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UFO group will be sighted on CBS

By Wash Gjebre
Post-Gazette Staff Writer

A Greensburg-based clearinghouse for investigating UFO sightings, Bigfoot reports and other unexplained phenomena will be featured in a segment of CBS-TV's "Inside Edition" tomorrow night.

The magazine-format show, which is scheduled to air on KDKA-TV at 11:30 p.m., was filmed last week at the headquarters of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, located in the home of Stan Gordon.

Gordon is founder and director of operations for the volunteer clearinghouse, which investigates reports of UFOs, the ape-like creature Bigfoot, and other unexplained phenomena.

Gordon was interviewed by "Inside Edition" reporter Jeff Cole for a six-minute segment. Also inter-

viewed were John Biondi, a Greensburg psychologist, who is a volunteer consultant for PASU; and Bill Dascani of Latrobe, a former skeptic who claims to have had a dramatic change of mind about UFOs after he spotted one about 50 feet away several years ago.

Also interviewed was Bob France of Vandergrift, who has spent a lot of time exploring the Chestnut Ridge in the eastern section of Westmoreland County in search of Bigfoot.

"France had a close confrontation with Bigfoot in the early 1980s, and he's a definite believer," Gordon said.

The "Inside Edition" crew also spent some time filming around Chestnut Ridge because the area has been the location of a number of unusual sightings, according to

Gordon.

Gordon said the segment on the CBS magazine-format show is the most national exposure his agency has received since he founded it in 1981. CBS is also interested in doing a followup segment and NBC has made inquiries for its "Unsolved Mysteries" series, said Gordon, who has been involved with UFO investigations for 29 years.

Gordon said he's convinced that "there are phenomena that science can't explain."

"We seemed to have a definite increase in UFO [reports] between 1987 and 1988," Gordon said. He said that so far this year there has been a "pretty good," with reports averaging one a day in January and February, most of them from Western Pennsylvania. But this month has been "slow," he said.

Gordon, 39, works in electronics

sales.

Mike Muffoletto, story coordinator for "Inside Edition," said it was his idea to do a segment on Gordon and PASU because of the current heightened awareness of UFOs and Bigfoot, subjects that have captured the nation's interest for many years.

PASU is made up of volunteers in a variety of professional fields, including scientists, engineers, doctors and former military personnel who pool their efforts to study UFO and other reports of the unexplained.

PASU maintains a 24-hour hotline to receive reports about strange sightings. Gordon encourages anyone who has unexplained sightings to call 838-7768 or write to PASU, 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg, Pa. 15601. All calls are confidential, he said.

STAN GORDON via **COUD—I**
PASU