very few people, including parents, have a job laying around to give away or the cash laying around to buy a really good job. So let's stay within the realm of the practical.

Choosing what kind of gift to give always depends a lot on the kind of person you're giving it to. Or in the case of graduating seniors, what kind of degree he or she will receive.

The best thing anyone can give a sociology major, for example, is some advice on how in the world they will ever find a job with that kind of degree. The same thing goes for English majors. It is too bad wealthy patrons of the arts aren't as common as they were in the Renaissance.

A nice gift for those numerous business majors might be the blueprints for a unique item or service to produce, because everyone knows the job market for business majors is as crowded as the first Friday beer garden of fall term.

A nice mahogany pen and pencil set, or a brief case with a combination lock might also be useful for future contract signing and stuff.

Law students don't need anything. They've already got bucks if they're going to law school.

Political science majors planning to go into a career of public service need a sharp lawyer. They will need an especially sharp one if they plan to work for the White House in this age of scandal-wracked big time



Photo by Sherlyn Bjorkgren

Although a job probably tops the gift list for a graduate, others gifts, such as camera, watch or ring, come in handy.

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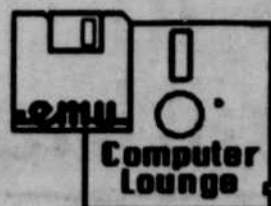
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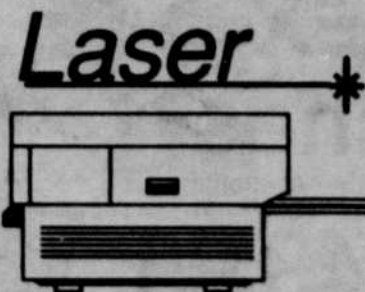
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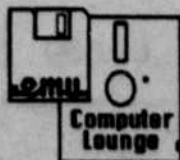
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