

# Students discover alternative in fish for pet companionship

By CAROLE FERGUSON  
Staff Writer

Need a loyal friend or something to add interest to your room? Try a fish.

A number of UNC students have. Some get fish as pets — the only kind allowed in most dorms and apartments — and some simply use them as interesting decor.

Ruth Anderson, a senior who lives in Welsch Court Apartments, has become quite attached to Sushi, her 2-year-old Siamese fighting fish. "You can't have any other pets," Anderson says, "so you make the most of what you've got."

Sushi's fighting companion, Sumo, passed away last year. But Sushi is still very active. He jumps out of his home — a large brandy snifter — bites fingers and fights with his reflection in the mirror. Anderson says that she takes Sushi for walks when he gets lonely.

Cathy Harper, a junior from Harrisonburg, Va., also has fish with personality. Since the University did not allow fish bowls during the water shortage, Harper was worried that she could not keep her two goldfish,

Sami and Carmelita, in her dormitory. But now that the water supply is closer to normal, fish bowls are okay, a spokesman for University Housing says.

Harper says her fish are famous in her dormitory. She gets hallmates to fish-sit when she goes out of town.

Sometimes fish-sitters have trouble feeding Harper's goldfish. "They get grossed out by the freeze-dried worms I feed them," she says.

Charlie Furr, a junior from Charlotte, luckily has not become attached to his new fish. They seem to be dying on him and his brothers at the Sigma Nu fraternity house.

"We got several fish last Tuesday," Furr says. "Six of them died. Now we only have three fish and a frog."

"The first thing we do in the morning is check to see which one has died. Then we just have to flush them."

Furr says his 10-gallon tank provides a "unique atmosphere" for his bar at the fraternity house. "We put some blue rocks and plastic weeds in the tank and stacked beer cans behind it."

Music livens up the fish, Furr said.

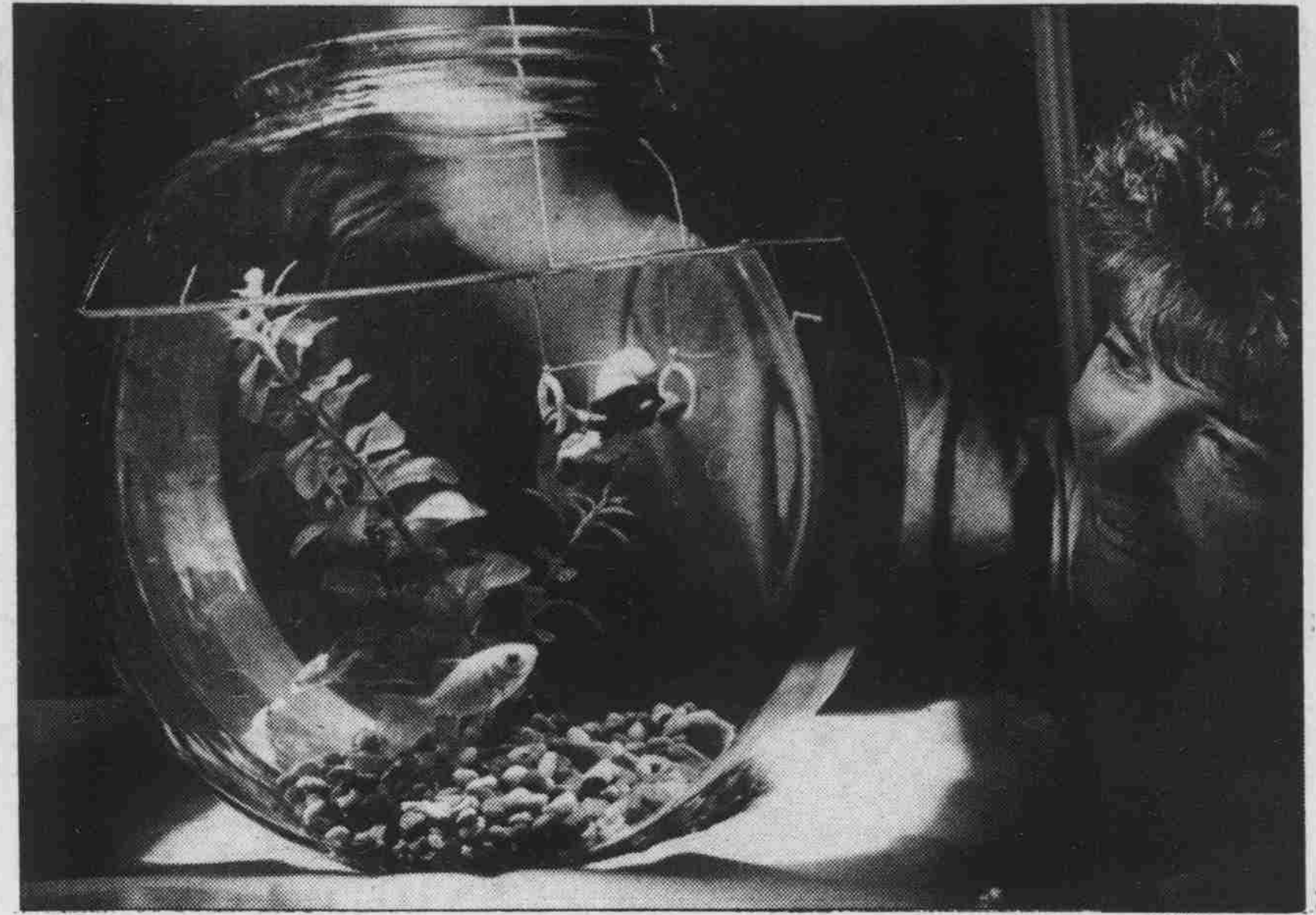
"If you turn up the stereo they jump around."

He also likes the "blue ripples" the tank's light creates when the room when is dark.

Sophomore Annette Wilson also likes the looks of the goldfish tank in her Granville room. She has decorated her tank with plastic plants and hopes to get real ones soon. Last year, she tried putting a Seagram's bottle in the tank, but apparently some of the chemicals she used to secure the bottle's label killed her fish. Now she has two hybrid goldfish, a Black Moore and a Red Cap Aranda.

Lisa Schiermeier, a sophomore from Cary, likes to watch her guppies in their bowl. "They provide a nice distraction while I am studying chemistry," she said. Schiermeier brought Floyd and Hilda to live with her in Ruffin after Labor Day. The couple are expecting a large family soon, she said.

Fish provide decoration and relaxation for fourth-year pharmacy student William Sutton. He says his fish are "pretty laid back," and



Cathy Harper 'smurfs around' with her fish in Joyner Residence Hall

DTH/Tony Deifell

watching them has a calming, relaxing effect. Sutton has two tanks, a 20-gallon tank with five fish and a 29-gallon tank with three pearl-scale

goldfish. Sutton says that the oxygen and space in his large tanks have helped his fish grow faster.

So whether they live in a 29-gallon

tank or a brandy snifter, fish can be students' next best thing to man's best friend or at least an interesting conversation piece.

# Water conservation made voluntary

By SUZANNE JEFFRIES  
Staff Writer

Voluntary water conservation has replaced mandatory water restrictions in Chapel Hill on the recommendation of the Orange Water and Sewer Authority, according to city officials.

Patrick Davis, assistant to the executive director of OWASA, attributed the town's improved water situation to recent rains, community and University conservation efforts and the availability of water from the town of Butner.

Davis said University Lake, the town's main source of water, is 27.75 inches below full. "It had been 51 inches below full Aug. 11 — the lowest point this year," Davis said.

"Since that time we've received small but regular rains, which helped us lift the mandatory restriction," he said. "The lake level rose about two feet during Aug. 11 through (Aug.) 20," Davis said.

On Aug. 20, 2.5 inches of rain raised the lake's level about 30

inches, he said. But Davis stressed that cooperation with the voluntary conservation measures is important.

The water levels of Stone Quarry and Cane Creek, two additional water reserves, are still of some concern, Davis said.

Stone Quarry is about 23 feet below full and Cane Creek is 9 to 10 feet below full, he said. "We're not out of the woods as of yet," he said. "Still carefully watch your water use."

Claude Swecker, the University's chancellor of facilities management, said students and others at the University have been very conscious of their water use. "The water level didn't go down nearly as much as we expected when the students returned," he said.

Davis said OWASA expected a 15 to 20 percent increase in water use during late August because University, elementary and high school students returned to class.

"This year we saw what might amount to a 10 percent to 15 percent increase," he said.

Swecker said OWASA officials sent a letter to his office thanking the University for its cooperation in conserving water. "As a person very much concerned with water conservation methods, I want to thank the

University community as a whole," Swecker said. "We did fairly well."

Wayne Kuncel, director of University Housing, said he thinks students living in residence halls made a positive contribution in conserving water. "The fact that we're considerably lower than what's been expected shows that the students took the problem seriously," Kuncel said.

Frederic Schroeder, dean of students, said he thought conservation had been important to students.

"Now that the emergency is somewhat abated, we can count on students not wasting water. We appreciate their concern in getting us through this crisis," he said.

Chapel Hill uses six million gallons of water per day and the University, including the hospital complex, uses about 30 percent of that, Davis said. "We appreciate the University's and student body's cooperation in helping us through the water shortage," he said.

"It's a community and University need when you have a drought... everybody helped out the best they could."

Davis said students should continue the same conservation practices outlined at the beginning of the semester.

## Campus Calendar

The DTH Campus Calendar will appear daily. Announcements to be run must be placed in the box outside The Daily Tar Heel office, Room 104 of the Student Union, by noon one day before — weekend announcements by noon Wednesday. Only announcements from University-recognized campus organizations will be printed.

### Monday

12 p.m. The UNC Institute for Environmental Studies will present a lecture by Dr. Frank van den Akker of the Netherlands on the subject of "Low-Waste Technology" in the Rose-nau Hall Auditorium.

3 p.m. The UNC Computation Center will hold a computer users meeting in 268 Venable to discuss the Future Direction of Academic Computing on the UNC-CH campus.

6 p.m. The Presbyterian Campus Ministry will host a Graduate Student Dinner at the Presbyterian Student Center, 110 Henderson St.

7:30 p.m. The Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies are holding an informal debate of the topic, "Should the Federal Government Restrict Individual Liberties to Secure It's Citizens' Personal Safety?" The meeting is in 300 New West and all newcomers are welcome.

8 p.m. The Campus Y Women's Forum is sponsoring an open discussion on "Women and Leadership" in the Y Lounge. Bryan Hassel, Jaye Sittion, Camille Roddy, and Jean-

nie Mitchell will speak.

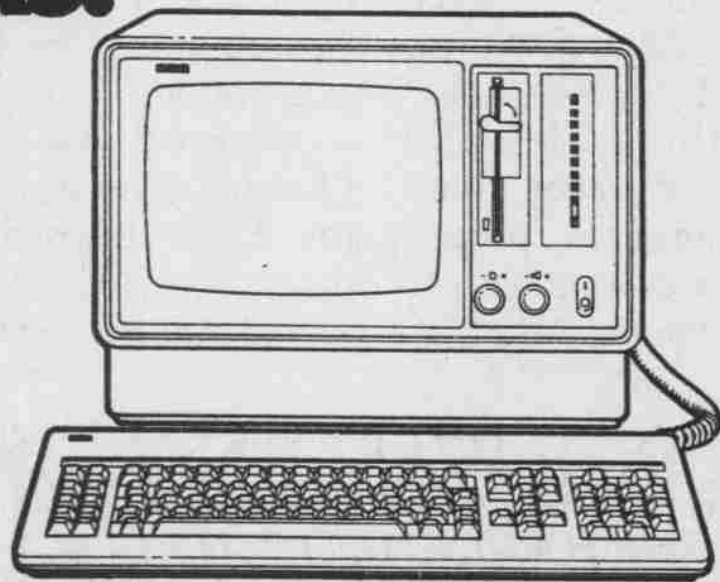
## Items of Interest

Attention Pre-Health Undergrads: Workshops are now offered to improve your interviewing skills. Sign up on bulletin board outside Pre-Dental/Pre-Med Advising Office on the second floor of Steele Building.

UNC-CH Student Extracurricular Organization Applications for Official University Recognition 1986-87 are due Sept. 15 in the basement of Steele Building.



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