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Challenges abound

Associated Press

THE GAMES people play this holiday season will range from one that theoretically can award the winner a college degree, to a sailing race board game for those intrigued by life on the bounding main.

And among the small packages Santa may leave under the Christmas tree this year is a game its designer insists is not a game.

Developed by the Hungarian who produced the mind-boggling "Rubik's Cube" a few years ago, this puzzle is called "Rubik's Magic." It is an eight-panelled rectangle, with each panel attached by a four-sided hinge.

On both sides are three unconnected rainbow-colored rings, each printed across several panels. The object of the puzzle is to link the rings. But the catch is that when any one panel is moved, the colored rings move as well.

ERNO RUBIK, 42, whose "Cube" sold over 100 million copies worldwide, says his device is not a game — meant solely to entertain — but a puzzle, which enables the solver to discover and explore.

"Too often people look, but they do not see," Rubik says. "Only when you pay attention can you find things you never noticed before. This puzzle helps you to see."

Rubik's "Cube" had 43,252,003,274,489,856,000 (quintillion) possible configurations. His "Magic" creation reportedly has even more — but only a single correct solution.

The board game with the imaginary college degree — called "InQUIZitive" — combines clues and strategy in a quiz format and was developed, according to its creator, for those who

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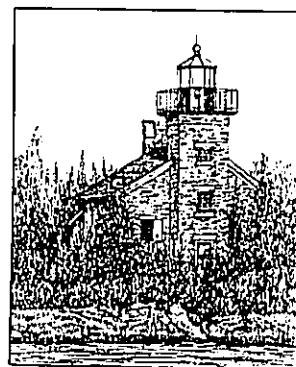
Lighthouse calendar is available

"Lights of the Great Lakes" is the theme of the 1987 calendar of the Historical Society of Michigan.

Featuring pen and ink drawings by artist Leo Kuschel of Taylor, the calendar draws attention to the colorful maritime history of the Great Lakes and the lonely sentinels that have marked the routes for sailors since the early 18th century.

This is the society's fourth lighthouse calendar. The calendar is the society's major yearly fund-raiser and the society is particularly pleased to feature Kuschel, according to executive director Tom Jones, because Kuschel's own family heritage includes ancestors who sailed the Great Lakes.

The calendar is available directly from the Historical Society of Michigan, 2117 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor 48104 at \$7.44 (includes postage and handling plus Michigan state sales tax).



One of the scenes in the calendar is the Copper Harbor Lighthouse, built in the mid-1860s.

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