

A SPORTING IDEA: Autographed memorabilia — from Michael Jordan's Chicago Bulls jersey to signed photos of great athletes like Magic Johnson or Wayne Gretzky — is the perfect gift for the sports famatic on your list this year. At The Sports Gallery, Birmingham.

SMART, from page 12

"The Tought Show," Carson selected favorite segments from his 30-plus years of doing the show.

New Line Home Video offers a digitally remustered version of the clussic "The Lion in Winter." It is available in wide-screen and fullscreen editions. Set during Christmas 1183, it focuses on the family of Henry II. It is a different sort of holiday gathering.

MGM Home Video offers plenty of classics, as well. There's the 25th anniversary edition of "The Midnight Cowboy," a corral of westerns that includes "The Magnificent Seven," "Chato's Land," "Breakheart Pass" and a few other classics for the holidays — "Little Women," "Boys Town" and "The Nuteracker."

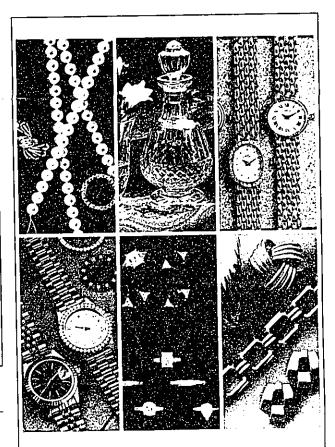
Books

Here is another area that promises to offer something for everyone. Even if your recipient doesn't enjoy devoting a year to reading Stephen King's new book, they might well enjoy the latest woodworking manual, a new novel from a young writer or a leatherbound classic to add to their library.

For fiction lovers, recently published, or soon to be published, books include "Wings" by Danielle Steel, "Beach Music" by Pat Canroy, "What I Lived For" by Joyce Carol Oates, "None to Accompany Me" by Nadine Gordimer, "The House on the Lagson" by Rosario Ferre, "Taltos: Lives of the Mayfair Witches" by Anne Rice, "Brathers and Sisters" by Bebe Moore Campbell and "In the Time of the Butterflies" by Julia Alvarez.

For nonfiction readers there's "Oprah Winfrey: The Real Story" by George Mair, "John Lennon: My Life" by Pete Shotton, "The Kennedy Women: The Saga of an American Family" by Lawrence Leamer, "All's Fair" by Mary Matalin and James Carville, "Lebanon: A Divided Country" by Elizabeth Picard, "Mountain of Fame: Portraits in Chinese History" by John E. Wills Jr. and "Couplehood" by Paul Reiser.

Even if you do buy the new Stephen King novel for them, they can always use it as a doorstop.



Brilliant Holiday Gifts

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