

Ags asked to mail cards to military

by Kim Schmidt
Battalion Reporter

Christmastime is a time for Santa Claus and mistletoe and a time for families to get together. And it's a time for spreading goodwill and cheer. And this Christmas season, Texas A&M students will have a chance to spread holiday cheer to servicemen stationed throughout the United States through the Armed Forces Mail Call.

Sponsored by Keathley Hall residents, the program allows students to send Christmas cards and letters to servicemen who might not otherwise receive them or who are celebrating Christmas away from their families and homes.

Cards will be sent only to servicemen in the United States because the deadline for submitting overseas cards

has passed. The program, sponsored nationally by the United Service Organization, is not completely new to Texas A&M. Although this is the first year the program will operate University-wide, it was initiated last year as a dorm function by Keathley Hall.

Keathley residents collected and sent 33 cards and letters in 1981, said Karen Crotty, Keathley's program director and head of this year's Mail Call.

When a letter of thanks came from the USO director of the Armed Forces Mail Call for only 33 cards, Keathley residents realized how much servicemen appreciated and needed those few cards, Crotty said.

Residents hope to collect at least 200 cards this year. Crotty feels the program is particularly suited to Texas A&M because of its affiliation with the military through the Corps of Cadets. Furthermore, many college students can relate to the feelings of servicemen alone at the holidays.

"As college students, we

know what it's like to look in to see an empty mailbox even on special days," Crotty said.

To help see that no serviceman is without mail this holiday season, Keathley residents are asking students to contribute cards and letters this week. Card collections begin today and will end Friday.

Students who want to participate should follow these guidelines:

- Write a Christmas card or letter telling about themselves, their hobbies, Texas A&M and any of their other interests.
- Include only a return address on the envelope. Because the letters will go to anonymous servicemen in all branches of the military, an address is not required. The return address, however, will enable servicemen to write back if they wish.
- Do not attach a stamp.
- Drop the sealed letter — along with 20 cents for postage and handling — into designated boxes at the Commons main desk or the secretaries' island in the Student Programs Office in the Memorial Student Center.

Jail guard arrested for drugs

United Press International
RICHMOND, Texas — Deputies held a state prison guard Tuesday on charges arising from the attempted sale of 26 pounds of marijuana to undercover narcotics agents.

The Major Crimes Task Force of Fort Bend County arrested Heriberto Estrada, 29, a Jester II Unit farm guard, and his roommate Jose Munoz, 25, Monday night in a Rosenberg

shopping center parking lot. They were to have gone before a justice of the peace for a bond hearing late Tuesday.

Authorities said the men were trying to sell marijuana worth about \$15,000. The arrests were made without incident and a loaded pistol was found in the suspects' car, agents said.

A Texas Department of Corrections spokesman said Estrada

had worked two years as a guard in the agricultural sector of Jester II, which is between Richmond and Sugarland.


Agents said Estrada and Munoz carried drivers licenses with Harlingen addresses and had an apartment in Fort Bend County. The agents refused to say where the men lived.

Jester Unit Warden Dave Myers was informed of the arrest.

MSC Madrigal Dinners

Friday, Saturday, Sunday
December 3, 4, 5

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
December 9, 10, 11



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MSC Main Ballroom • Seating for dinner at 7:45
• Tickets on sale now in the MSC Box Office • Student tickets — \$10 • Non-student tickets — \$15

Former diplomat to speak today

The former Polish ambassador to Japan will discuss the "Soviet Union after Brezhnev" at 3:30 today in Rudder Forum.

Zdzislaw Ruraz, an expert in international economics and foreign trade, defected from Poland last year after the declaration of martial law and is now a guest in the United States.

Ruraz has served as an economic advisor to the Polish cabinet and was ambassador to the Philippines before he served as ambassador to Japan.

Dr. Richard Thomas, director of Texas A&M's Center for Strategic Technology — which is sponsoring Ruraz' appearance — said the speech promises to be far-ranging in its scope. Thomas said Ruraz is concerned with both the political situation in Europe and U.S. policies which could help the evolution of freedom in Europe.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

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