

Off-campus housing abundant for fall

By KATHLEEN WEST
Reporter

Students looking for fall off-campus housing should have a lot of choices, says Off Campus Center advisor Nancy Ludwig. At this point in time we have a "renter's market," she said. Renters will also have many options in off-campus housing for the fall because there are so many apartments available. "Students will be able to find what's best for themselves, not just the first thing that comes along," she said. Ludwig said the price of apartments has gone up a few dollars, but the increase is less than the inflation rate. "Overall it's (rent) gone at the same price or gone up a few dollars," she said.

Ludwig said that even though there will be many apartments with vacancies, most apartment owners haven't lowered their rent because the community is growing so fast that they probably aren't worried about their vacancies. The Off Campus Center found average fall 1984 prices for apartment complexes not offering all bills paid to be:

Efficiency

- Unfurnished — \$249
- Furnished — \$280

1 Bedroom

- Unfurnished — \$287
- Furnished — \$322

2 Bedroom — 1 Bath

- Unfurnished — \$336
- Furnished — \$388

2 Bedroom — 2 Bath

- Unfurnished — \$399
- Furnished — \$408

3 Bedroom

- Unfurnished — \$489

For comparison's sake, the approximate price per month for two people in a dorm room from Aug. 20 to Dec. 14 this fall will be:

- Non-air conditioned (\$332/semester) — \$175
- Corps (\$534/semester) — \$280
- Suite (\$588/semester) — \$310
- Leggett (\$616/semester) — \$320
- Modular (\$790/semester) — \$410
- Commons (\$825/semester) — \$430

Ludwig said the best place to start looking for off-campus housing is at the Off Campus Center in Puryear Hall across from the YMCA Building. The center has recently gotten new price listings for summer and

fall apartments and it has new 1984-85 brochures with information about off-campus living. Ludwig said the best time to start looking for apartments for the fall is the first week in June, because by then students are through with their finals and can spend more time looking. The center encourages students to find a roommate before getting an apartment, Ludwig said. "It's easier to move in with

someone than it is to find someone to move in with you," Ludwig said. The center operates a roommate locator service to help students find compatible roommates. The center also sponsors roommate sessions in which people looking for roommates meet others who need roommates. For more information about off-campus housing contact the Off Campus Center.

Dormitory or apartment? Both have advantages

By MARK E. LISH
Reporter

"Sign a lease before April 1 and receive a trip to Angel Fire for you and your parents," the D.J. says. "Student and parent trips need not be together. Offer based on double occupancy..." The radio advertisement reads and Hall and Oates' latest single, "Adult Education," comes on. With apartment complexes offering everything from ski trips to microwaves, and Texas A&M offering higher dorm rates, the lure of off-campus housing is increasing. Those who decide to move may find problems as well as advantages off campus. "The main thing students seem concerned about when moving is convenience," Melissa Darwin of the Off Campus Housing Office says. And with increased shuttle bus rates and parking permit rates that will almost double next fall, convenience may become more of a problem for off-campus Aggies. Darwin said many students contemplating the move off

campus are worried about the loss of an active social environment. "The amount of activity depends on your own personal initiative," she said. "If you just sit in your apartment waiting for people to come to you, they won't. But on campus there are always people knocking on doors advertising for their clubs and activities." Darwin, herself a former dorm resident, said off-campus living provides:

- greater privacy.
- a more relaxed atmosphere.
- an opportunity to learn financial budgeting and responsibility.
- a feeling of greater independence.
- a study environment other than the library.
- greater flexibility in personal life.

"One thing a lot of people don't consider," Darwin said, "is deposits." Deposits for electricity and water in College Station are \$105 and \$30, respectively. Add to that about \$200 for a security deposit on an apartment and a minimum of \$81 for the phone

deposit and hook up, and the total move-in costs add up to more than \$400. Darwin said that buying basic necessities can increase the amount to almost \$600. Another problem, Darwin said, is finding roommates. "One thing we try to do is stress getting a roommate before signing a lease," Darwin said. It's always better to have to find a place to live, she said, than it is to have to find someone to split the rent. For those who have decided to move off campus and need roommates, Darwin said, the Off Campus Housing Office now is holding roommate sessions. Charlie Elsner, who recently decided against moving off campus, said money was his main reason for remaining in a dorm. "It's cheaper for me to live in the Commons," said Elsner, who works at the Commons information desk. "If I lived off campus, I'd lose my job." It just goes to show, there's more to moving than a free ski trip.

Galveston

(continued from page 1)

"We started here in 1971 with the old classroom building, the engineering building, a lot of mud, an unpaved parking lot and that was it," Clayton said. In 1979, the regents changed the school's name to Texas A&M University at Galveston, but they had to have some type of legislative work to formally recognize the name change, he said. Finally in 1981 the Legislature changed the name from

the Moody College to Texas A&M University at Galveston. "We found out that the only legal name we had at the time was the Nautical School for Boys," Clayton said. The Galveston school consists of two academic colleges, the Texas Maritime College and the Moody College of Marine Technology, and the Coastal Zone Laboratory which coordinates research and extension activities of the University. Four-year degree programs are offered by the school with

majors in Marine Biology, Marine Engineering, Marine Fisheries, Marine Sciences, Marine Transportation, Maritime Administration and Maritime Systems Engineering. Graduates of the Galveston school attend commencement in College Station and receive degrees from Texas A&M. "Texas A&M University at Galveston is a separate unit from Texas A&M," Clayton said. "They are sister universities in the Texas A&M University System."

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