

# Dear Santa, all I want for Christmas is...

By BEVERLY MANJEOT  
 Graduating seniors wanting good offers, juniors wishing for decent gifts to the next home game, sophomores needing money to pay their phone bills and freshmen wanting to sell their books for a profit next semester may be turning Santa for help this year.  
 The scroll for Santa Claus will be set up on Monday, Nov. 28, in the Memorial Student Center (MSC) so anybody can write whatever they want for Christmas on the list," said Kay Luther, this year's chairwoman for the MSC Christmas Committee at Texas A&M University.  
 The committee which is responsible for decorating the MSC for Christmas was re-established last year by James L. Johnson, a floral design professor. Annual decoration of the MSC stopped after the center was remodeled, Johnson said.  
 The theme for this year's program is the "All University Christmas Tree." Individuals, clubs and

organized campus organizations have all been invited to participate in decorating the tree with either handmade or purchased decorations. Decoration of the tree will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 29, from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. and refreshments will be served.  
 "Students should try and make their tree ornaments represent themselves and their organizations as much as they can," said Lynn Knaupp, director of projects for the MSC.  
 About \$300 worth of tree decorations and felt ribbon was purchased from the Original Christmas Tree Store in Houston. The committee was given a 10 percent discount by the Aggie manager, Luther said. The money for the decorations came from the council account cash fund, a fund consisting of money from student service fees.  
 "By using the 'All University' theme we are trying to bring the real spirit of Christmas into the

MSC by getting everyone on campus involved," said Johnson. "We especially want to include the international students who won't be able to go home during Christmas break."  
 The committee has scheduled College Hills Elementary School, A&M Consolidated Middle School and A&M Consolidated High School to sing carols in the MSC lounge during "Dead Week," the week before final exams.  
 There will also be a box placed under the tree for students interested in donating canned goods for the needy. The goods will be turned over to the Student Y after the tree lighting ceremony because the organization handles all University-sponsored food drives, Luther said.  
 "We invited President Miller to speak at the lighting of the Christmas tree on Wednesday, Nov. 30, but we don't know if he is going to be available," she said. "Everyone is invited to the lighting ceremony and the reception afterwards."  
 "We want everybody to get into the spirit of Christmas early this year," Luther said. "I know when I go home after finals, it really doesn't feel like Christmas because I haven't been around to help decorate, but this way I'm going to get a head start."

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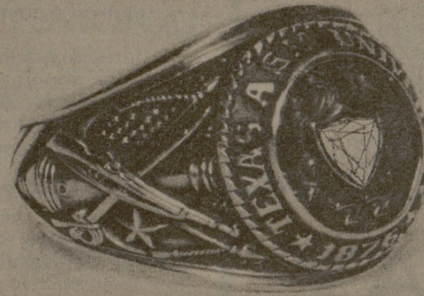
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## Professor honored for book

An autograph session and reception at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday in the offices of the Texas A&M University Press will honor Dr. David J. Schmidly, wildlife science faculty member and author of the publisher's latest offering.

His work, the 225-page "Mammals of Trans-Pecos Texas," was illustrated by Chester O. Martin, who will also be honored at the affair.

Schmidly's book, now available at \$2.50 from the Texas A&M Uni-

versity Press, is the second in the W. L. Moody Jr. Natural History Series. It contains the first detailed account of the 96 native mammals which presently live in the Trans-Pecos region or have lived there in the past 100 years.

Schmidly, an associate professor, is 33. He has been a member of the Texas A&M faculty since 1971 when he received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from Texas Tech University.

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