

College students distribute 24 blankets

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

DALLAS - When Amy Dunaway heard about a project to help make blankets for AIDS patients, she immediately volunteered to help sew the crocheted squares together with 16 other young women from College Misericordia.

The first-year student knows several people who have AIDS in her hometown of Baltimore.

"One was just diagnosed," she said. "They're all in their mid 20's."

The blankets were a cooperative effort between the college campus ministry's Salt and Light Ministry, friends and residents of The Meadows and The High Meadows apartments. The 40 senior

citizens knitted or crocheted the squares, which the students then sewed together into bright, warm blankets the perfect size to snuggle into.

Each of the 24 blankets, assembled by the students in a sort of old-fashioned quilting bee, sports a heart-shaped tag containing the words, "We care." The students will deliver them to AIDS patients at the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital and clients of the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen.

The entire project was organized by Salt and Light coordinators Niki Curyk and Cassandra Mitchell.

"People with AIDS worry more about their families than themselves," Amy said. "It's really hard

on the families."

"The amount of people who gave up time from their studies

to become involved is really wonderful," said Father Michael Bryant. "It's also very appropriate that the blankets were collected on International AIDS Awareness Day (December 1), which we're observing on campus."

Making blankets for AIDS patients is an offshoot of the AIDS Quilt, a traveling living memorial to AIDS patients, with squares made by the patients' families and friends. It grew and spread across the country by word of mouth, eventually including the needs of homeless people and clients of women's shelters.



Leah Grega and Frank Casano, Jr., Jester.



Eric Legg, left, and Dr. John Curtis, serenading, pint in hand.



Charles LaJeunesse and Lynn Aldrich.



Tending to the feast, from left, Peggy Broscius, Alicia Darr, Roseanne Zelimba and Stephanie Moyer.



Hark to the heralds, Lev Garbar and Joseph DeVizia.

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