

# National

## What's up at Texas A&M

### Monday

**PARKER COUNTY HOMETOWN CLUB:** Monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 507 Rudder Tower.

**A&M CYCLING TEAM:** Bi-monthly club meeting at 8 p.m. in 140 MSC.

**ORANGE COUNTY HOMETOWN CLUB:** Group picture for Aggeland will be taken at 6:30 p.m. in the MSC lounge.

**AGGIE ALLEMANDERS:** Square dancing from 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in 255 G. Rollie White.

**TEXAS A&M GAMERS (GROMETS):** Monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 401 Rudder. Dues will be collected.

**CARIBBEAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION:** Meeting at 7 p.m. in 303 Physics building.

**FORENSICS SOCIETY:** Meeting to finalize tournament entries at 7:30 p.m. in 109 Military Science building.

**LUTHERAN STUDENT MOVEMENT:** Bible study at 7:30 p.m. in 350 MSC.

**CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** Bible study at 7:30 p.m. in St. Mary's Student Center.

**A&M CYCLING TEAM:** General meeting at 8 p.m. in 140 MSC.

**RIO GRANDE VALLEY HOMETOWN CLUB:** General meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**DEBATE SOCIETY:** Meeting to finalize entries and turn in evidence assignments at 7 p.m. in 109 Military Science Building.

**ALVIN HOMETOWN CLUB:** Meeting to discuss November/December activities at 7 p.m. in 115 Military Science.

**TAMU JAZZ BAND:** Rehearsal at 8 p.m. in the Commons lounge area. Newcomers are welcome.

**MEDINA COUNTY HOMETOWN CLUB:** Meeting to discuss upcoming activities at 7 p.m. in 501 Rudder.

**OCA:** General meeting to discuss street and dance and bonfire at 6:30 p.m. in 701 Rudder Tower.

**UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHAPEL:** Old Testament study at 8 p.m. in the University Lutheran Chapel, 315 N. College Main, College Station.

**TAMU SCUBA CLUB:** Organization of U/W Hockey and yearbook picture in 140A MSC at 7:30 p.m.

**SILVER TAPS:** Taps will be held for John William Mueller and Javier Antonio Cesar at 10:30 p.m. Tuesday.

### Tuesday

**AMERICAN HUMANICS:** Program called "Serving Hard-to-Reach Neighborhoods" at 6 p.m. in 607 Rudder.

**MSC CAMERA:** General meeting in 502 Rudder at 7:30 p.m.

**TEXAS A&M STUDENT CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY:** Aggeland pictures taken and party afterward at 7:15 p.m. in the Zachry lobby.

**MSC HOSPITALITY:** General meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 401 Rudder.

**AGC:** Meeting for officer elections at 7:30 p.m. in 207 Harrington.

**ASET:** Aggeland pictures will be taken at 7:30 p.m. in 102 A&A.

**RECREATION AND PARKS:** Club meeting at 7 p.m. in 202 Francis. Recreational dance steps after meeting.

**AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS:** Aggeland pictures and Dr. Aziz Odeh of Mobil Oil will speak at 7:15 p.m. in 127B Zachry.

**MSC CEPHEID VARIABLE:** General meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 302 Rudder.

**POLITICAL SCIENCE SOCIETY/PI SIGMA ALPHA:** Elections will be held plans for year will be discussed at 7 p.m. in 127 Bolton.

**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS (ASSE):** Guest speaker Robert Stark with Marathon Oil Co. will speak on "Storage Tank" in 104A Zachry at 7:30 p.m.

## Interest rates drop; New York stocks soar

**United Press International**  
Those sky-high interest rates — the bane of house-hunters, would-be car buyers and consumers everywhere — took their toll on the new home market in September. But help could be on the way.

The government reported the average new home cost \$82,000 in September, and sales hit a record low.

But the Federal Reserve announced Friday it is cutting the basic discount rate — the interest it charges banks and other financial institutions that borrow from it — from 14 percent to 13 percent effective today. That move could ease interest rates.

It already has affected Wall Street, which following correct predictions of the Fed's action, showed its biggest gain in two months Friday.

The Commerce Department said only an estimated 26,000 new single-family houses were sold in September compared to 48,000 as recently as March.

The figures suggest price cutting did not help. The average and median prices of houses both dropped from August as demand fell. The national average was down by \$4,700 from August to September. In many recent months the average price kept climbing, as diminished demand

chased an even smaller supply.

The Dow Jones industrial average, down more than three points at the outset after surrendering 4.66 Thursday, soared 19.60 points to 852.55, the biggest gain since it climbed 20.46 on Aug. 24.

Henry Kaufman, who long has said interest rates soon would hit record highs, triggered an emotional buying spree when he said the Fed probably would adopt a policy of monetary accommodation for the economic slowdown.

The Fed also announced that the most basic measure of the nation's money supply, known as M1B, rose \$1 billion in the week ending Oct. 21 to a level of \$434.3 billion. That still left it some \$6 billion below the lower limit of the Fed's target range for money growth. Analysts said that is likely to help further lower interest rates.

On the oil market, Saudi Arabia decided to cut its production just one day after OPEC agreed to charge uniform prices. This will help eliminate the world oil glut by early next year, energy specialists said Friday.

Analysts had expected Saudi Arabia, now producing almost half OPEC's oil, to lower its output in exchange for the cartel's adoption of a \$34 base price after 2.5 years of pricing disarray.

The decision means American will pay about two or three cent more per gallon for gasoline.

Mobil Oil Co., the nation's second largest oil company, Friday launched a \$3.4 billion takeover attempt of Marathon Oil Co., the 16th largest U.S. oil firm.

Mobil, which lost a three-way bidding battle over the summer for control of Conoco Inc., the ninth largest U.S. oil concern, has offered \$85 a share for up to two thirds of Marathon's 60.165 million shares.

The dollar gave ground Friday to the prospect of lower U.S. interest rates, closing sharply lower against all major foreign currencies.

The British pound surged, reflecting lower Saudi Arabian oil production. Gold prices were mixed.

In Zurich gold closed at \$427.50 an ounce, a \$3 gain of Thursday's \$424.50. In London the finish was \$428 an ounce, up \$3.50 from \$424.50 an ounce.

In New York gold closed at \$428 an ounce, compared to \$429 and the New York Commodity Exchange settled gold at \$427, down from \$428.90.

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## Stamps up to 20 cents; second hike this year

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON — It costs 20 cents to mail a first class letter now, double the price of only six years ago.

For the second time this year, the Postal Service raised the rates for most classes of mail, hiking the cost of a first class letter by two cents and postcards by a penny to 13 cents. Some second class mail rates will drop slightly. The changes took effect Sunday.

Postmaster General William Bolger has said the cost of a first class letter should remain stable for about two years.

And a Postal Service spokesman emphasized the 20-cent stamp was the price originally sought by the agency's Board of Governors.

The spokesman also said the cost of mailing a letter in the United States will be the lowest in the industrialized world in January when Canada raises its rate to 30 cents.

A survey by United Press International showed it costs only 5.2 cents to mail a letter in the Soviet Union and 12 cents in Spain. It costs 26 cents in Britain.

The governors' decision to hike

the rates culminated a fight that began last year when it requested a 20-cent first class stamp.

The Postal Rate Commission, an independent regulatory agency, approved an 18-cent stamp in February, and subsequently turned down repeated requests for the higher charge.

In September, the Board of Governors unanimously voted to approve the higher rates. Their action prompted an immediate court challenge by business groups that is still pending.

## Dead nun stalked, raped by brutal killer, police say

**United Press International**  
AMARILLO — A 76-year-old nun who was raped, beaten and strangled to death in a Franciscan convent, had apparently been stalked by her killer, police said Sunday.

The body of Sister Padea Benz was found at about 7:30 a.m. Saturday after she missed morning mass. The other nuns, thinking the death was from natural causes, removed the body and ordered it prepared for burial, investigators said.

Later, a broken window was discovered in the convent's community room and the sisters summoned police, who then ordered an autopsy.

"We didn't discover the open window until afterwards," said a convent spokeswoman, who preferred not to be named. "You see, old sisters sometimes die, and we just thought she had fallen out of bed."

"We didn't realize until we found the broken window that someone had broken into the convent," the spokeswoman said.

Amarillo police Capt. Jimmy Davis said the autopsy Saturday afternoon showed the victim had been sexually assaulted and brutally beaten before she was strangled.

Davis was outraged. "I hate sexual killings and this is an extremely brutal one," said the

police veteran. "It appears the victim was stalked."

But the convent spokeswoman said the 37 sisters at the convent accepted the death philosophically.

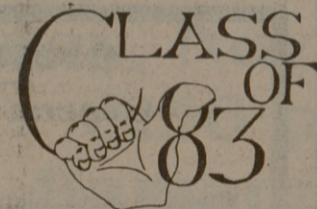
"It was kind of a tragic thing for all of us," she said. "It alarmed us because we have been here 49 years and have never had anything like this happen."

"At the same time, our Christian faith teaches us that death is a part of life. We recognize the evil in the world, and we just hope her suffering redeems, as Christ's suffering redeemed us."

Davis said investigators had no suspects, and were trying to find a motive.

## MAKE IT HAPPEN!

General Meeting  
Nov. 5th  
301 Rudder  
7:30-8:30



\*Class T-Shirts will be on sale in the MSC Nov. 9-13. They will also be sold at the meeting.\*

Guest Speaker: Dr. Vandiver

Applications are now available in the Cubicle for Softball Tournament Chairman. They must be turned in by 5:00 Nov. 13. Make sure and sign up for an interview!

## ARE YOU BEHIND IN YOUR READING?

### FINALS START IN 7 WEEKS

WORRIED ABOUT ALL THE READING YOU'VE PUT OFF?

THERE'S STILL TIME TO MAKE IT IF YOU

**DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT—TONIGHT!**  
Quit worrying and do something about it. Your slow reading problem can be solved. Permanently. Tonight we'll show you how, and teach you how to read up to twice as fast in the process. Free. No obligation. No hassle. (Twice as fast is easy. Our average graduate reads over 5 times faster with better understanding.) You'll be surprised how fast you can read after only one hour. And what you learn tonight you can begin using immediately to catch up on your reading. Quit being a slow reader!

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