### Former ambassador to Iran to speak

William Sullivan, former ambassador to both Iran and the Philippines, will compare the two countries in a speech here tonight.

Sullivan will compare the Philippine situation under Fer-dinand Marcos to the Iranian sutuation under the late Shah. Sullivan has served in gov-

ernment service for 35 years. Besides being ambassador to Iran during the Iranian revolu-tion and ambassador to the Philippines from 1973 to 1976, he has served as ambassador to

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In World War II, Sullivan served as an officer aboard a destroyer in the Pacific and the Mediterranean. After the war he went into

And the war ne went into foreign service in Asia, Europe and the Middle East. In addition, he was a political advisor to Gen. Douglas MacArthur during the Korean

War. The program, sponsored by MSC Political Forum, will be-gin at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

# Blizzard continues northerly trek

**United Press International** A monster blizzard charged northward from Colorado to Minnesota Monday, leaving cities and states buried under snow up to 2 feet deep and drifts as high as 8 feet. Ground travel was practically impossible in seven states.

At least 27 deaths were blamed on the storm, which blocked highways, closed airports and stranded

the Thanksgiving weekend. The brunt of the storm hit Colorado and Kansas before moving north.

It rolled into South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan with foot-deep snows that set records or were expected to do so.

Schools closed and mail delivery ceased in the Minnesota twin travelers by the thousands over cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

State police urged everyone to stay indoors.

"We're advising absolutely no-thing, no place," Minnesota state patrol dispatcher Charles Dreier said. "We are advising absolutely no movement at all

In Sioux Falls, S.D. — its air-port closed and the city all but shut down — the street depart-ment had to use snowplows to fetch essential workers to their jobs

South Dakota roads were dot-ted by abandoned cars and even snowmobiles had tough going. Four-wheel drive vehicles got stuck in Yankton.

In Nebraska, struggling out of up to 2 feet of snow, people took the ordeal in a holiday mood.

'They're selling items ranging from snow shovels to milk to toys; I think people enjoy it," Omaha

grocery store manager Bruce Friedlander said. "People are bringing sleds in and pulling the groceries home on them."

A snow emergency was de-clared in Denver. The city's Stapleton International Airport, the world's sixth busiest, reopened Monday after being closed for 24 hours. The closure was only the second in three decades.

## Foxfire home is energy efficient

### by Karen Hoefle

Battalion Reporter The \$190,000 ranch-style home oks like any other house on the book like any other house on the block in the Foxfire subdivision, but it's not. It's a 2,900 square foot energy-efficient home designed to trim more than 50 percent off heating and cooling costs of a simiar-sized home

The home is the first of its kind in the area. Unlike the average "energy-efficient" home, which uses solar lights and panels to save energy, this home reduces energy costs by what its designer calls innovative techniques.

Tom Brandle, designer of the home, says he has designed 50 similar homes in other states. lowever, this is the first energy efficient home that his company, Energy Homes, Inc., has built in the Bryan-College Station area.

Brandle said he became interested in the energy-efficient homes because he was tired of d out homes were being built.

S excit In the early 1970s, Brandle de-cided to research energy-efficient mes. He took his research from he standpoint that a home had certain areas where it lost and gained energy and that there had to be a way to compensate for that.

> He then looked for ways to cut construction costs so the average person could afford to build an energy-efficient home at a compa-tative price.

> "It cost no more than 2 to 5 percent above a conventionally built home to build a home this way," Brandle said. "And it's very easy after a few short years to show that the house is actually paying for itself by the amount of energy it saves.

> Fred Greer, owner of the home, said the energy-efficient home will save him a substantial amount of money on energy costs.

> "We visited several homes that were built by Brandle in Michigan," Greer said. "One home a little smaller than ours was heated and cooled for 12 months; includng hot water heaters, lights and all appliances for about \$460."

First, the all weather wood foundation of the home features lumber and plywood that is che-mically treated to protect it from rot and insects. The special wood costs more than regular lumber.

"The only way you can build a house out of wood that close to the ground is to have it chemically treated," Greer said. "Therefore, each piece of wood requires a federal stamp on it, consequently costing a little more."

Second, the walls and roof provide twice the insulation of an average home. The walls are framed with two inch by six inch studs allowing for thicker insula-tion. Over this insulation, oneinch sheets of foam insulation board are placed to provide even more insulation.

Brandle also uses an insulated, dry moisture proof area called the "plenum" which uses the constant temperature of the earth's surface to regulate the temperature with-in the home. The plenum is lo-cated below the house in an area in the new processory of the surface similar to a basement. Air is supplied from the plenum into the home through vents cut in the floor.

The plenum works with the use of Brandle's fourth technique, "earth tubes," which are a key factor in minimizing energy costs and making the home comfortable. The 12-inch diameter earth tubes run approximately 90 feet from the plenum to the open air outside of the house.

The tubes are buried about eight feet below the ground. At this depth the soil maintains a con-stant temperature of 65 to 72 de-grees which heats or cools the air on its way to the plenum.

The plenum also is used in con-juction with the home's chimney to save energy. The plenum pro-vides cool air which comes up through the vents in the floor of the home during the summer. As the air becomes warmer in the liv-ing area, it is released through the

In the winter the chimney is closed off and the warm air is

circulated throughout the house.

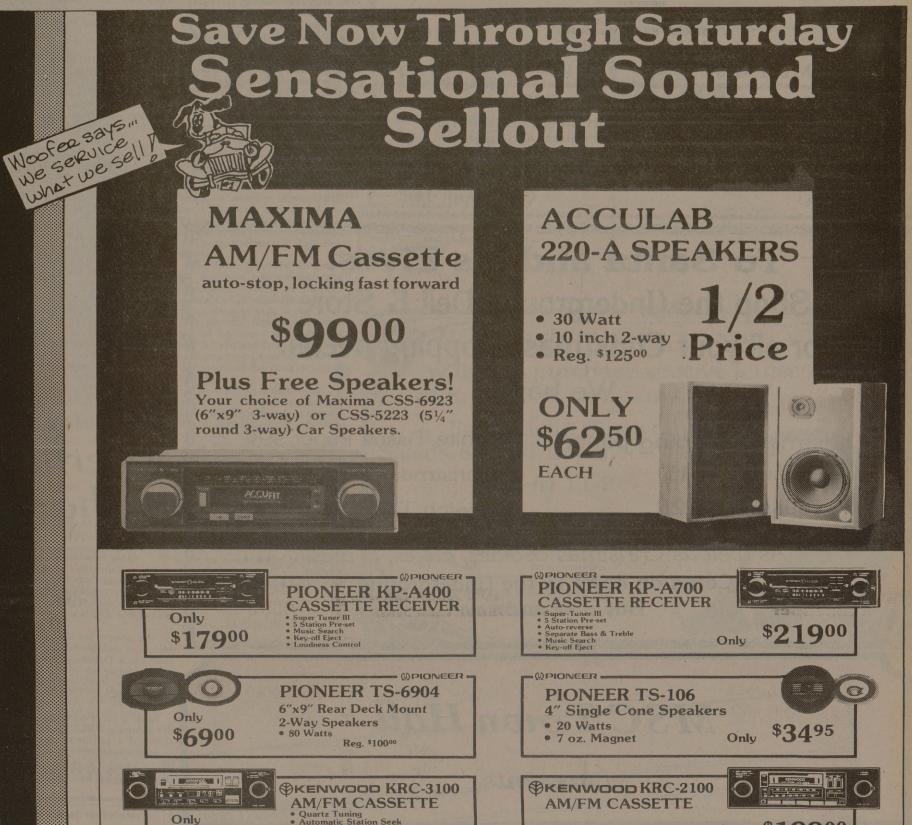
This process creates a natural cy-

cle of traveling air and requires

much less energy to heat or cool

chimney.

the house.



A house that size normally would cost an average of \$150 to \$200 a month, Greer said.

Brandle said the house incorporates five innovative energyaving techniques.

EATING OUT IS FUN

Brandle said the house should be completed by January. He said he plans to build more homes of this type in the area.

Serving Luncheon Buffet Sandwich and Soup Bar Mezzanine Floor Sunday through Friday 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

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ON Room

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