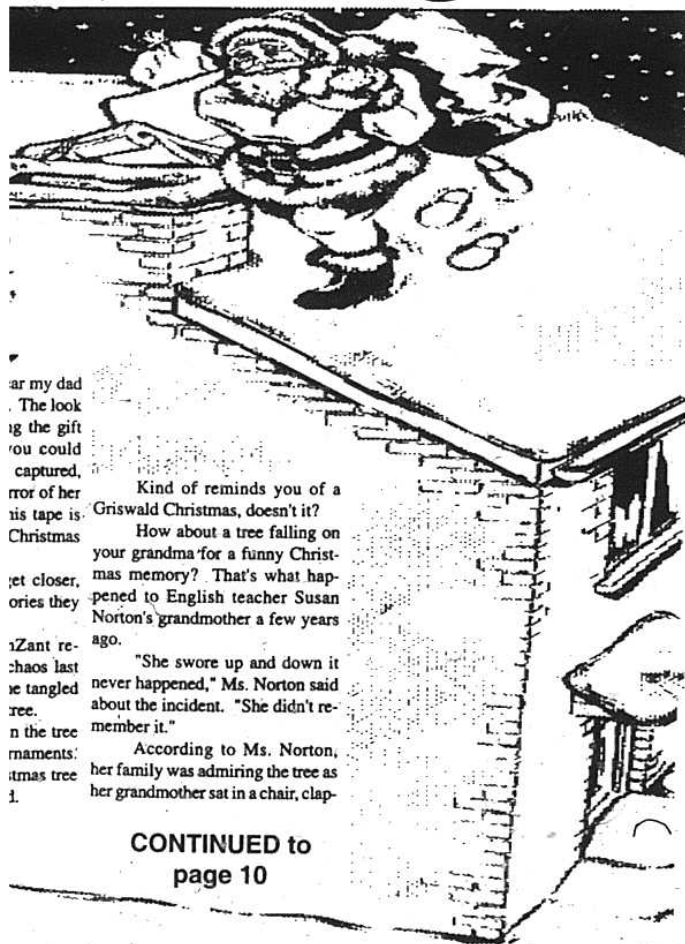


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Kind of reminds you of a
Griswald Christmas, doesn't it?

How about a tree falling on
your grandma for a funny Christ-
mas memory? That's what hap-
pened to English teacher Susan
Norton's grandmother a few years
ago.

"She swore up and down it
never happened," Ms. Norton said
about the incident. "She didn't re-
member it."

According to Ms. Norton,
her family was admiring the tree as
her grandmother sat in a chair, clap-

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page 10

Santa Suggests...

Gift ideas for the over-
stressed shopper

BY TASHA SANDLIN

Christmas is right around the
corner. If you haven't bought your
gifts, it's crunch time, and the stores
are packed.

According to both students and
teachers, Wal-Mart is the place to
go.

For the stressed out shopper,
here are some ideas to get you
started.

Wal-Mart has a variety of items:
including jewelry, electronics, and
cosmetics. Of course "the more
you spend the more you get", said
an assistant manager.

If Wal-Mart's not your thing,
there are other places to shop. Guys
buying for a special someone, can
find diamond earrings for as low
as \$29.

"Get the good deals for Christ-
mas," recommended C & H Rauch
sales assistant Brenda Mobley.

If you're looking for cheap, but
nice gifts, for relatives or friends
try the Victorian Gift Box, located
in the Somerset Mall.

"We have nice things for men
and women" said manager Teresa
Ball.

For
around \$5 you
can get picture
frames or
candles.

Lotions are
good gift
ideas, also.
You can find
them at the al-
ways popular

Bath & Body Works. Aside from
those shops there are many other
places to buy for your loved ones,
including Dawhares and Hastings.

Now that you know where to
shop, how much are you going to
spend?

The amount to spend varies ac-
cording to how good the friend is
and how long you've known them.

An informal poll of students
and teachers says to spend around
\$50 for a best pal. For a casual
friend expect to spend around \$10-
\$25.

If you are in a serious relation-
ship, the same poll showed that
most people spend around \$100,
buying cologne, clothes, or what-
ever strikes their interest.

If the relationship is not seri-
ous, consider spending around \$10-
20.

Of course, no matter what gift
you buy there will always be a line
backed up to the door, taking the
gifts back. But, it's the thought that
counts.



Connie Riddle's Chocolate Chip Peanut Squares

- 2 1/2 cups self rising flour
- 2 sticks Blue Bonnet margarine, softened
- 1 cup packed light brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1-12 oz. bag of semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 cup chopped peanuts (optional)

1. Blend margarine and sugar in a large bowl with an electric mixer on medium speed until creamy. Add eggs and vanilla, blending until smooth.
2. Gradually blend in flour. Stir in chocolate chips and peanuts (optional). Spread mixture into lightly greased 9 x 13 inch pan.
3. Bake at 350 for 25-30 minutes until done. Cool completely and cut into squares to serve.

