



Brian Bridge took this 10-minute exposure of Omega Centauri with the Anderson telescope. Ektachrome 400 was treated in forming gas.

#### LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

On December 4, 1979, construction began on an observatory of my own design. It has now been operational for almost two years and includes a 14-by-14-foot observing room, a warm room measuring 12 by 14 feet, and a photographic darkroom 10 by 14 feet. During construction, the Ash Manufacturing Co. installed a motorized 12½-foot steel dome. Instrumentation includes a 14-inch Celestron telescope, a 5-inch guide telescope, and an 8-inch Schmidt camera. The mounting is supported by a steel pillar and concrete pier which are not in contact with the building.

The warm room contains a library, desk, couch, filing cabinet, coffee maker, wall



The air-conditioned darkroom of the Dozier observatory has countertops and a sink. It is equipped for both film processing and printing. Here James C. Dozier works at the color enlarger.

clocks, and bulletin board to display our latest astrophotographs. The darkroom is fully equipped for color work and has an electric water heater and a refrigerator.

My wife Suzanne, younger son James, and brother Robert use the facilities, especially for astrophotography. Our results to date have been encouraging, and all of us anticipate many more observations in the years to come.

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#### OSHAWA, ONTARIO

Since my 8-inch Dynamax was keeping me busy and its portability discouraged the idea of a larger telescope, I decided to make my next project an observatory. I chose a building which would be compatible with a larger instrument, should I ever obtain one. After design consideration, an 8-foot dome and matching cylindrical base were chosen because of their maximum protection against stray light and the elements. However, a dome may be inconvenient to the novice astronomer because of the difficulty of recognizing the sky through a narrow slit.

Construction began in July, 1981, and took eight to 10 hours daily for six weeks. My father, also an avid amateur, gave indispensable help with his carpentry knowledge. We were then residing at Shen-

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