

INSTANT GREEN HOUSE



Jacqueline Marque • Daily News staff photos

The garage roof of a new modular home on Champlin Place in Newport is hoisted by a crane Wednesday during construction. Below is a look at the interior of the house, which is expected to sell for about \$840,000.

Modular home expected to gain gold standard of efficiency

By Sean Flynn
Daily News staff

NEWPORT — Mike Hill, president of F.M. Properties, has put up about 50 modular homes in the region, but the one he put up Wednesday at 9 Champlin Place in Newport was a first for him.

He believes it will be the first home in Newport County to achieve the gold certification of the National Home Builders Association Green Building Standard.

The housing market has been slow the past two years, as buyers acquire foreclosed homes at good prices instead of purchasing new ones, Hill said. But he said he believes this home will sell quickly.

"People want energy-effi-



cient homes," he said. "They want the utility savings, but they also want the comfort of the home. They don't want drafty homes."

Six trailer trucks from Westchester Modular Homes Inc., delivered the pre-con-

structed modular sections of the home Tuesday night. By the end of the day on Wednesday, a new Newport Colonial-style home stood on the formerly vacant lot.

"I tried to design it so it looks like it's been here a long

time," Hill said. The home was custom designed using three-dimensional projection equipment that allowed him to "see" and "tour" the home before it was built, he said.

Visitors could walk through the building where the interior walls were finished with drywall and woodwork. The walls and ceiling were primed a matte white, and the electrical wiring and cables were set to be connected to the power grid.

The buyer will be able to choose the combination of hardwood and tile flooring, as well as kitchen countertops and appliances. Some finish carpentry needs to be done inside, but other than that, the interior is complete.