Wish I Still Had It Today!

Expensive Trash

GROWING UP a tomboy, I adored baseball and especially my New York Yankees. In the fifth grade at Barker Elementary School in Phillipsburg, New Jersey, I traded baseball cards daily with my classmates.

My shrewd trading rewarded me with a Mickey Mantle rookie card.

Years later, when I was in college, my well-meaning mother cleaned out my room and threw out all my baseball cards.

Mickey's card alone would now fetch thousands.

—Weda M., Phillipsburg, New Jersey

Don't Shoot Your Eye Out

OH, HOW I wish I still had my original Daisy Red Ryder BB gun. I bought it at a Western Auto Supply store in McAllen, Texas in 1949, when I was 12 years old.

The regular price for the gun was $6.25, but it was on sale for $5.50. I had to borrow a dollar from a family friend, since I had only $4.50 saved from my paper route.

I really wanted that gun.

One of the reasons A Christmas Story is still one of my favorite movies is because Ralphie wanted that Red Ryder BB gun and eventually got it.

—Roger D., Scottsdale, Arizona

Keep Those Toys!

I WISH I still had the toys and games I got for Christmas when I was 8 or 9 years old, back in 1958 or '59.

I especially loved my dial-a-letter typewriter and the Uncle Wiggly game. I also got molded, cutout paper dolls and a paint-by-number oil-paint set.

Kids today should be told not to throw away their toys. I miss and still remember so many of mine that I would love to see again.

—Joanne C., Piscataway, New Jersey