

Senior computer science major Jennifer Swisher says living off campus is better in some ways than living on campus, but both have advantages and disadvantages.

"We had a pool right outside, tennis courts and sauna nearby, and best of all — we could cook," she said.

Swisher adds that since there were three other girls living in the apartment with her, the rent was a lot cheaper than living in a dorm. Of course the trick is getting as many people to share the rent as possible.

Some apartments offer free shuttle bus and even free memberships to health clubs to attract renters. Some don't have any gimmicks, but drop their rates considerably.

Off-Campus Center student assistant Anita Anderson says

that apartment complexes decrease their rates by at least \$100 during the summer months, but the cost of living depends on the individual. If you choose an apartment that costs \$295 plus utilities, you will be paying a lot of money, when you could have been living in a dorm for a lot less.

Apartment rates this summer range from \$125 for an unfurnished efficiency to \$500 for an unfurnished three bedroom apartment, with any price and style variation in between.

Regardless of where you choose to call home, you don't have to stay there all the time. Fun can be right around the corner or down the street.

Swimming is a great way to get away from the heat and the books. Semester passes can be

bought at Wofford Cain Pool or if you live in an apartment, more than likely there's a pool very near.

If you can afford it on a student's budget, several of the health clubs have pools for their members' recreational use. If you have a car and are in desperate need of a break, you can drive to Adamson Pool at Bee Creek Park, Southwood Pool and Tennis Center, or Thomas Pool at Thomas Park.

If a pool isn't large enough, Lake Somerville is about 25 miles away and the Bryan Utilities Lake is even closer. Both are inexpensive ways to get away from school and enjoy the summer.

For those who are old enough, Dudley's and the Dixie Chicken will undoubtedly

maintain their attraction throughout the summer and several local clubs will probably have happy hours and reduced-price drinks as they have in the past.

Road trips will provide a release for tension, especially when school really becomes a bore. The ever-present trip to Austin will continue to beckon and Galveston will sound like an adventure you can't pass up.

If the heat doesn't bother you, tennis and golf will still be around, provided you can find someone to play with you.

No matter what you choose to do for fun, summer in College Station is not that much different than anywhere else. The best part about it is that if you survive, that's a few more classes you'll have behind you when fall rolls around again.



photo by Susan McDonald

Students can find refuge from the summer heat at the Bryan Utilities Lake.