



JAY JANNER/The Battalion

Fun in the sun

Company L-2 Corps of Cadets members **Todd Fry**, a junior history major from Houston, and **David Faulk**, a junior political science major from Richardson, soak in a portable swimming pool on the quad. The two were enjoying the warm, sunny weather Thursday afternoon.

Restaurant faces parking difficulties

City council pushes back decision to approve additional lot

By Mark Evans
The Battalion

The College Station City Council voted to delay a decision to build a parking lot which would hold the overflow from the new Chili's Grill and Bar during its Thursday night meeting.

After listening to representatives of Chili's and local residents, the City Council voted to push the decision back 90 days.

Tim Fox, director of Regional Construction for Chili's Restaurants, said the restaurant needs an additional 32 spaces to handle their high volume of business.

Patrons presently park in College Station Municipal Building parking lots or in front of nearby houses when the Chili's lots fill.

When Chili's opened last month, management considered the number of parking spaces adequate. The restaurant, however, received

more business than expected.

"We have a parking problem," Fox said, "we'd like to do something about it."

He said he believes an additional parking lot, built behind the restaurant, will solve the problem.

The proposed parking lot would border Foster Avenue.

Chili's would build fences along the perimeter of the lot to cut down on any noise disturbing nearby residents, Fox said.

Lighting would discourage loitering and any vandals.

The restaurant would spend approximately \$5,000 on the project which would include landscaping the property.

Local residents objected to the plan. They expressed concerns over late-night noise, increased neighborhood crime and invasion of privacy. Many do not see a need for another parking lot.

"I see open parking spaces quite a bit during the day," said Robert Meyer, owner of a

home at 1024 Foster Ave. "What concerns me is the noise generated by the staff and patrons."

Meyer said he does not believe fences will solve any problems.

If anything, Meyers said, he envisions people throwing things over the walls, having no regard for the property of others.

Typically, restaurants have a three month honeymoon period after opening, said City Councilman Dick Birdwell.

A higher than usual boom of business marks this period. Eventually, the level will drop about 20 percent down to normal levels, he said.

"I'm a little concerned that we are dealing with a problem that may not exist in three months," Birdwell said.

Council members Nancy Crouch and Lynn McIlhane supported setting aside time for a more thorough evaluation to be made.

The City Council voted to delay a decision until next January.

Vice chancellor helps TAMUS communicate effectively with public

By Melody Dunne
The Battalion

The Texas A&M University System's new vice chancellor for communications can claim the distinction of being the highest ranking woman ever in a statewide teaching, research and public service institution.

Penny Beaumont, who previously served as assistant deputy chancellor of engineering and assistant director of the Texas Engineering Experiment Station, coordinated the external relations and public affairs activities in the Texas A&M System's Engineering Program.

There she served as the engineering program's primary liaison to the federal and state government.

Dr. Herbert Richardson, who assumed the TAMUS chancellorship Aug. 29, appointed Beaumont to this position on Sept. 6. Richardson said that the position to which Beaumont was appointed

is needed to help TAMUS be more effective in communicating with the public.

"Effective communications are essential to an organization's success," Richardson said. "Ms. Beaumont will bring much-needed focus to the system's communications, both internally and with our various publics."

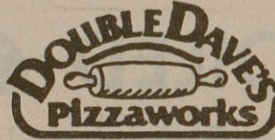
Beaumont said she looks forward to working with her colleagues in all the institutions and agencies.

"We are fortunate to have experienced, professional communicators in all the components. Their specialized expertise will be invaluable as we work together to strengthen our image's system," she said.

At a meeting of the International Association of Business Communicators, Beaumont spoke on "The Importance of Communication in Legislative Affairs."

IABC is an organization dedicated to fostering communication excellence and contributing more effectively to organizational goals worldwide.

on Friday,
SEPT. 27



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