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ARMY ROTC DETACHMENT FROM UM HOLDS CHRISTMAS PARTY AT FT. HARRISON

MISSOULA --

The Army ROTC detachment from the University of Montana in Missoula conducted its annual Christmas party for patients at the Ft. Harrison Veterans Hospital near Helena on Dec. 10. About 15 University students who are AROTC cadets participated in the program.

The Hellgate High School Chevaliers from Missoula, a singing group directed by J. Neil Dahlstrom, accompanied the cadets and entertained the hospital patients. The Chevaliers presented a variety of modern pop music and traditional Christmas songs at the Ft. Harrison facility.

About 80 patients watched the Christmas show while those confined to their rooms monitored the show on the hospital's public address system. After the show the Chevaliers joined the Army ROTC cadets in distributing presents to the patients and in visiting with the veterans.

Kenneth J. Latsch, a senior at UM from Butte, who is campus commander of the Scabbard and Blade, national Army ROTC honor society, was coordinator of the party.

"This was the most successful turnout of cadets ever," Latsch said. "Everyone got into the Christmas spirit and shared it with those hospitalized veterans who are in our country's debt. We would like to thank those individuals, and civic, business and patriotic organizations of Missoula for donating money to make the trip to Ft. Harrison possible."