AGGIELIFE

Ghost of Christmas presents

Some gifts would be better if the receipt was included in the packaging

One can only wonder what presents lay in the pped-and-ribboned boxes piled high under Christmas tree. For children and students e, waiting until Christmas morning to find what Santa brought can be overwhelming. However, as many students discover ristmas morning, some of those presents are left unopened. As students reflect on the istmas gifts they have received over the

rs, there are always one or two presents that e to mind they hope never to find packaged labeled, with their name

der the tree again. Erika Pasquel, a junior neering major, said the st Christmas present she received was a troll doll n her brother when she was "It was ugly and it had pink

"she said. But it's the thought that ints, right?

"My brother told me he got for me because it reminded n of me," Pasquel said. Even though many people ounter the embarrassing

of underwear, Jeff Noland, a junior speech munications major, said his experience th underwear ranks among the worst ristmas gifts he has ever gotten.

"I was eight years old and my aunt bought my Christmas present at a garage sale," he id. "That's not the worst part though. It was w-in-the-dark, My Little Pony underwear." As though that was not traumatic enough, oland said the situation got even worse. "My mom and my grandmother made me

tually wear the underwear because they didn't ant to disappoint my aunt and hurt her feel-Caitlin Melia, a sophomore general studies

jor, said the worst present she has ever

said her brother usually gives gag gifts to family members, but she was not prepared for what she saw when she opened the box.

"He flooded me with all kinds of t.u. stuff,"

Included in the present was an assortment of University of Texas paraphernalia such as a UT T-shirt and a stuffed Bevo.

'He's older than I am and he's always picked on me, so he knew it would upset me because I don't go there," Melia said.

My mom and my

grandmother made me

actually wear the

underwear because they

didn't want to

disappoint my aunt "

As much of a disappointment these presents may be, most students wake up Christmas

morning to discover the good presents usually outweigh the bad. In fact, as Melia found, some of the best Christmas presents are those that aren't even on any Christmas list.

The best Christmas present Melia said she has ever gotten was a scrapbook from her best

'She gave it to me our senior year in high school and it had - Jeff Noland pictures of us mostly throughjunior speech out high school," she said.

According to Melia, the communications major thought behind the gift was what made it so special.

"She wrote a note at the beginning of it, which was very meaningful," Melia said. "It was such a good gift because it was thoughtful and it is something I can keep and I will always

For Alicia Benson, a sophomore biology major, a car was the best Christmas present she has ever gotten.

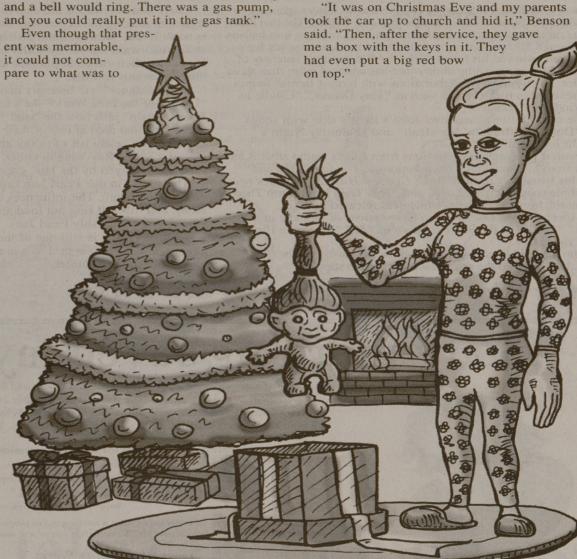
"I got a little red car when I was five. It was the plastic, Little Tykes kind with a hole in the bottom," she said. "I liked the car so much that I would walk into the living room where the Christmas tree was, pick up a present and then go get back in the car to open the present.'

Benson said all of the years worth of play she got from the car made it one of the most enjoy-

"Later we even got a gas station for it," she said. "You would drive the car across this strip and a bell would ring. There was a gas pump,

Christmas.

in high school, Benson received a real car for



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