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RESERVE NOW!

The search for housing can be exciting, tricky

Students should weigh all the options before choosing a place to live

By Jackson Jeyanayagam for the Emerald

"Where am I going to live next year?"

This is a question that many students are trying to figure out this time of year. If you are graduating, then your primary concern becomes getting a job or getting into grad school.

For those students left with another year of midterms, relationship problems and internship searches, however, the issue of finding a place to live soon becomes an unwanted burden. Hopefully, with a little preparation, you will be a little more on track to finding that 'home, sweet home!'

While University Housing states the majority of incoming freshmen choose to live in the residence halls their first year, students often disregard the option their second year. Senior business major Matthew Kernan explains he didn't mind living in the residence halls for a second year.

"I liked the dorms," he said. "I am happy to live on

my own now, but I met a lot of great people and had a good time."

For those students who choose to move out of the dorms though, this is the first time they will get a chance to live on their own, so finding a house or an apartment seems like the logical first step toward adulthood.

With apartments ranging from as low as \$200 a month to as high as \$600 a month, factors such as location, number of rooms and accessories all contribute to the total price. For example, a one bedroom apartment in the Hilyard House may cost you around \$600 per month, but you will receive benefits such as secured parking, a washer/dryer, free Internet access and a weight facility.

Other locations, such as the University Commons, offer furnished and unfurnished bedrooms. Generally, the closer you are to campus and the newer the apartment/house, the more likely you will be paying a higher price. It is also important to look into the leasing terms. Many apartments are on a one-year lease, which means you will be paying past the end of school. Month-to-month.

Turn to **Sweet Home**, page 10c

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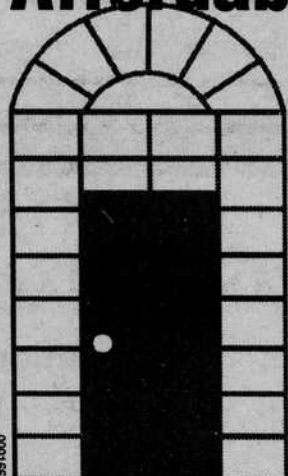
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