

Magazine survey used

# Solar house fulfills homeowners' dreams

By ROBERT THOMASON  
Staff Writer

Another solar house has gone up in the area, but this one is the result of a collaboration among local and national groups.

The house, which is on display just south of the Chatham-Orange county line, should receive 50 percent of its space-heating needs from the sun.

Family Circle magazine surveyed a number of households and found what those households wanted in a house," said Daneen Nyimicz, who answered questions at the house, which now is open to the public.

Fitch Creations Inc. of Carrboro took specifications from the magazine survey and built the house recently. Soon Fitch will offer the 1,700 square-foot house for sale—to the tune of \$77,500.

Family Circle was pleased enough with the house that editors asked Fitch to be cautious about people photographing the house.

"They don't want spies from other magazines coming in and taking pictures," Nyimicz said.

The press has been allowed to take pictures for newspaper publication. Two weeks ago, Family Circle magazine and Fitch Creations sponsored a press conference in the house.

Nyimicz, who has worked with Fitch's since she graduated from UNC two springs ago, said the solar system is a natural selling point for persons interested in that type of heating.

"But the system adds about \$5,000 to the price of the house," she said. "That eliminates a lot of potential buyers."

Fitch Creations built its first solar house last year in its Chatham County Fearington development, where the new solar house also sits.

"A retired couple bought that home," Nyimicz said. "They were specifically interested in solar heat."

The couple has spent a lot of time travelling since they bought the house early last spring. "We haven't been able to monitor the performance of that house as well as we would have liked to," Nyimicz said.

She said the company hopes a less mobile family will buy the new house so the system can be tested under more normal conditions.

The solar system in the new house is an active solar-



Air soaks up the sun's heat at this solar house

DTH/Andy James

heating system designed by Craig Fitzpatrick of Sun Design, a Raleigh firm.

The system is classified as an active system because energy must be injected into the system to move the heated air around. In contrast, passive systems are designed to take advantage of natural laws, like convection and conduction, to move the heated air.

About 480 square feet of collector space cover the south wall of the house. Sunlight enters through a fiberglass covering. The fiberglass is arched, allowing a relatively large air space directly beneath it.

The heat from the air in this space is absorbed by corrugated aluminum, which is painted black to absorb more heat.

Fans force air in a space behind the aluminum. After

air has been forced past the aluminum, it travels to the collection system.

Six hundred one-gallon milk bottles hold water which is heated by the air. As heat is needed in the house, it is drawn from the reservoir. Cold air is forced back into the collectors to complete the cycle.

The house has three auxiliary systems. A heat pump, which is capable of producing warm air for the house in the winter and which draws warm air from the house in summer, is adjacent to the collection system.

If the sun has not shone brightly in more than 24 hours, the heat pump automatically will come on to heat the house.

If the temperature is abnormally cool, electric resistance coils, a basic electric heater, come on.

## Happiness is 30-inch snake, local boy says

By CAROL HANNER  
Staff Writer

Mark Robinson can't take his pet for a walk. He can't teach it tricks. It won't even come when he calls its name.

But Wormy, Mark's pet boa constrictor, does have his advantages.

"He's good because you can hold him while you watch TV," the 12-year-old said as Wormy curled around his neck and slithered up the side of his head.

Robert Robinson of UNC's School of Public Health and his wife Sandra bought their son the baby boa last May at a pet shop. Since then Wormy—now 30 inches long—has grown 10 inches. Mark said the snake will be seven feet long at maturity if its growth is not stunted by keeping it enclosed in a small space.

Wormy's home right now is a dry aquarium with a dog food dish, several rocks and a light bulb to keep the temperature at 78 degrees for the cold-blooded pet.

"Boas are very gentle," said Mark's mother, who is a UNC student. "But Wormy has his moods. Some days he's very quiet and just curls up in his dog dish of water and sticks his head out. Other days he digs in the rocks and swims in his dish."

Mark said the boa constrictor requires little care except taking him out to play three or four times a week. He also must feed Wormy a mouse every week. Mark said eventually he will have to feed the snake a rabbit.

"I don't mind feeding him the mouse now, although I didn't like it much at first," Mark said. "But I never feed him rats because I used to have a pet rat named Kilroy."



DTH/Kim Snooks

Mark Robinson and Wormy...a close-knit pair

Mark's list of past pets includes hermit crabs, a guinea pig, several dogs and cats and a large rhinoceros beetle.

"I let the beetle go, though, because he didn't like his cage," Mark explained.

He said he would like to have a tarantula next.

"We'll have to see about that," Mrs. Robinson said. She has not adjusted completely to Wormy. "I've touched him, but never held him," she said.

"One day Wormy tried to crawl in her hair, and that made her pretty mad," Mark chimed in. "The girl at the pet shop said she had one it used to crawl up in her hair and sit for hours."

In spite of all Wormy's charms, Mark has decided to sell the snake for \$50. Wormy cost the Robinsons \$30.

"That's another good thing about boa constrictors," Mark mused. "They increase in value as they get older."

What will Mark do with his profit? No, he won't buy a tarantula. He said he needs some new skateboard equipment.

## ESP

From page 1

"My favorite two spirits are Sing, an Oriental girl, and Robert, a very frank, somewhat sarcastic young man," Noreen said.

The entities appear when Noreen is in a self-induced trance. She said she can hear the entities speaking through her body, although she is detached from the situation.

Krieger said Noreen's face changes slightly when she is in trance, taking on an Oriental look when Sing appears and a more masculine look when Robert comes out.

Noreen said she cannot explain where the spirits come from. She said science has given her two possible theories, that the entities exist externally and take on

her body occasionally or that they are just part of the 90 percent of the brain she said humans do not use.

Julia's experience with entities involves a voice called Anka. She said it was originally an internal voice that became external when the same personality came through on a Ouija board and talked to Julia's friends.

"I don't know how, nor do I attempt to explain it," she said. "This unattached voice just started coming out of my mouth, and I just got more and more relaxed. Boy, does it feel good to be Anka."

Krieger said another eight-week course or parapsychology will be offered at the end of January.

## Fall exam schedule

Quizzes are not to be given in this semester on or after Monday, Dec. 4, 1978.

All 11 a.m. classes on MWF	Mon. Dec. 11 8:30 a.m.
All 12:30 p.m. classes on TTh	Mon. Dec. 11 2 p.m.
All 8 a.m. classes on TTh, *Phil 21	Tues. Dec. 12 8:30 a.m.
All 5 p.m. classes on MWF, *Econ 61, *Comp 14, 16, 114	Tues. Dec. 12 2 p.m.
All 9 a.m. classes on MWF	Wed. Dec. 13 8:30 a.m.
All 1 p.m. classes on MWF, *Chem 41L, 42L	Wed. Dec. 13 2 p.m.
All 2 p.m. classes on TTh	Thur. Dec. 14 8:30 a.m.
All Fren, Germ, Span, and Port 1, 2, 3, 4; Russ 1, 2	Thur. Dec. 14 2 p.m.
	*Educ 41, *Busi 71
All 4 p.m. classes on MWF, *Math 31	Fri. Dec. 15 8:30 a.m.
All 9:30 a.m. classes on TTh	Fri. Dec. 15 2 p.m.
All 8 a.m. classes on MWF	Sat. Dec. 16 8:30 a.m.
All 3:30 p.m. classes on TTh, *Chem 179L, 171L, and all	Sat. Dec. 16 2 p.m.
Classes not otherwise provided for in this schedule	
All 10 a.m. classes on MWF	Mon. Dec. 18 8:30 a.m.
All 3 p.m. classes on MWF, *Engl W	Mon. Dec. 18 2 p.m.
All 11 a.m. classes on TTh	Tues. Dec. 19 8:30 a.m.
All noon classes on MWF	Tues. Dec. 19 2 p.m.
All 2 p.m. classes on MWF, *Busi 186	Wed. Dec. 20 8:30 a.m.
All 5 p.m. classes on TTh	Wed. Dec. 20 2 p.m.

(Common exams are indicated by an asterisk.)

## Omega to honor service

By THOMAS JESSIMAN  
Staff Writer

Omega Psi Phi fraternity will conclude its annual Achievement Week with a banquet tonight and a fund raising dance-a-thon for diabetes Saturday.

Earlier in the week the fraternity collected canned foods as part of its annual canned food drive. The food will be distributed to families for Thanksgiving.

"Each year we get a list of needy families in the area from a social services person," said Reggie Sumner, Omega Psi Phi's keeper of finances. "The brothers themselves distribute the canned foods to the families."

At 8 tonight in rooms 203 and 204 Carolina Union, the fraternity will hold a banquet to award three prizes. The Omega Man of the Year will go to two brothers from outside UNC's chapter of Omega Psi Phi. The Citizens of the Year will be awarded to an individual who has made a strong contribution to the University community.

"We have a service committee that narrows down the list of candidates for the Citizen of the Year award," Sumner

said. "And then the brothers of the fraternity have a vote. The winner does not have to be a student and can be employed anywhere in the school system."

The banquet also will have a guest speaker, Omega Psi Phi brother William Crawford. This is the first year that the banquet has been held. Admission will be \$3 per person, and, although Sumner said the event is open to all, a limited number of tickets are available.

Saturday from noon to midnight in the Upendo Lounge, the fraternity will sponsor a dance-a-thon. Proceeds from the event will be sent to the American Diabetes Association.

"All the brothers will be dancing at one time during the day," Sumner said. "We've got a list of pledges that people have made to the brothers and other dancers. Money is donated on the basis of hours danced, and I'm going to be out there dancing the whole time."

Anyone interested in pledging money for the dance-a-thon should contact an Omega Psi Phi brother.

"We're hoping for a big turnout for the banquet and dance-a-thon," Sumner said.

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