

## What's up

Thursday

**NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS:** will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 607 Rudder.

**PEER ADVISORS:** will hold an "Endless Summer" Reunion Party 9 p.m.-midnight at the Q-Huts.

**FISH CAMP '85-CAMP PENBERTHY:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 301 Rudder.

**TAMU AQUATIANS SYNCHRONIZED SWIM CLUB:** will meet 8:30 p.m.-10 p.m. at the Indoor Pool.

**MICRO SOCIETY:** will meet at 6:30 p.m. in 113 Biological Sciences Building East.

**KOREA ACADEMY OF TAE KWON DO:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 255 G. Rollie White Coliseum.

**TAMU FENCING CLUB:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 267 East Kyle.

**MSC CEPHEID VARIABLE:** presents "The Last Starfighter" at Rudder Theater.

**BETA ALPHA PSI:** will meet at 6:45 p.m. at Briarcrest Country Club. Topic: "Accounting in the '90s."

**AGGIES AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING:** will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 407 Rudder.

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 402 Rudder.

**ALPHA PI MU INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING HONOR SOCIETY:** Applications for membership are available in the Industrial Engineering Office and are due Sept. 20.

**TAU KAPPA:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 302 Rudder.

**AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AERONAUTICS AND ASTRONAUTICS:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 116 Old Engineering Bldg.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT:** Applications for The Big Event are available in the Student Government Office, 213 Pavilion, and are due Sept. 27.

**VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 308 Rudder.

**SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 203 Zachry Engineering Center.

Friday

**MSC AGGIE CINEMA:** presents "The Cotton Club" at 7:30 and 9:45 p.m. at Rudder Theater. Admission is \$2.00. Midnight movie: "All That Jazz;" admission is \$1.50.

**STUDENT Y:** Bonfire Cookie Crew Subchairman applications are due today by 5 p.m. in 208 Pavillion.

**BADMINTON CLUB:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 351 G. Rollie White Coliseum.

**TAMU CHESS CLUB:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 504 Rudder.

**ASIAN-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION:** Fall dance 7 p.m. until midnight in 201 MSC.

**COLLEGIATE FFA:** will hold a plant sale, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Rudder Fountain.

**FARMHOUSE FRATERNITY:** will hold Farmfest '85, 8 p.m.-midnight at Parkway Circle Apartments.

**UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY:** will meet for Bible study at 6:15 p.m. at A&M Presbyterian Church.

**PUERTO RICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 404 Rudder.

**ASSOCIATION OF AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS:** has an Open House at the TAMU Observatory 8 p.m.-midnight.

## Out-of-state mail orders cost Texas money

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Because Texans lead the nation in mail order purchases, the state loses out on millions of dollars in sales tax revenue each year, the comptroller's office said Wednesday.

With more and more Americans buying by mail, the problem likely will get worse, the office reported in its monthly Fiscal Notes newsletter.

"This year, out-of-state retailers will legally avoid collecting Texas sales tax on as much as \$3.3 billion worth of merchandise sent through the mail," the report said.

Although purchases from mail order companies outside Texas are taxable, the state has no way to collect the taxes.

Under a 1967 U.S. Supreme Court ruling, states are prohibited from requiring out-of-state retailers to collect sales taxes for them, as in-state retail merchants are required to do.

The problem is getting worse as increasing numbers of consumers purchase from mail order companies, the report said.

"Mail order sales are booming nationwide," the newsletter said. "Sales have grown an average of 10 percent annually over the last five years, with total sales expected to reach \$50 billion by the end of this year."

According to federal figures, Texas accounted for 6.6 percent of the total nationwide mail order sales in 1983, leading the nation.

"The mail order boom should continue, fueled by increasing numbers of double-breadwinner families looking for convenient ways to shop and maturing baby-boomers with more money to spend," the comptroller's report said.

"Technological advances such as electronic funds transfer and the looming potential of shopping by home computer should further mail order sales growth."

Several states, including Texas, want Congress to pass legislation to invalidate the Supreme Court ruling or induce mail order firms to comply with state sales tax laws, the comptroller said.

Groups representing retail merchants support the efforts, claiming that mail order companies are competing unfairly because they don't have to collect sales taxes.

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