

ageless fun with TOYS

*Toys remain popular today
for kids of all ages and sizes*

By Traci Bradley
Emerald Contributor

Christmas. A time of celebration — a time we hope for those things we would never buy for ourselves. For adults, that may be toys and games. Of course, we would never buy a toy or a game for ourselves, but if we receive one for Christmas, we keep it by justifying that that is what Christmas is all about.

There are many toys for adults available this year. A range of board games, VCR games and sports items are among the options. Nobody should have to settle for the traditional tie from Aunt Martha or the knitted socks, one of which is always two sizes bigger than the other. This is the year of toys for everyone.

Games for sports enthusiasts are abundant, even for couch potatoes. For example, there is a glow in the dark jump rope, for

anyone who has the urge to jump rope during power failures. Those who skipped P.E. class in grade school can read the instruction book that comes with it.

For the football player with butterfingers, a Sticky Fingers velcro football with self-sticking gloves could be the solution.

VCRs are no longer to be watched, but to be interacted with. Wheel of Fortune has a video version. If you ever had the urge to be a contestant on the show, but were too nervous, now you can play with Vanna and Chuck. For the weekend athlete who dreams of playing professionally, the video cassette, "College Football Action," can make his dream more of a reality. "Enjoy hours of fast-paced college football action."

Board games are still the most popular, though, according to a Eugene Toys-R-Us employee. A great game for economics and business majors is Anti-Monopoly II. It poses the small-

business competitors against the monopolists. Who needs Small Business Management 341 when this game is much more entertaining? "This land is yours versus Mine, Mine, Mine."

The most popular board game, according to both customers and employees, is Pictionary. Pictionary is like charades, but on paper. Instead of acting, partners sketch clues for each other. Pictionary has 2,500 words in five color-coded categories; Person/Place/Animal, Object, Action, Difficult, and All Play.

If a toy that will disgust others is desired, Oscar Eye-Rot is the answer. Oscar is a foot-long eye; when squeezed alien blood flows from it. Now millions of little kids can terrorize their poor, innocent mothers.

Stress Wham-it may be the best gift for stress relief. It is a miniature version of the old punching dolls. It also comes complete with instructions. First, inflate Wham-it. Second, position Wham-it. Third, assume proper mental state. Fourth, proceed to vent stress on Wham-it. Finally, experience relief and sense of accomplishment. Wham-it can be punched, put through paper shredders, stabbed with letter openers, drowned, or run over with a car. There is no end to the stress relief that one can achieve with this toy.

Reasons to interface with Wham-it are supplied as well. Personal reasons include IRS audit, roommate takes last roll of toilet paper, mother-in-law moves in, or your 10-page term paper is due tomorrow and you haven't started. Social-political reasons could be freeway traffic, your date stands

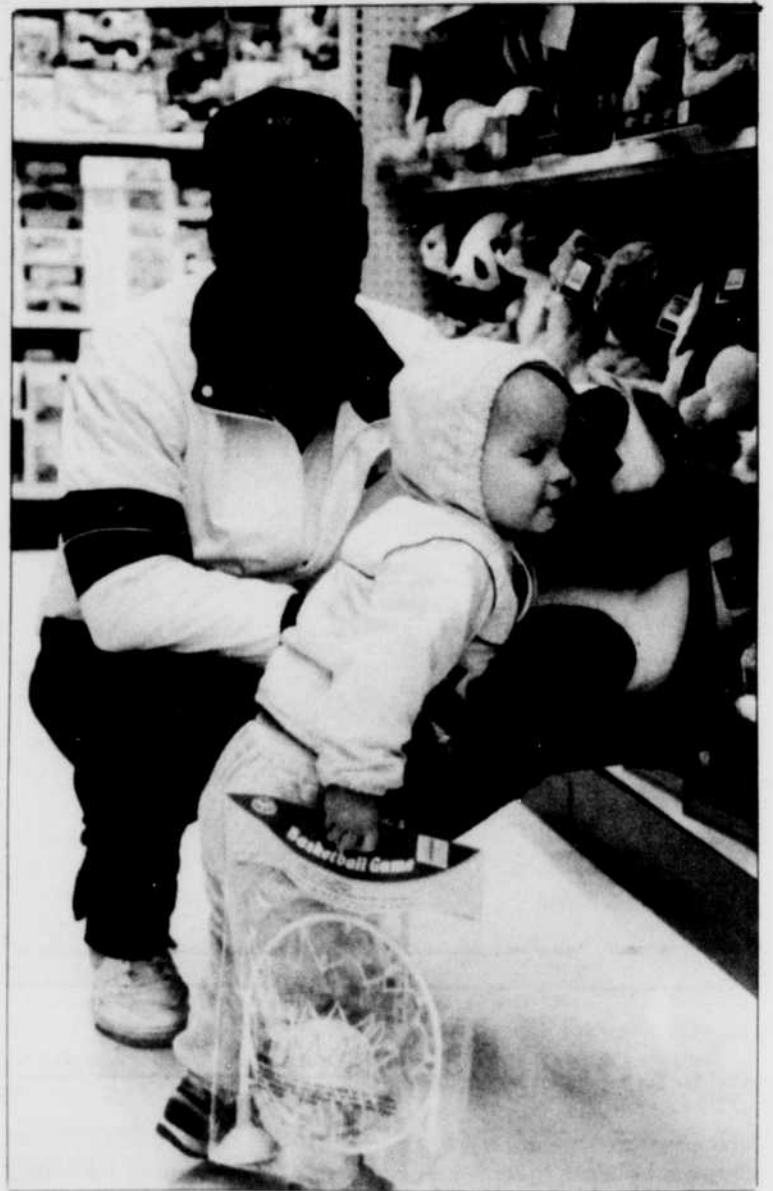


Photo by Jim Seufert

These days toys are for everyone, including both the big kids and the little ones.

you up, again, a nuclear power plant is built next to your house or the stock market crashes. Business reasons could be your partner just left for South America — permanently, you've bounced checks or you're faced with gross in-

competence of co-workers.

With all these and many more options to choose from, nobody should be left without a toy this year. Even a toy for old Uncle Fred can be found. Out with ties and socks, in with toys and games.

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