

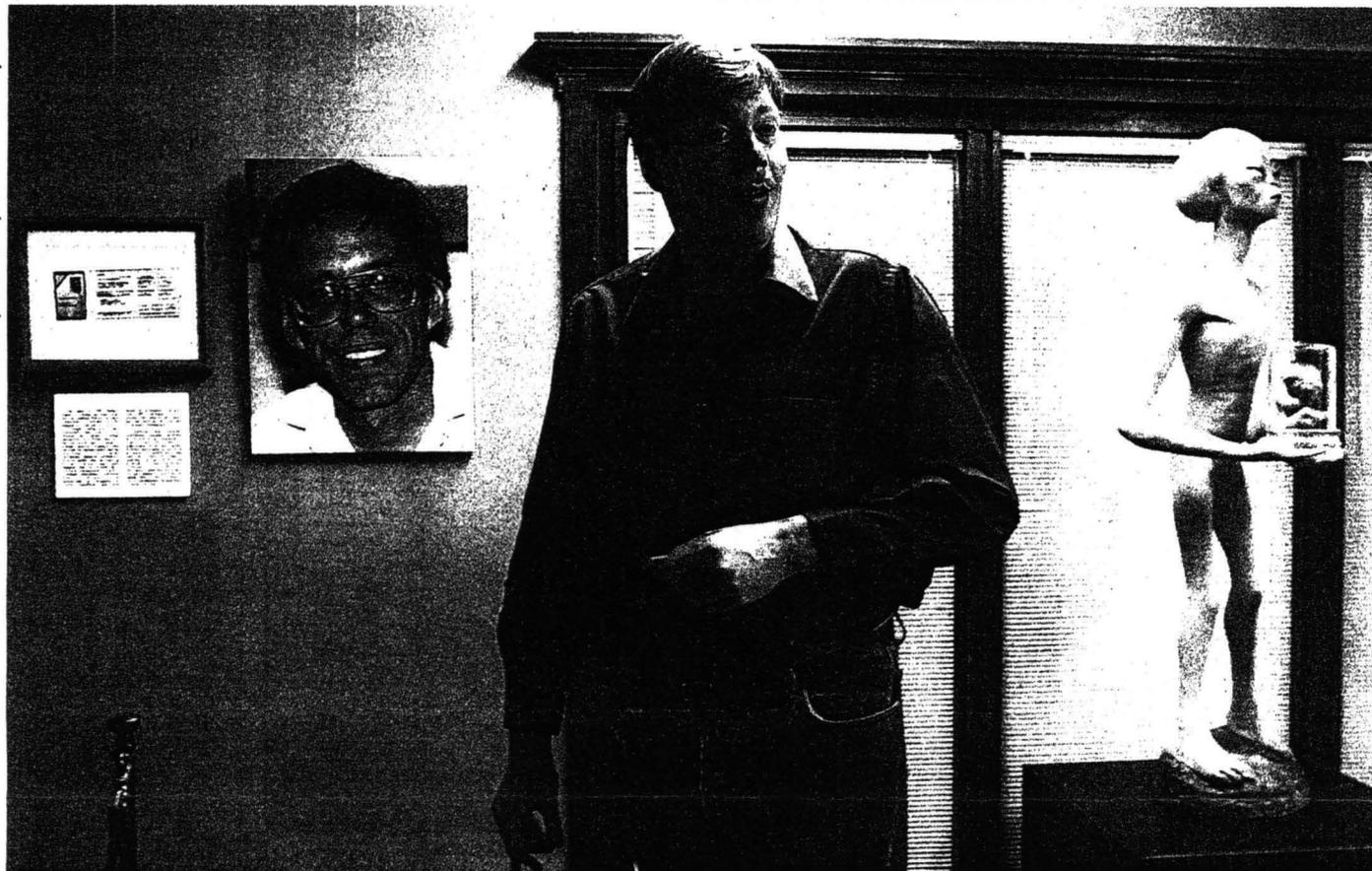
UFO

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TIMES, El Paso, TX - Oct. 18, 2005



Photos by Ruben R. Ramirez / El Paso Times

Marty Martin stands by an alien figure on exhibit at the Art Junction, 500 W. Paisano, where the Roswell Exhibit will be on display through Halloween.



One of the photographs on exhibit at the Art Junction.

ALIENNATION

Exhibit out to show truth about UFOs

By Leonard Martinez
El Paso Times

It's all there in black and white — at least for those who believe in such things.

In the summer of 1947, a UFO allegedly crashed near Roswell.

For those who believe in UFOs, it was the undeniable proof of the existence of Unidentified Flying Objects, which was subsequently covered up by the government.

And for those who don't believe, it was all an elaborate misunderstanding.

El Pasoans can judge for themselves by visiting the Roswell Exhibit, on display through Oct. 31 at the Art Junction,

500 W. Paisano.

"A lot of people ask me 'Do you believe?' and I tell them to look at the faces of the people involved and read their testimony and to make up their own minds," said Albert Acosta of the El Paso Natural History Museum who worked with the UFO museum in Roswell to create the traveling exhibit.

The exhibit features large canvas photographs, sculptures and replica artifacts.

The exhibit shows different items that document when the

crash was called a UFO crash by the government to subsequent claims by the government that it was not a UFO but debris from a weather balloon.

Also included in the exhibit are a cast of the alien prop used in the Showtime movie "Roswell," as well as toys inspired by the UFO phenomenon.

"I think of it as American mythology," said Marty Martin, who is co-director of the El Paso Natural History Museum with Acosta. "It is a popular subject, like paleontology."



A popular alien figurine.

The exhibit has drawn inquiries elsewhere in the country after record-breaking attendance at the Southwest Florida Museum of History in Fort Myers, Fla., where it was previously displayed.

"As a result of the show in Florida, we've been contacted with inquiries about the exhibit possibly being displayed at the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and the Strategic Air and Space Museum for the 60th anniversary of the Roswell crash in 2007," Martin said.

Michael Alford, president of the El Paso Art Association, which is hosting the exhibition, said his organization is happy to have an exhibit that fascinates so many people.

- Make plans**
- ▶ **What:** The Roswell Exhibit.
 - ▶ **When:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 30, and noon to 9 p.m. Oct. 31. Monday through Friday by reservation for school

- groups only.
- ▶ **Where:** Art Junction, 500 W. Paisano.
- ▶ **How much:** \$5 adults; \$4 students, seniors and military.
- ▶ **Information:** 759-8585.

"Either you are sold and believe in UFOs or you don't," Alford said. "There is no gray area. It's unique for us to host it because as artists, we use our imaginations every day. With this exhibit, we ask people to open their minds."

Alford said that with Halloween coming up, it allows the imagination of people to run wild, making visiting the exhibit more fun and exciting. One portion of the exhibit shows how UFOs are neither a recent nor strictly American

phenomenon.

"Here in this painting of the Virgin Mary with child, there is a shepherd and a dog in the background drawing your attention to what the artist really wanted you to see," Martin said, pointing to the oval-shaped flying disc in the sky blown up to a larger size next to the complete replica painting from the Middle Ages.

Liz Gaidry recently visited the exhibit.

"I thought it was very, very interesting, from the newspaper clippings to the radio broadcast," Gaidry said. "Whether there are UFOs or not, it's a great mystery. Some days I think this is probably true. Then

when my logical mind takes over, I think it isn't true. It depends on which day you ask me."

Though Acosta doesn't outright say he believes in UFOs, he said he understands why it might be necessary for those in power to not want us to know that UFOs and aliens exist.

"Can you imagine what would happen to the economy? What would happen to our religious beliefs? What would happen if each of us realized we are a progeny of something else? What would that do to the world?" Acosta asked.

Leonard Martinez may be reached at lmartinez@elpasotimes.com; 546-6152.

Television crew documents alien legend

By KERI PRITCHARD

Activity at the Aurora Cemetery last Thursday went virtually unnoticed. If you drove by, you wouldn't have even known living person was there.

But behind the hill, on the sacred ground where ancestors are buried, there was a group of men and women preserving history.

A crew from Weller/Grossman Productions was conducting interviews about the town's 1897 event that still has people talking.

As legend has it, a foreign craft came sailing through the night sky and exploded when it crashed into Judge J.S. Proctor's windmill April 19, 1897.

Aurora mayor Barbara Brammer and alien expert Hayden Hewes of Oklahoma spent the day chatting with the North Hollywood, Calif., team.

But they weren't the only ones interviewed during the crew's four-day stay at MD Resort in Aurora. Wally Cheriaton, Jackie Stone and Winogene Oates Stone Mayfield also gave their testimonies.

John Greenwald, co-producer with Weller/Grossman Productions has hosted the Web site www.blackvault.com for nine years archiving government documents he obtained through the freedom of information act.

"My passion is the archiving of history so people can do their own research," Greenwald said.

He found that information about UFOs was among the most popular topics being accessed, so he began to pay more attention to them — and Aurora.

His research for the local project also took the crew to Colorado and Kansas where men claim to have pieces of the Aurora wreckage.

"I don't know if it's true or not. I've always said it was a legend," Brammer said.

Hewes said what makes Aurora different from any other alien crash is that the alien's body is supposedly buried there.

Even 108 years after the alleged event, the lore of Aurora and its space man live on.

Supposedly, large parts of the craft were taken away and smaller parts were thrown down the well on the property now owned by Jackie Stone. The parts of the alien that were recovered were given a "proper Christian burial" in the town cemetery.

Greenwald said the goal of the hour-long documentary is to "explore everything that's out there to give each side its air time."

They'll include taped interviews of locals and experts as well as information they obtained from Rosalie Gregg at the Wise County Historical Museum in Decatur.

"I wanted to give Aurora's legend its air time. It's a good story whether it's true or not," Greenwald said.

The program will be shown on the History Channel as soon as December.



Messenger photos by Joe Duty

DOCUMENTING A LEGEND — A television crew from California came to Aurora Thursday to document the town's alien legend. Above, Hayden Hewes is interviewed about the legend of the Aurora alien crash in 1897.

(continued on page 3)



Hewes talks to Aurora mayor Barbara Brammer outside the Aurora Cemetery.

Mysterious trio of red lights reappears in south suburban sky

SUN-TIMES, Chicago, IL - Oct. 2, 2005 CR: CUFOS

BY LAUREN FITZPATRICK

They're baack!
Those peculiar pulsing red lights reappeared in south suburban

skies early Saturday, causing many a neck to crane upward and many a late-night police switchboard to light up with calls.
A trio of steady red-colored lights

seemed to swim across the western night sky starting around 11 p.m. Friday and reappearing after mid-night. The three globes at times took a triangular shape but then

seemed to form a line, much like similar sightings late last summer and on Halloween, witnesses said. The lights weren't weather-related, a spokesman for the National

Weather Service said. Had the luminous phenomenon been meteorological, weather service satellites would pick up something, he said.
Daily Southtown

CHRONICLE, San Francisco, CA - Oct. 27, 2005 CR: M. Baxter

Strange lights reported all across state

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Residents across California and people as far east as Las Vegas reported seeing strange lights in the sky late Wednesday, according to Vandenberg Air Force Base on the central coast.

Base command staff at Vandenberg, Travis and Edwards Air Force Bases said there were no military aircraft in the sky that

would have caused the lights. The Air Force bases also said there were no test missile launches Wednesday. Such tests have, in the past, resulted in light patterns that can be seen across the California coast.

The bases did not send aircraft to check on the reports of lights.

The Federal Aviation Administration's West Coast office had

no reports of the lights and no aircraft were unaccounted for.

San Francisco resident Tim Sinclair said the lights appeared to be near the cross at the top of Mount Davidson Park. Sinclair, who lives near the park, described them as a series of solid lights that appeared to be hovering. When viewed through binoculars, the lights appeared to vibrate, he said.

SPELLBOUND BY SKY LIGHTS

Bright twinklers were nearby Mars and Venus, say astronomers — or were they?

By David Perlman

CHRONICLE SCIENCE EDITOR

Mysterious, bright lights in the night sky Wednesday that alarmed or bemused scores of Bay Area residents were not mysterious at all but most likely a pair of planets whose orbits around the sun are carrying them close to Earth right now.

Others are not so sure.

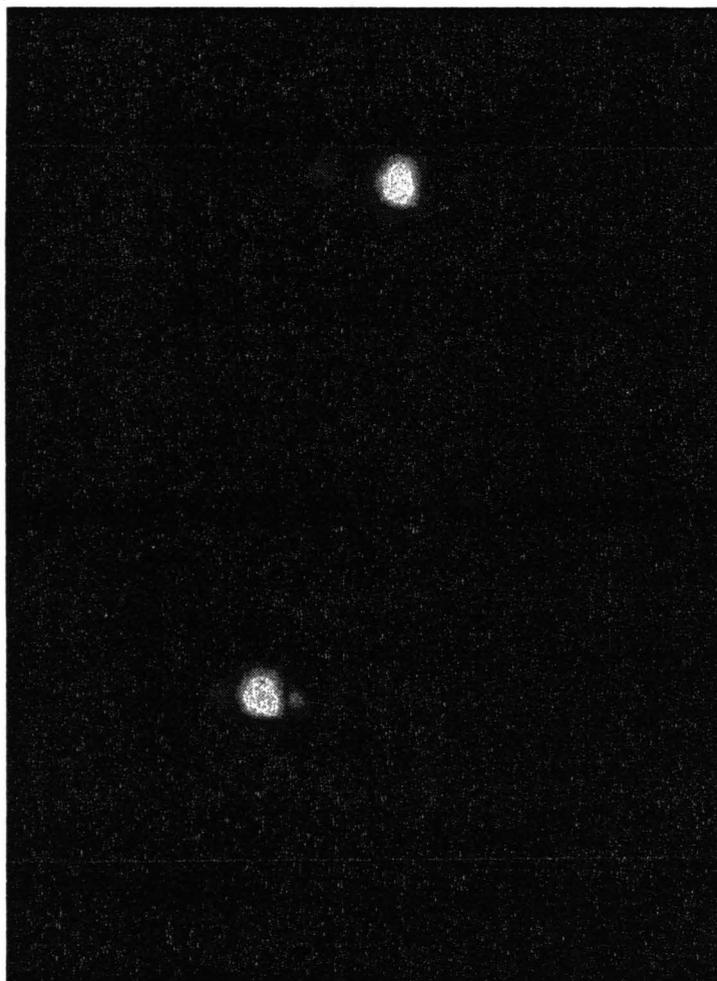
Andrew Fraknoi, chairman of the astronomy department at Foothill College, said the lights were probably Mars and Venus, two planets that currently appear close together and will probably remain brilliant for another week or two until their orbits begin moving them away from Earth again.

If they seem to take on unusual colors, twinkle or even move, Fraknoi said, it's because of an optical illusion caused by Earth's somewhat dense, moisture-laden lower atmosphere. Clouds scudding by also may obscure them briefly before they reappear, he said.

Residents across California and people as far east as Las Vegas reported seeing the lights in the sky late Wednesday. Those who called space officials at Vandenberg Air Force Base on the Central Coast and the Federal Aviation Administration drew the usual response Thursday: No, there were no missile launches, no wandering airplane pilots had failed to file flight plans, no military jets were aloft, and no one was suggesting UFOs.

No one except astronomers could offer an explanation.

Chronicle photographer Lance Iversen caught images of the peculiar lights in his camera around midnight Wednesday, looking east from Twin Peaks. Mars and



LANCE IVERSEN / The Chronicle

Mystifying lights appear to hover over San Francisco Bay north of the San Francisco International Airport. The photographer reports that the lights seemed to mimic each other's movements.

Venus would have been visible in the eastern skies at that time.

Iversen said that at one point he saw four distinctly separate lights, but then saw only two that seemed to move in unison.

"They were just lights moving in the sky," he said. "They might

have been helicopters, although I couldn't see any fuselages, but the lights were moving far enough and fast enough so they couldn't have been planets — and I know planets when I see them."

But Fraknoi said Venus and Mars remain the best explanation

for the lights.

In their orbits around the sun, all planets move at different speeds, just as the Earth does, and periodically their varied speeds cause them to catch up and overtake the Earth's orbital flight and bring them closer to our home planet.

In fact, the Red Planet will be exactly 43.1 million miles from Earth at 8:25 p.m. Saturday, and its orbit won't bring it that close to Earth again until the summer of 2018, according to astronomical calculations.

Venus, which orbits the sun inside Earth's orbital path, is now about 106 million miles away — no record, but close enough to appear much brighter than usual.

According to Fraknoi, Mars now far outshines even the brightest of all the stars in the sky, and when skies are clear, the fourth planet from the sun could look even bigger than normal. Its brilliance should be apparent above the eastern horizon soon after sunset, but will appear even brighter as it climbs higher in the sky during the night.

On the night of Nov. 7, Mars will be directly opposite the sun in relation to Earth — a position astronomers call opposition, which means it will rise above the eastern horizon just at sunset, climb higher and higher, and remain in the sky all night until it sets at sunrise.

The Martian orbit last caught up with Earth's in August 2003, and on that occasion it was even closer — about 36 million miles away. It won't come any closer than that for another 60,000 years, NASA astronomers have calculated.

E-mail David Perlman at dperlman@schronicle.com.

INDEPENDENT, Gallup, NM - Sept. 26, 2005

UFO sighted in Illinois

Observer says lights were 'exactly' like pictures on The Independent's Web site

By Darrel Beehner
Staff Writer

GALLUP — So you haven't been hearing of UFO sightings in the Crownpoint and Standing Rock area lately, huh?

Perhaps that's because the pilots of the other-worldly craft have moved on to greener pastures — such as those surrounding Springfield, Ill.

It was there that Tim McLain, a long-time banker, along with his 10-year-old daughter, reportedly saw "bizarre lights" in the nighttime sky recently. The father/daughter duo saw the lights four different times on their drive home.

"I thought maybe I was losing my mind," McLain said in a phone conversation with The Independent. The encounter so unnerved him that he immediately went on the Internet and did a search of sightings.

It was that search that led him to call The Independent, whose Web site contained stories of the recent local sightings as well as a photo taken by area residents that showed lights "exactly" like those seen by McLain and his daughter.

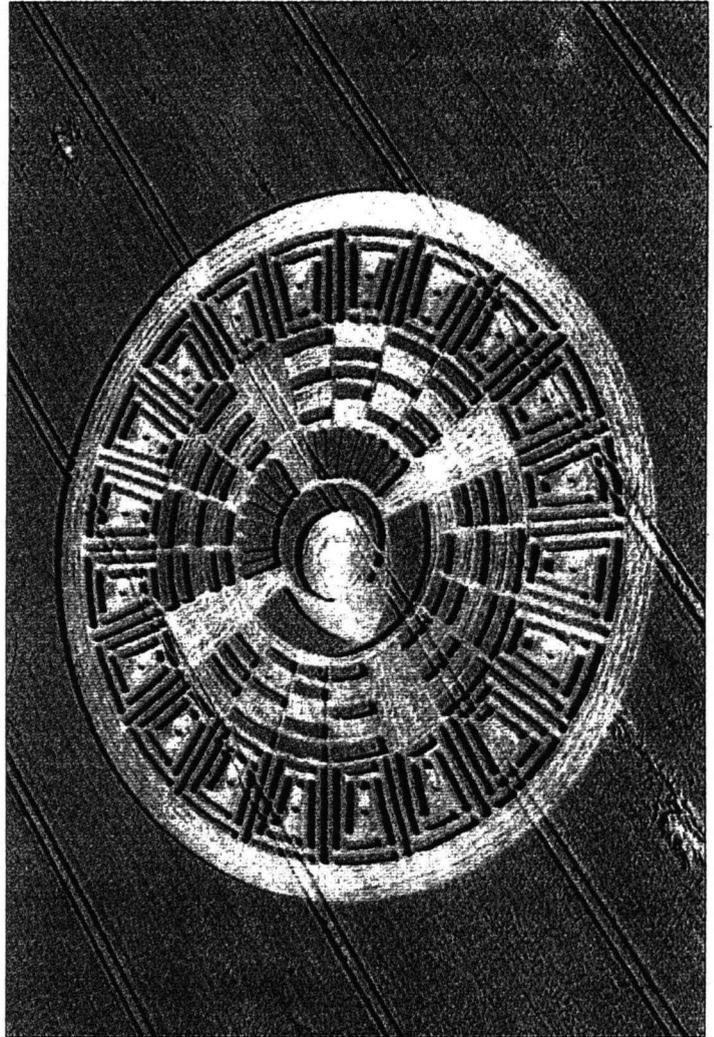
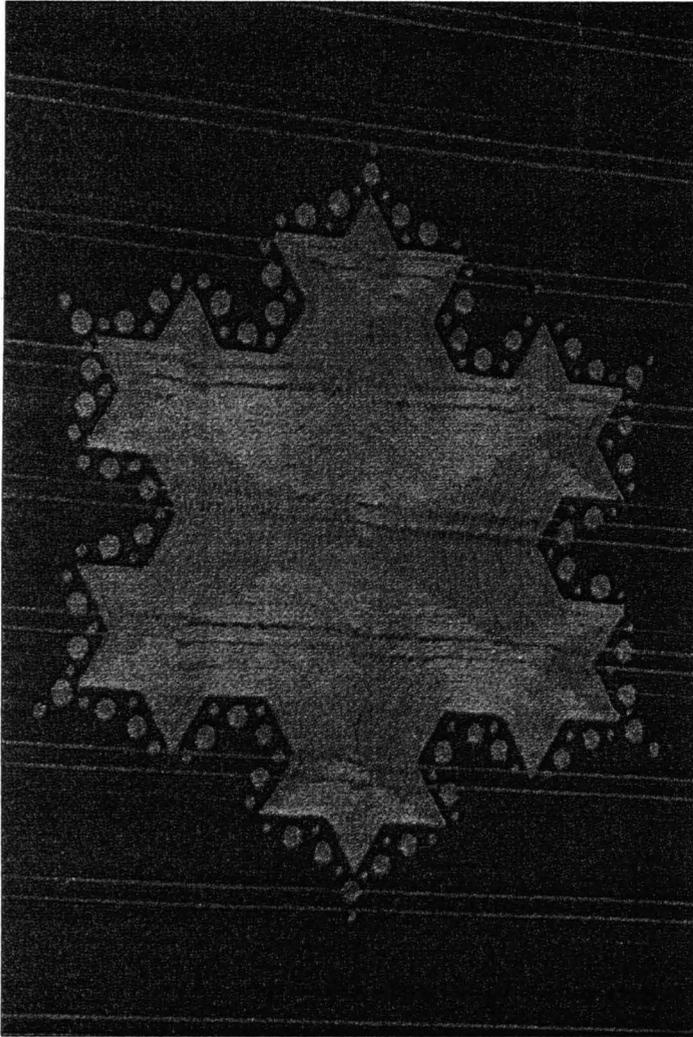
"They were huge orangy-red looking lights ... they were just hanging there. There was no movement," McLain said as he tried to compose himself.

"I'm not trying to be freaky," he continued after drawing a deep breath. "It was a triangle-looking setup. It was like looking at a building from a corner perspective, but it's farmland," he said. "There was movement within the lights. ... It's hard to explain."

McLain said he contacted law enforcement agencies, airports and military bases in the Springfield area, but no one else had reported seeing the lights, which at times seemed to vanish and reappear in other parts of the sky.

"You watch these TV shows (about sightings) and you don't know what their (those reporting the sightings) motives are.

"I just know what I saw. It was totally unexplainable."



The crop circle of "Koch snowflake" formation (left) in wheat was found at Silbury Hill, near Avebury, Wiltshire, England, in 1997. The Mayan symbol (right) was photographed at Wayland Smithy, Oxfordshire, England, in wheat in August. Photos courtesy of Glenn and Cameron Broughton

CIRCULAR REASONING

Hoax or mystery, crop circles draw Starksboro couple

By Susan Green
Free Press Correspondent

A bit like those intrepid investigators on "The X-Files," Cameron and Glenn Broughton spend every summer chasing the paranormal in England's lush landscape of farms.

The Starksboro residents are particularly interested in crop circles, geometric shapes that annually appear in agricultural fields, perhaps dating back to the 1600s. Although these enormous and often intricate designs can be found in many parts of the world, for some reason the United Kingdom invariably claims the greatest number — this year, 71 of them have been reported there to date.

Crop-circle proliferation during the 2005 growing season meant a hectic schedule for Vermont's version of Scully and Mulder. "We're ready to roll if one shows up overnight," explains Glenn Broughton. "We know by at least 9 the next morning because there's a good networking system that sometimes includes the local police."

The Broughtons operate Sacred Britain, a research group that sponsors tours of relevant sites throughout the country. But this weekend, they're bringing it all back home for the fourth annual East Coast Crop Circle Conference on the campus of Goddard College in Plainfield.

The three-day event will feature nine people known as cereologists — for Ceres, the Roman goddess of agriculture — or the more informal "croppies." They'll discuss the history, analyze the facts and examine the spiritual potential of crop formations.



Cameron and Glenn Broughton of Starksboro met during a tour of sacred sites in England in 1996. They study and document crop circle formations in England.

One of the experts at the gathering will be Andy Thomas, a noted Lewes author who has studied several hundred circles during the last 15 years with a team called Southern Circular Research. "We visit and survey all the crop circles, which arrive in our corner of England," he writes in an e-mail.

Conference participants also will have a chance to meet Lucy Pringle, a British photographer who shoots crop circles from an ultra-light plane. Her latest batch depicts an array of stunning images: One seems to be a known Mayan pictogram, according to Cameron Broughton. A rather three-dimensional motif looks something like a throw pillow. Yet another offers a space-age shape, reminiscent of the old Sputnik capsule.

Mysteries to solve

Croppies wonder if these amazing formations — caused by a tamping down of wheat, barley, oat or other grains that doesn't break the stalks — are the work of somebody or some-

More information

- Cameron and Glenn Broughton: www.sacredbritain.com
- Andy Thomas, Southern Circular Research: www.swirlednews.com
- Debunkers: www.debunkers.com
- Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranorma: www.csicop.org

thing: Extraterrestrials? Collective human consciousness? A vortex of wind? Mischievous spirits?

"There are lots of theories about how they occur, but what's incontrovertible is where," says Glenn Broughton. "About 90 percent of them are over aquifers. And this underground water is under 40 percent of England ... The land holds powerful energies."

Legend has it that, in 17th-century England, superstitious Litchfield residents worried that a circle in their midst had been crafted by "the mowing devil." Some contemporary debunkers challenge such stories and insist crop formations are a much more recent phenomenon. "It's only been the last 20 years or so," contends Benjamin Radford, managing editor of the Buffalo-based Skeptical Inquirer magazine. "And we know for a fact that hoaxers make some of the crop circles. Even the most ardent believers concede that."

Glenn Broughton does. "Crop circle people often debate the authenticity of formations," he says, enumerating the possible explanations beyond human pranks: "ETs or spiritual entities trying to communicate with us; a wake-up call from the planet; Gaia,

the consciousness of the Earth."

Thomas points to evidence of biological anomalies in the rearranged crops and "strange lights coming down into the fields where circles are subsequently found."

Croppies might be messing with the primal forces of nature, but Broughton says that they're just plain folks. "I have a very respectable background. I grew up in Nottingham — Robin Hood country — and taught economics and sociology at high school level."

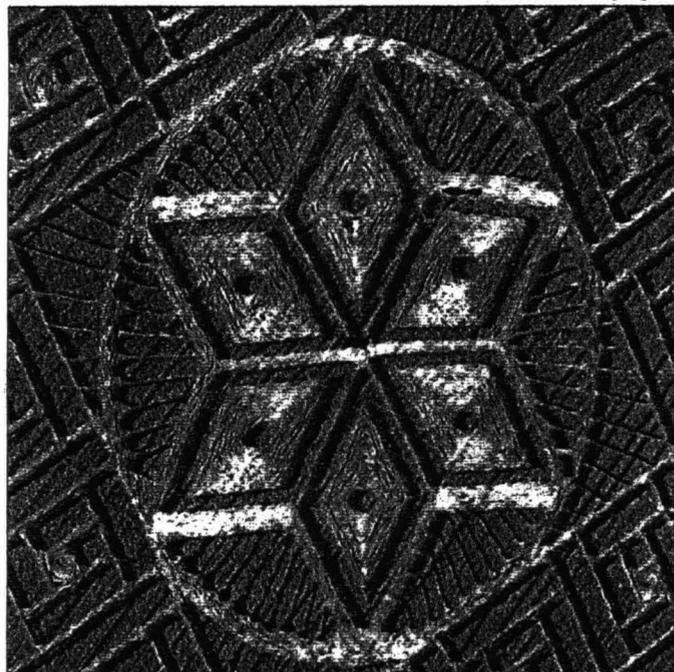
Then, one day in 1991, he saw the photo of a crop circle. "It was so remarkable and had such an impact on me that I decided I must find out more about these things," recalls Broughton, who discovered that they frequently pop up near "sacred sites" such as Stonehenge. He quit his job, began working at a holistic health center, and devoted himself to pursuits such as cereology.

In 1996, Broughton was serving as the guide on a tour of sacred sites in Wiltshire and Somerset. That's how he met his future wife, Cameron, a massage therapist from Massachusetts who had joined a group of colleagues exploring the unknown. A year later, she witnessed her first crop circle, a snowflake pattern that was about 300 feet in diameter, in a Silbury wheat field.

"I was enthralled," Cameron Broughton says. "I love mysteries." In 2000 the couple settled in Vermont, where Cameron has family ties. She now works as a massage therapist at the Center for Chiropractics in South Burlington.

"I saw the big rolls of hay in the fields here, and it felt

(continued on page 6)



This detail of larger crop circle was photographed near Uffington White Horse, Oxfordshire, England, in August.

If you go

■ **WHAT:** The fourth annual East Coast Crop Circle Conference
■ **WHEN:** Friday-Sunday
■ **WHERE:** Goddard College, Plainfield
■ **CONTACT:** 425-5616 or enquiries@sacredbritain.com

like England," recalls Glenn Broughton, who restores and sells antique furniture.

For three months each year, the Broughtons heed the call of the wild croppies by leading tours in his homeland. "When we get word of a new circle, first we go physically into them," he says. "On our tours, sometimes we book helicopters."

Cereologists at the conference discuss the symbolism of crop circles. "They were once just simple rings but have become more and more complicated over the last two decades," Glenn Broughton says. "Now we've got these incredible mandalas."

Benjamin Radford, whose magazine is published by the Committee of Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, suspects the increasing complexity of crop circles is merely due to "hoaxers one-upping each other."

Although still uncertain about who's fashioning them, Glenn Broughton thinks an experience during a 1997 tour might offer some clues: "We conducted an experiment in a field where many crop formations usually appeared but none that year. We meditated, inviting the circle-makers to join with us to create one."

Voilà! He says their wish had come true the next morning. "That led us to believe this is an interactive process," Broughton surmises.

Andy Thomas shares that notion. In 1995 his team "tried to influence the creation of a certain crop pattern using the power of our minds," he writes. "We gathered on a hillside (an old ancient site) in Sussex and focused our thoughts on a particular shape we had chosen."

That night, the same configuration emerged in a nearby field. "No one outside our group knew what we had chosen," Thomas points out. "So there was no question of trickery going on."

Trickery, however, is a perennial problem. A few years ago, Radford and his colleagues spent two hours making a 110-by-80-foot crop circle in upstate New York to prove how easily it can be accomplished.

"I think croppies are sincere," he says. "They just don't approach this scientifically. I'm not out to debunk myths, but to legitimately find out what's going on. If they should ever prove to be real, I want to be the first one there."

When that day comes, Radford had better be an early riser to beat the rapid-response Broughtons.

Trying to explain the 'unexplained'



northern sky. The odd shape and the speed it seemed to approach kept his attention and he strained his eyes trying to get a closer look.

The article said that when Martin first noticed the object it looked about the size of an orange and continued to grow in size as he kept his eyes on it. He watched it for so long that he became blinded and had to look away to rest his eyes. When he looked back it was almost overhead, he said, and its size had really grown as it raced through space at a high rate of speed.

When the object was directly over him it was about the size of a large saucer and he said it was at a great height.

Martin said he thought it resembled a balloon and said it disappeared in the southern sky as quickly as it had appeared.

A balloon is how similar objects have been identified by the government, usually a weather balloon. But in 1878? I doubt it. This could have been the first printed report of a UFO under the simple headline "A Strange Phenomenon."

The newspaper editorialized saying "Mr. Martin is a gentleman of undoubted veracity and this strange occurrence, if it was not a balloon, deserved the attention of our scientists."

Bonham in Fannin County had a sighting even before the 1878 one in Denison. According to an Internet timetable of "unexplained," in 1873 a huge cigar-shaped object swooped low over the town of Bonham on two occasions and in broad daylight, then disappeared quickly to the east.

A Bonham farmer in June of that year said he looked up from his work and was astonished by what appeared to be an enormous flying snake, banded with brilliant yellow swipes, writhing and twisting in the sky above him. Could this have been that "huge cigar shape that someone saw scooping over the town?"

Another Internet article titled "Serpents in the Sky," goes

Yesterday

Donna Hunt



into greater detail about the "sighting." It related that it was in broad daylight when the fast moving object appeared in the sky southwest of town. The people of Bonham first stared at it, not believing their eyes. They possibly had seen drifting balloons previously, but this was so large and traveling so fast that it was almost a blur, according to the article.

Farmers were said to have dived under their wagons and townspeople ran inside. Only a few of the braver stood their ground and watched. It circled Bonham twice, then vanished. Its description varied by whom you talked to. Some said it was round, and others said oval to cigar-shaped.

Twenty-four hours after the sighting, a device of the same description was sighted over Fort Scott, KS.

Even closer to home is a story of a UFO being sighted on long range radar at Perrin Field in 1953. A Radar Technician at Perrin, Chandler Yergin, said he was performing routine maintenance on a Plan Position Indicator when he saw a huge blip in the New York area.

He and an officer, who was the operator, watched as the Blip split into nine smaller ones, flying in formation. Radio contact told Denver and Salt Lake bases of the sighting and they confirmed it. Perrin, according to Yergin's report, was a long-range early warning base. F-86 Fighters from Perrin and others from Denver and Salt Lake were ordered to intercept and destroy. They were staggered at altitudes of 500 feet, to try to get a signal sighting.

The formation seemed to be heading toward Dallas. Yergin said they watched as the fight-

ers headed toward the objects that had crossed the border of Oklahoma into Texas. When the fighters got to about 20 miles from the object, it stopped, made a right turn and took off toward the Northwest at speeds calculated at about 8,000 mph. (That's correct, the article said 8,000 mph).

Yergin said there were eight officer radar operators and three radar techs in his hut during the episode and within 10 minutes of the last sighting a group of about eight men in civilian suits and 14 uniformed armed guards came into the hut, separated the group and took them at gunpoint to a hangar on the back side of the field.

He said they were interrogated for about four hours, during which they had to draw diagrams of what they saw and write a narrative of everything that took place. He said the "fear of God" was put into them to NEVER talk about it to anyone. In fact, he said they had to sign a document that threatened them with a \$10,000 fine

and 10 years in prison for violating the Official Secrets Act.

Yergin said the objects, whatever they were, violated the laws of physics and he doubted that they were from this earth.

Yergin would be in his '70s or '80s now and has spoken in defiance of the document he signed. It's not known if he is still living.

There have been other accounts of sightings in this area, one as recent as 1981 when at least seven persons reported seeing a UFO. One Denison man even drew a sketch of the object he said he saw with lighted porthole with fire streaming in sparks from the rear and green and yellow pulsating lights.

Skeptic or believer, you have to wonder what all these people saw and if they were indeed flying saucers or some other objects from outer space.

Donna Hunt is former editor of *The Denison Herald*. She lives in Denison and can be contacted at dhunlimited@texoma.net.

Information Center

IN YEARS PAST

• In 1955, "Flying saucers" appeared in the skies over Chautauqua County this morning, and *The Post-Journal* as well as the Sheriff's Department in Mayville received a number of telephone reports of the "shining, disc-shaped" object. The calls prompted two *Post-Journal* newsmen to scan the skies with binoculars to locate the mysterious object in the southern skies. A quarter-hour of looking finally produced a weather balloon, shining brightly in the sun, which appeared to "hover" in the sky directly south of Jamestown.



It's a fake

By Tom Barton

TREVOR - The rest of the field remains undisturbed, but at the top of a rise about halfway into the field the wheat stalks have been bent horizontal in an elaborate and delicate counterclockwise, swirled pattern. There are no signs that the grain has been stripped, there's no damage to the stalks and there are no tracks leading to the pattern.

So what could have used such force to push the stalks over in such a delicate and elaborate manner? Was this a man-made design? Or is this crop circle part of some extraterrestrial activity here in Wisconsin? These are the questions Jeff Wilson and his four-man team of investigators drove from Ohio to answer, and which he's spent the last 10 years researching.

One in five crop circles are hoaxes, said Wilson, director of the Independent Crop Circle Researcher's Association.

Unfortunately, he and the other ICCRA researchers just spent the last nine hours on a hoax.

They began the day taking aerial photos and making visual observations of the crop formation from 2,000 feet up in a small plane.

"From the air it looks pretty bad; it looked pretty rough," Wilson said. "It showed indications of crop circles we've seen in the past which were man-made."

While the aerial observation was doubtful, the team remained optimistic.

"But that's just an observation from 2,000 feet up. I've been in some that looked bad, but turned out to be genuine," said Roger Sugden, ICCRA investigator and professional aerial photographer from Fort Wayne, Ind. There were, however, clear indications that the circle was man-made.

Instead of falling or flowing around standing objects, such as rocks, all the stalks pointed to or lay over the objects.

"You got a serrated edge here, Roger," Wilson yelled to Sugden as he moved on to the outside of the circle. "As you push stuff down with a board, the wheat goes flat in one direction, so when you try to make a turn, you end up with an edge that's saw-toothed or serrated," Wilson said as he and Sugden continued to walk around the circle. "But, this is all preliminary, we really can't make a determination until we take some measurements." The team used a gamma scout Geiger counter to measure background radiation levels around the field and in the crop circle, as well as electromagnetic and broadband field detectors to monitor the levels of electromagnetic, microwave and radio emissions.

"You need to measure the energy around the field. There's energy that takes it down. There are readings that these crop circles produce and you need to measure that," said Dr. Chuck Uitzau, ICCRA investigator and a teacher in the Detroit public school system.

It wouldn't take a lot of measurements, though, to tip the team off that the crop circle was a not left by extraterrestrials.

"I found a pole hole," ICCRA investigator Delsey Knocheiman yelled from the middle of the circle.

"They used string," she said pointing out to Wilson the measurements and patterns used to make the formation from the pole.

Other pole holes were found and the team noticed foot-size paths of bent wheat where they determined some persons had repositioned themselves in order to create the almost 113-foot circle, and its 58- and 52-foot inner circles.

While the finding was disappointing, Wilson said the investigation was worth it.

"That's part of the chances we have to go through. We do this all of our pockets. But if we didn't come out here and make an evaluation, how would we know?," he said.

For Mary Sutherland, an investigator with Burlington UFO and Paranormal, who learned of the circle earlier this week in an e-mail and called Wilson and his team to investigate, the victory is in having busted the hoaxsters. "We are professionals. Our purpose is to provide the truth to the people," she said. "I'd love to see it as a real one, but a hoax is a hoax. We do this because there are ones out there that aren't a hoax. This is why you have professionals come in and do this, so they don't pull a fast one on us."

Wilson said today's investigation, and other like it, will hopefully deter future hoaxsters.

"It's a learning experience for us. This allows us to compare against ones that aren't a hoax. It helps us educate people on what a hoax looks like," he said. "Once we have a pattern we are able to see and measure, perhaps the amount of hoaxing will decrease. What's the point when you know people can tell the difference?"

Skepticism aside, Wilson and Sutherland said they believe crop circles are marks left by extraterrestrials.

"Everyone has an opinion, but we have hard evidence to back up our opinion," Wilson said. "Everyone else just has an opinion and there's a difference."

UFOs have a flare about them

Witnesses postulate a new theory about those mysterious red lights

By Lauren FitzPatrick
Staff writer

Unidentified flying red objects spotted recently over Tinley Park and Orland Park have stirred up UFO-investigating communities everywhere.

National UFO Web sites are all over the red beauties. The latest news cited on the home page of the Seattle-based National UFO Reporting Center reads, "Late Friday night, Sept. 30, 2005, our offices began receiving reports of several peculiar red lights, seen in the night sky above Tinley Park and Orland, Ill."

Those peculiar pulses of red

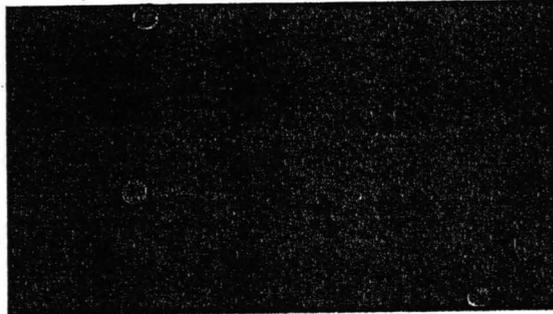


Photo courtesy of Bill Dooley

Did these flying objects come from outer space or Wal-Mart?

light floated over Southland skies last weekend, about 11:15 Friday night and again at 1 a.m. Saturday, eerily similar to ones that showed up last year on mild weekend nights in August and

October. Hundreds of Southlanders saw the lights last weekend, too — and found them just as puzzling as their predecessors.

But a small circle of friends in Tinley Park believes it has debunked the mystery of the glowing red floaters.

Dave Palagi was sitting with his wife around a fire in their friends' back yard Sept. 30, enjoying a lovely, clear night when they all saw the oddity explained.

"We could clearly see the red lights themselves were flares, and each was suspended by two balloons," he said.

"An occasional ash could be seen dropping. Another member of the party then saw a third balloon, farther to the north and much higher. We were watching them actually rising — lazily drifting along and going up."

Palagi figured the balloons were launched around 175th Street and 84th Avenue, not far from Wally and Maureen Bekta's home in the 8200 block of Queen Victoria Lane where the group sat.

Maureen Bekta also saw lights and the "balloon-type thing on top of the two that were lower and closer.

"It was low enough that we felt like it was a prank," she said. The balloons themselves were dark-colored — "you could just see the outline."

"Aha!" Palagi said, "This is how they did it. It was just such a revelation after seeing these things last year."

The naysayers

It's been anyone's guess what the lights are, since everyone seems to know what they're not.

A Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman said she checked into the lights last year, too. If they weren't planes or helicopters, the FAA wouldn't track them.

"We don't track lights," Elizabeth Isham Cory said.

Tinley Park police, who received some calls last weekend, denied reports of flares.

"From all the reports we've ever received, they're not flares with some helium balloons or anything like this," Tinley Park police Cmdr. Tom Boling said.

Boling said his department would not investigate the lights

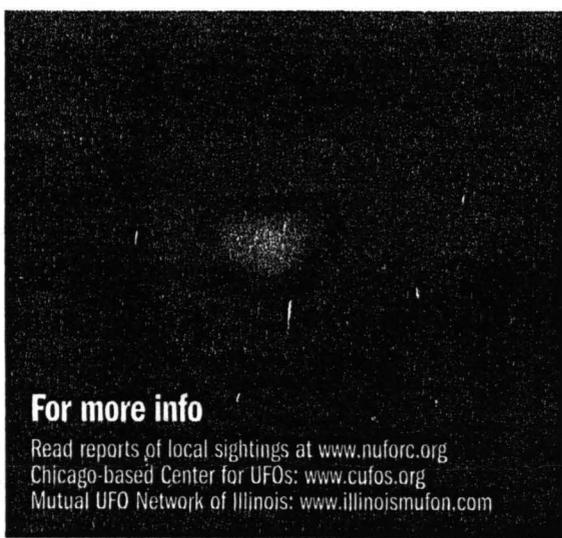


Photo courtesy Bill Dooley

For more info

Read reports of local sightings at www.nuforc.org
Chicago-based Center for UFOs: www.cufos.org
Mutual UFO Network of Illinois: www.illinoisufonetwork.org

unless "there's some reckless conduct that would endanger someone."

"We just don't know what's causing these red lights to appear in the sky," he said.

The National Weather Service also was stumped.

But an astronomer at Chicago's Adler Planetarium, who concluded the lights weren't meteors or comets or satellites, said they did appear to be man-made.

Dr. Mark Hammergren watched several tapes of last year's lights at the request of a local Mutual UFO Network chapter.

"One thing that makes me very suspicious is that these sightings all have occurred on weekends — (that) suggests that there's some human activity connected with it," he said. "I would love to believe this, but I'm not going to base my career and spend my time on something that's cooked up by some hoaxers."

There exists a "standard" UFO hoax that uses a candle and a plastic dry cleaning bag to fashion a sort of glowing hot air balloon, but these lights are too brilliantly red to be ordinary flames, Hammergren said.

He likes the road flare theory.

Flying flares

Automotive flares typically

are red and burn brightly enough to be clearly visible from great distances, easily a quarter of a mile and up, said Bob Defonte of Orion Safety products, the largest of a handful of domestic flare manufacturing companies.

And they can burn 15, 20 — even up to 30 minutes, he said. They're inexpensive and readily available, too. Wal-Mart sells a pack of three 15-minute flares for less than \$5, Defonte said. While half-hour burners are slightly harder for the civilian customer to find — they're commonly used by state troopers and railroad workers, he said.

Getting ahold of flares is the easy part, Defonte said. Launching them into the sky would be harder, considering a 30-minute flare measures 16 inches in length and weighs just less than a pound.

It would take two helium balloons about 2 or 3 feet in diameter to lift that kind of weight, said Marshall Brain, a man of science and the founder of HowStuffWorks.com.

"It strikes me as possible, but profoundly dangerous," Brain said. The thing is, he said, flares are really hot and don't stop until they burn out on their own.

Someone connecting burning flares to a balloon-type propeller would have to consider heat, and neither Palagi nor Bekta could tell what linked the

light to its source.

UFO fans hang on

UFO investigators said they're not ready to call these sightings a hoax — not yet, anyway.

Peter B. Davenport, the National UFO Reporting Center's founder, said balloons couldn't account for the complex paths the lights followed across the sky.

"(They) were actually maneuvering in a seemingly complex fashion," Davenport said. "How would a person arrange to have that happen, I wonder?"

And what about the danger? "How many people do you know who would be willing to launch high-temperature flares over a populated area?" Davenport wondered. "What happens if a flare cuts its tether and falls onto the local petroleum refinery, chemical plant, filling station, paint warehouse, school auditorium roof, etc.?"

And Chicago-based UFO investigator Dr. Mark Rodeghier said he needs more information to make any kind of judgment.

"I'm certainly open to the idea that the cause of these sightings is man-made, not alien, but I'm not convinced I've heard any theory that makes any sense," he said. "Something has to be flying or holding the lights in a huge formation well over 1,000 feet across."

Proper investigations would require going up in a helicopter the next time the lights appear, shining a powerful spotlight onto them from the ground or viewing them with a powerful telescope that also would record what it took in, he said.

But his Center for UFO Studies lacks those kinds of resources and must rely on eyewitness videotapes and interviews.

So he will join others like Hammergren who continue to watch the skies and analyze what they see, hoping for the best.

After all, said Hammergren, who believed in UFOs as a child: "You never know when something might come out of it."

"I'm an astronomer; I'd like nothing more than to see an alien spacecraft."

Lauren FitzPatrick may be reached at lfitzpatrick@dailysouthtown.com or (708) 633-5964.

Local UFO expert says sense of humor necessary

By **MARCIE SCHELLHAMMER**
Era Reporter

Bradford resident Scott Corrales speaks about his feelings on UFOs and the paranormal without worry of being dismissed as "nuts." After all, among those who seek his counsel are The Discovery, National Geographic and The History television channels.

The author of several books, including his most recent release "Flashpoint: High Strangeness in Puerto Rico," deals with skepticism with a hearty sense of humor.

"You have to have a terrific sense of humor," he explained Friday. People will send alien stickers in the mail, or small "E.T." figures to him.

"It's become a little sub-order of study," Corrales said with a laugh.

Known in several countries as an expert in the field, Corrales has been a guest on numerous radio shows and submitted articles to magazines — as well as having been interviewed for television.

On Aug. 21, a crew from National Geographic came to Bradford to talk to him about chupacabras. The show will air in December. Today, he will have a visit from The Discovery Channel about the "goat-suckers," an entity reported in Puerto Rico, Mexico and the southern U.S. which attacks livestock and drains their blood.

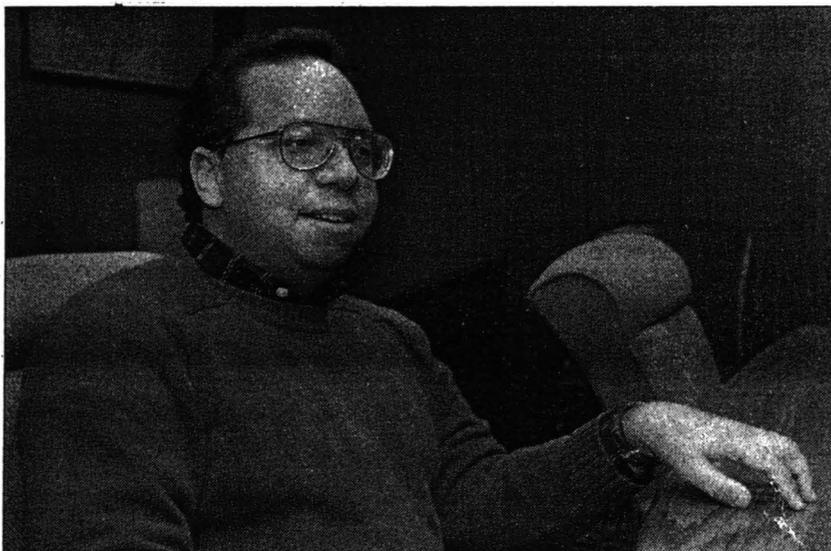
"It's an inclusive 10-year anniversary blowout to interview field researchers," Corrales said. He had written the first of his three books on chupacabras in 1995. He was selected because he is considered an expert.

"I'm moderately well-known as a troublemaker in the field," he said with a laugh. He explained that not all of the people involved in researching paranormal phenomena welcome information about activity elsewhere, and thus consider him a troublemaker in his quest to disseminate information.

"To constantly feed people information . . . it is well received by some and considered a nuisance by others," Corrales explained.

Some other information he plans to share with the television audience is on the history of UFOs.

He will be interviewed for The History Channel, which "wants me to discuss a history of UFO sightings going back to the first wave in the Americas in the 1500s . . . in the Aztec Empire. They're interviewing researchers."



Era photo by Francie Long

Scott Corrales explains the subject of his latest book, "Flashpoint: High Strangeness in Puerto Rico," and his upcoming interviews with The Discovery Channel and The History Channel, on Friday. Crews from Discovery Channel will be in Bradford today to speak to him about "chupacabras" or creatures that attack livestock.

And that's what he considers himself, a researcher and a writer — a journalist whose "main interest is letting people know" about the subject of UFOs.

The most common questions he gets go something like this: Have you ever seen a UFO? "I never have," Corrales responds. Well, then, how do you know they exist? "I've never been to Australia, but I believe it exists," he says with a smile.

"Until you have a UFO that you can give to scientists, it cannot become a field of study," he explained. The UFO phenomenon is not predictable or repetitive—but during the 1970s and 1980s, it was frequent.

In the book "Flashpoint: High Strangeness in Puerto Rico," which was published in 1998 in England and is available now for the first time in America through Amazon.com's British counterpart, amazon.co.uk., Corrales explores that activity.

"It tries to give an objective chronological perspective on UFO activity in the Caribbean island of Puerto Rico," Corrales said of the book. "It's a prequel to 'Chupacabras.'"

Corrales explained that during the 1970s and 1980s, UFO activity was at its peak.

"It was widespread worldwide," he said. "The Caribbean, Mexico and Europe were rife with sightings."

While others enter the realm of speculation to explain the existence of the unidentified flying objects, Corrales does not. What are they? "No one knows and don't ever let them tell you," he replies with a laugh.

"We are gathering the information, creating a worldwide database on UFOs that will be useful to scholars and scientists 200 or 300 years from now," he said, explaining his view of UFO research. "In fact, you are tilling a field for the future."

He encourages anyone who has seen any UFO to report it to an organization, many of which are available on the Internet. That information could prove useful, he said. The phenomenon, while currently unexplained, may prove to be related to weather or earthquakes or volcanic activity or something — and the more information, the better.

"People should at least respect the people who come forward," Corrales explains, saying that it takes courage for a person to speak out about a paranormal experience.

"People would rather not have the unknown thrust upon them," he said, adding that making fun of a witness is hurtful.

"UFOs exist. We don't know what they are," he said, adding that he doesn't necessarily feel there's anything otherworldly to them.

"Given the vast distances involved . . . it leads me to think the UFO explanation is a lot closer to earth," he said.

"When it comes to UFOs, you don't have them to study. You have people to study," Corrales said, explaining information must come from witnesses.

While in Puerto Rico researching for his book, he came across witnesses who told of their experiences "in case there was a greater danger to the community."

And, he recalled with a smile, he encountered at least one skeptic. Stopping at an open air food stand or lunch, he was asked by the waitress what he was doing there. When he told her he was researching UFOs, she told him they didn't exist.

"Why not?" he asked.

"Because if they did, they would eat here," she replied with a laugh.



[All British clippings courtesy of Timothy Good, unless otherwise credited.]

HERALD, Glasgow, Scotland - July 25, 2005

Is there anyone out there... Yes, 15,000 times, yes

IAN BRUCE
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Ministry of Defence has examined more than 15,000 alleged sightings of flying saucers and other unidentified flying objects over Britain since 1959 and is still keeping an open mind on the existence of aliens.

The sightings were reported from John o' Groats to Land's End by RAF and civilian pilots, air traffic controllers, police-

men and even MoD employees as well as members of the public, according to documents released under the Freedom of Information Act.

They were examined by a special section of the directorate of air staff "to establish whether the UK's airspace might have been compromised by unauthorised air activity", a spokesman said. To date, there was no evidence of extraterrestrial activity.

The most common sightings

included reports of orange-coloured discs, spheres, triangles and balls of fire which could change formation. An undisclosed but "considerable" number were seen over RAF and US air force bases in England.

The official policy line is that "the MoD does not have any expertise or role in respect of UFOs or flying saucer matters or to the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which it remains totally open-minded".

The spokesman added: "We know of no evidence which substantiates the existence of such phenomena. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the UK from an external source, and so far no report has revealed such evidence, we do not investigate the precise nature of each sighting."

"We believe that rational explanations such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena could be found for them if resources were diverted for this

purpose. But it is not the function of the MoD to provide this kind of aerial identification service."

The figures show that the peak years for sightings were 1978, with 750 reports, and 1999, with 609.

As The Herald revealed in March, West Kilbride in Ayrshire was Scotland's UFO hotspot last year with 12 sightings.

UFO TRUTH IS OUT THERE

Lights in the sky

Though dismissed by skeptics, hundreds of Canadians report seeing unexplained objects

BRODIE FENLON
Toronto Sun

The truth is out there — and it may be as close as your own backyard.

Two months ago, on July 14 at 11:45 p.m., Nova Williams was sitting with her dog on the backyard patio of her family's Scarborough home when she saw a shooting star flash past her head.

Only it wasn't a shooting star.

Williams said she took a closer look and described what she saw as a glowing object shaped like "a boomerang upside down" zooming east to west over Kingston Rd. at about the same altitude as would fly a small single-engine aircraft.

But unlike a Cessna, this object made no sound. Williams, 35, said it sped up and slowed down in one fluid motion, then stopped suddenly and hovered.

Moments later, it moved south — without turning — toward Lake Ontario, then returned and flew out of sight, she said.

"There was no engine sound. It was an eerie quiet," said Williams, who quickly sketched what she saw on a computer paint program. "I thought it was kind of neat. It didn't frighten me because I had seen something like it before."

Every year, in every corner of this country, hundreds of Canadians like Williams are seeing and reporting mysterious objects in the night sky.

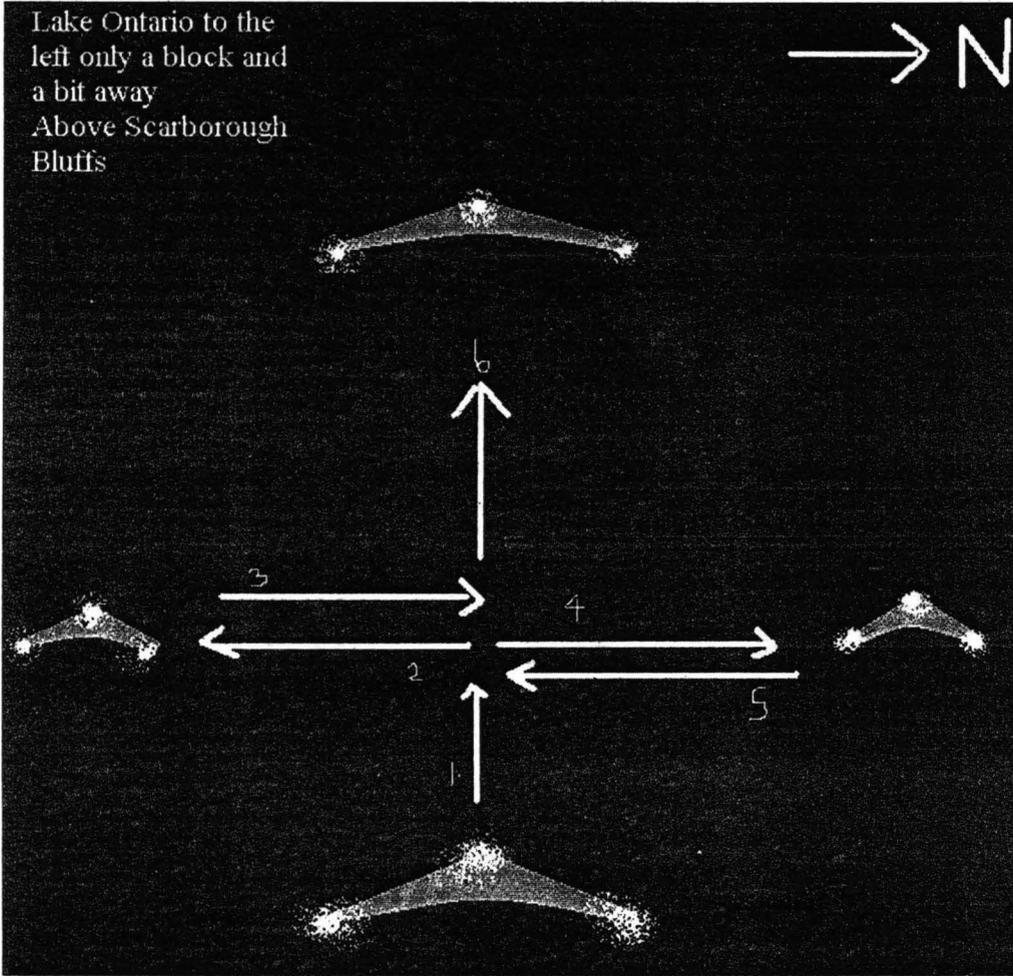
Glowing orange orbs. Delta-shaped wings. Silent cigar-shaped craft. Saucers and balls of coloured lights that hover, then move too quickly — and in too many directions — to be conventional aircraft, they claim.

Even the fiercest of cynics would be hard-pressed to dismiss some of the UFO reports filed since 2000 with a variety of federal agencies and obtained by the Sun.

They include bizarre sightings by RCMP officers, air traffic controllers and dozens of military and commercial pilots — even the pilot of an aircraft carrying the prime minister during a flight over Alberta in March 2004.

Officially, Transport Canada and the department of na-

Lake Ontario to the left only a block and a bit away
Above Scarborough Bluffs



Scarborough resident Nova Williams created this computer sketch of a glowing object shaped like a "boomerang upside down" zooming above her home on July 14. The 35-year-old says the flying object made no sound.

tional defence say they have no interest in UFO sightings, which they pass on to Chris Rutkowski, a lone astronomer and volunteer in Winnipeg who receives one or two reports a day.

Hundreds more are reported independently to the National UFO Reporting Center (NUFORC), a Seattle-based organization that receives, records and attempts to corroborate eyewitness accounts. Others are sent to Canadian UFO researcher Brian Vike of HBCC UFO Research, which has a comprehensive website that includes photos, video footage, audio interviews of witnesses and a

breakdown of reports by province.

It's a global phenomenon that, according to these reports, has repeatedly touched our own backyards. In the last three months, more than 40 UFOs have been spotted in Ontario, including:

- Whitby, Aug. 12: A bright white shape like a "teardrop" raced up into the sky at 1 a.m.
- Vaughan, July 13: An orange disc, its light fading in and out, hovering over the IKEA store on Hwy. 7.

■ St. Catharines, July 5: Five friends camping in a park near the city claim they saw six saucer-like objects at 2 a.m. One of the objects reportedly

"There was no engine sound. It was an eerie quiet."

Nova Williams

dropped to within three metres of the ground and "emitted four pulses" of blinding light. The anonymous witness who reported the incident to NUFORC noted, "Three of my four friends made it clear that they never wanted to speak of the event again."

■ Toronto, July 3: A V-shaped formation of more

than 20 glowing oval objects flying over an apartment building at 919 Dufferin St.

Rutkowski, who describes himself as an "open-minded skeptic," said the majority of UFO sightings he receives can be explained away as satellites, aircraft or helicopters, the international space station, search lights, astronomical anomalies like meteorites and meteorological phenomenon such as ball lightning.

For instance, a "very bright light falling from (the) sky" reported by the pilot of the PM's aircraft and a number of other airliners in March 2004 was likely a meteorite.

But each year, there are a "handful to two dozen" well-documented sightings in Canada that simply can't be explained, Rutkowski said, noting he's never seen a UFO himself.

Science, he added, has a done itself a great disservice by ignoring a phenomenon that thousands of people around the world claim they have witnessed.

"If it's not a physical phenomenon, it's at the very least a social or psychological phenomenon and it should be investigated by science," Rutkowski said.

"It's very good to approach this with an open mind, as long as it's not so open your brain falls out."

Some of the most compelling reports obtained by the Sun were filed by people whose jobs entail sober thought and rational observation skills, such as pilots and police officers:

■ The pilot of a Cessna Citation 560 twin-engine executive jet reported a "very large stationary metallic object beside the moon at a very high altitude" to air traffic control in Toronto on April 28, 2003. Several other pilots reported the same object, as the report notes:

"(Aircraft) reporting was flying between Buffalo, N.Y., and London, Ont., and saw it for 30 min, and was flying at an altitude of 43,000, said (sic) the object was much higher. The shift supervisor at Toronto airport telephoned this in; he also said that several other (aircraft) reported same UFO."

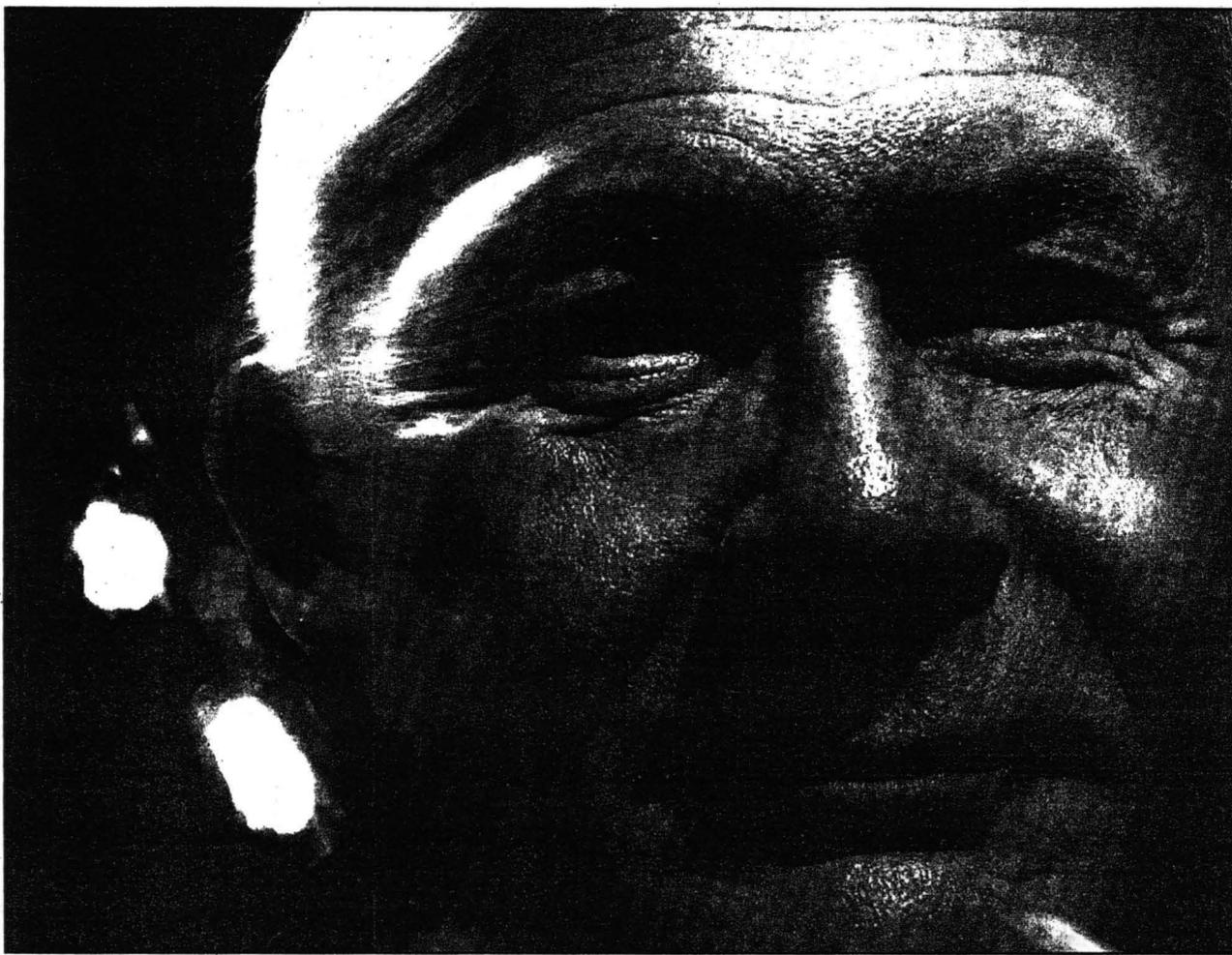
■ The pilot of Air Canada Flight 1185 flying over Saskatchewan in December 2001 reported a UFO to air traffic control in Winnipeg.

The report, which was submitted to the Canadian Air Defence Sector, noted: "The (aircraft) pilot observed strobes and flashing lights which he estimated to be (7,600-9,000 metres) above him... The co-pilot of the (aircraft) flight observed same. Pilot noted that it did not look like a satellite."

■ An officer with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary watched for about an hour and a half as two white objects moved north to south over Seal Cove in the Conception Bay area of the

SUN, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - Sept. 15, 2005 CR: G. Duplantier

(continued on page 10)



CRAIG ROBERTSON/SUN

Long-time Toronto UFO researcher Victor Viggiani says it's time to move past debating whether UFOs are real or not — he believes they are — and move on to discussing the geo-political implications of human contact with beings of higher intelligence.

province on Aug. 3, 2001. ■ On Sept. 8, 2004, the pilot of an Air Canada flight from Vancouver to Saskatoon reported a UFO "heading south at high speed — passed directly overhead."

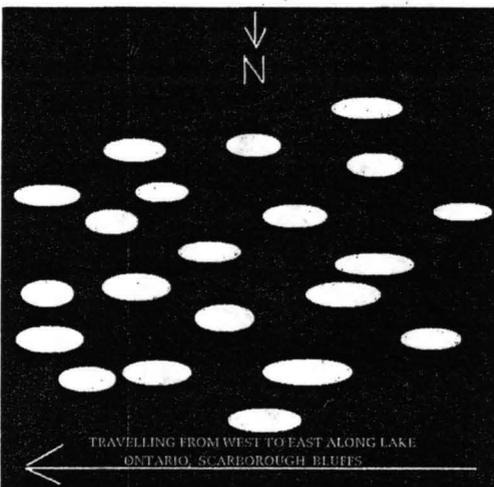
But, even the best-trained eyes can be fooled.

Cpl. Ed Anderson and then-Const. Jeff Johnston were based at the RCMP Pangnirtung detachment in Nunavut on Jan. 9, 2001, when they were called by a resident to check out a red light hovering in the sky over the remote northern hamlet on Cumberland Sound.

Armed with cameras and binoculars, the officers watched the mysterious object for more than 20 minutes.

In their separate incident reports, the officers described a stationary object that faded in and out "almost as though it was slowly rotating in the sky." After about 10 or 15 minutes, the light lowered until it was hovering above the ice, its light reflected in the snow.

"It appeared to be like a



Nova Williams' computer sketch of the objects she saw in the sky above her Scarborough home in the early '80s.

cylinder-type shape. The light then disappeared and was not seen again," Johnston noted in his report. "At this point, writer has no idea what

the object was ... It was definitely a strange occurrence and at this time remains unexplained and unidentified." Reached by the Sun in

Moncton, Johnston said he and his partner reported their observations to several agencies, including Norad. They were told the object was likely a satellite that appeared odd because they were positioned so far north.

The officers were satisfied with the explanation several nights later when they saw the same object in the same location.

But for others, like Nova Williams, there is no earthly explanation for what they see in the heavens.

An airshow enthusiast, a former volunteer auxiliary officer with Toronto Police, and until recently, an employee of a provincial professional association, Williams said she is certain that what she saw is not from this world.

The Scarborough woman's July encounter was not her first: In the early 1980s, when she was 12 or 13, she and her father were stargazing in the same backyard when they saw three similar objects fly-

ing in a V formation, she said.

Several times throughout that week, Williams said her family saw "tonnes of disc-shaped objects darting in and out of each other without losing speed" in the sky over their house. Her aunt was "terrified" and has refused to speak of it since, she said.

Another unexplained encounter involved a bright beam of light from the sky that filled the family's living room about six years ago while she and her mother were watching late-night TV.

As strange as it all sounds, Williams is not afraid to speak out about her experiences.

But when she recently asked her neighbours if they had seen the same objects, she was met with an awkward silence before they changed the subject.

"I think people are very narrow-minded," she said. "If they start thinking about it, it frightens them. So they don't think about it at all."

brodie.fenlon@tor.sunpub.com

—Brodie Fenlon

UFO SIGHTS ON THE INTERNET

Websites for UFO organizations:

Chris Rutkowski and the UFOLOGY Research of Manitoba: geocities.com/thecynicalview

HBCC UFO Research — Comprehensive Canadian: hbccufo.org

National UFO Reporting Centre: nuforc.org

Waiting for first contact

Retired school principal and long-time Toronto UFO researcher Victor Viggiani doesn't want to talk about lights in the sky.

He's been there, done that, and yes, he believes.

He says it's time to shift the debate from the phenomenon of sightings to the geo-political implications of contact with a higher intelligence.

"This is the biggest issue in history. There's something major going on. I don't know what it is, but it's happening," said Viggiani, an organizer of a symposium Sept. 25 titled "UFO Disclosure and Planetary Direction" at Convocation Hall.

"I call it the giant slap in the face. That's what the psychological implications of this issue will be," he said.

Viggiani, who's booked four prominent UFO researchers and former defence minister Paul Hellyer to speak at the conference, believes humans are likely a few billion years behind extraterrestrials on the evolutionary ladder.

He also believes that aliens have been visiting Earth, leaving clues of their existence and waiting to share their knowledge with a planet quickly dying.

But Viggiani concedes there are major hurdles to getting a fair and scientific hearing on the alien phenomenon.

He believes governments around the world are withholding information; that the Internet abounds with "garbage" on UFOs, while the media and public concern themselves with daily subjects.

But the biggest hurdle is cynicism and close-mindedness, he said.

OBSERVER, Walsall, England - July 15, 2005

Mysterious light seen over Manor

Exclusive by Craig Winyard

A Walsall woman claims to have seen UFOs flying over Walsall Manor Hospital during her 10-day stay on a ward.

Rita Perry, 68, says she saw a large illuminated wheel-shaped object hovering above the hospital.

Mrs Perry, who lives in Leamore, says she was receiving treatment for blood clots on her lung between April 15 and 26, when she twice spotted the UFO during her hospital stay in the night's sky.

When Rita went to hospital she was first sent to an assessment ward and was later transferred to the Sandpiper Ward.

It was on this ward that, on two nights, she saw a large wheel-shaped object fly by her window and over the hospital.

Rita said the object was like a huge wheel which had another wheel spinning around inside it. She also said it

was illuminated in a brilliant white light.

Speaking exclusively to the Walsall Observer, she said: "I saw it on two nights during my time in hospital."

"I asked members of staff if their was an airfield nearby and they said their wasn't."

"The object looked like a big round wheel with another wheel inside it. I could see it through the curtains - it went right over the hospital and was moving quite fast."

Rita's sightings follow reports made by Walsall resident Veronica Yates, who speaking to the Walsall Observer in July 1, said she had seen a square shaped object floating above the Manor earlier this year.

West Midlands Ghost Club, which probes strange phenomenon, are investigating the bizarre mystery.

CITIZEN, Prince George, B.C., Canada - Sept. 12, 2005 CR: G. Conway

Ex-cabinet minister takes up cause of UFOs

OTTAWA (CP) — Paul Hellyer, onetime cabinet minister and a political chameleon who went through Liberal and Tory colours before founding two political parties of his own, has a new cause — UFOs.

Hellyer is to be a featured speaker at a UFO conference in Toronto later this month and organizers are making much of his credentials as a former defence minister in the Pearson administration 40 years ago.

Skeptics are, well, skeptical.

The 82-year-old Hellyer says he believes not only that UFOs are extraterrestrial visitors, but that some governments — the United States at least — know all about it and are covering up.

He says he believes American scientists have re-engineered alien wreckage from a supposed UFO crash at Roswell, N.M. in 1947 to produce modern technical marvels.

"I believe that UFOs are real," he said in a re-

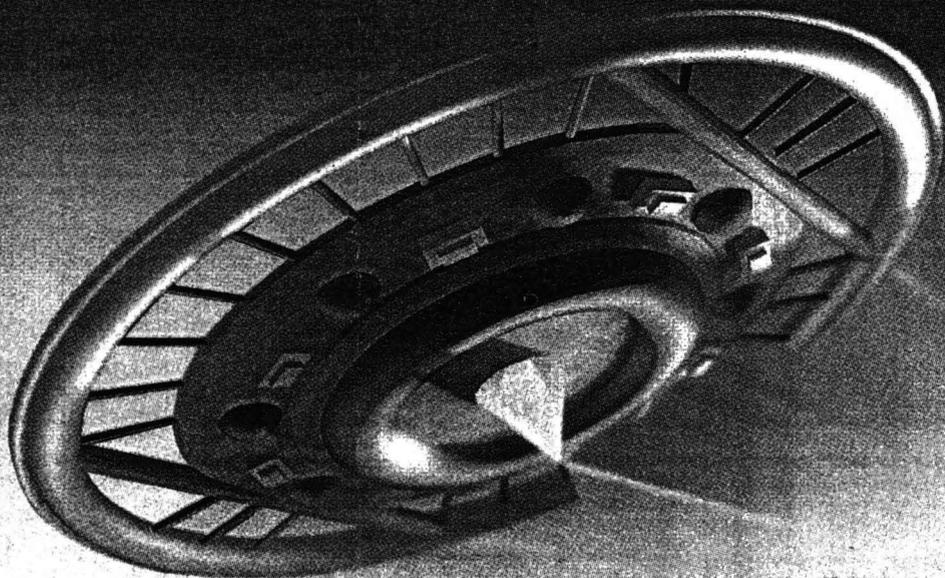
cent interview. "I'll talk about that a little bit and a bit about the fantastic coverup of the United States government and also a little bit of the fall-out from the wreckage, by that I mean the material discoveries we have made and how they've been applied to our technology."

Hellyer was once a political star. He was first elected to the Commons in 1949 at the age of 25, at that time the youngest person ever to win a seat.

He went on to become a cabinet minister, ran for the Liberal leadership against Pierre Trudeau, switched parties to the Conservatives and ran for that party's leadership, too. He eventually founded two other political parties, Action Canada in 1971 and the Canadian Action party in 1997.

He says his conviction that UFOs are real arose from reading in recent years, not from anything gleaned from secret archives during his time in office.

THE TRUTH IS OUT HERE...



1,000mph craft that vanished into thin air

IT WAS January 16, 1947 when stunned air force personnel recorded a craft moving up to 1,000 miles per hour.

On their radar screens, the men at Trimley Heath watched as it was able to stop in an instant and move erratically up and down at great speed.

Fighter planes were scrambled to investigate the "ghost" plane over the North Sea - but their pilots found nothing as it flew inland and then vanished into thin air.

Flying saucers and UFOs were not yet common terms across the world.

It was less than two years since the end of the war and there were deep suspicions about any unidentified aircraft spotted on radar screens, with great fears that enemies - especially those from behind the Iron Curtain - could attack with new weapons.

Researcher David Clarke said RAF Mosquito planes were already in the air on an exercise when Trimley Heath spotted the UFO and reported it to colleagues at Bentley Priory.

It was calculated that the craft was travelling at speeds up to 1,000 mph truly startling as it was not until October 1947 that US test pilot Chuck Yeager first broke the sound barrier in a rocket plane.

The Trimley station logged the whole chase, speeds, height and movements, as planes tried to intercept the mystery craft.

A report from the British Air Ministry to the US Army Air Force said the craft had taken "evasive action", but no known enemy aircraft could match the performance displayed by the "flying object".

WEBLINK
www.project1947.com/1947/opcharlie

SAUCER FULL OF SECRETS: The humble little building at Trimley Heath from where the world's first UFO sighting was made in 1947.

Photomontage: JONATHAN ELSEY

By **RICHARD CORNWELL**
Felixstowe editor

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NESTLING in trees alongside one of Suffolk's busiest roads is a crumbling building with a forgotten past.

It may look like an abandoned garage but in its heyday it was a radar station which was involved in tracking the world's first UFO sighting.

The property at Trimley Heath was part of a pioneering outpost for radar, a station which played an important role in the second world war and in recent years was considered for a new lease of life as a nuclear war bunker, where Suffolk Coastal council chiefs could command the district in the event of a devastating strike.

Now the story of RAF Trimley Heath is to be told in full for the first time - thanks to a £1,000 lottery grant awarded to the Suffolk Aviation Heritage Group.

The money will enable the group to

Exhibition is to finally reveal the secrets behind Suffolk's remarkable close encounter

put on an exhibition called The Forgotten History of an Established Suffolk Landmark to unravel the myths behind the station.

Its remains stand just past the Brightwell turning on the Felixstowe-bound A14 at Trimley St Martin.

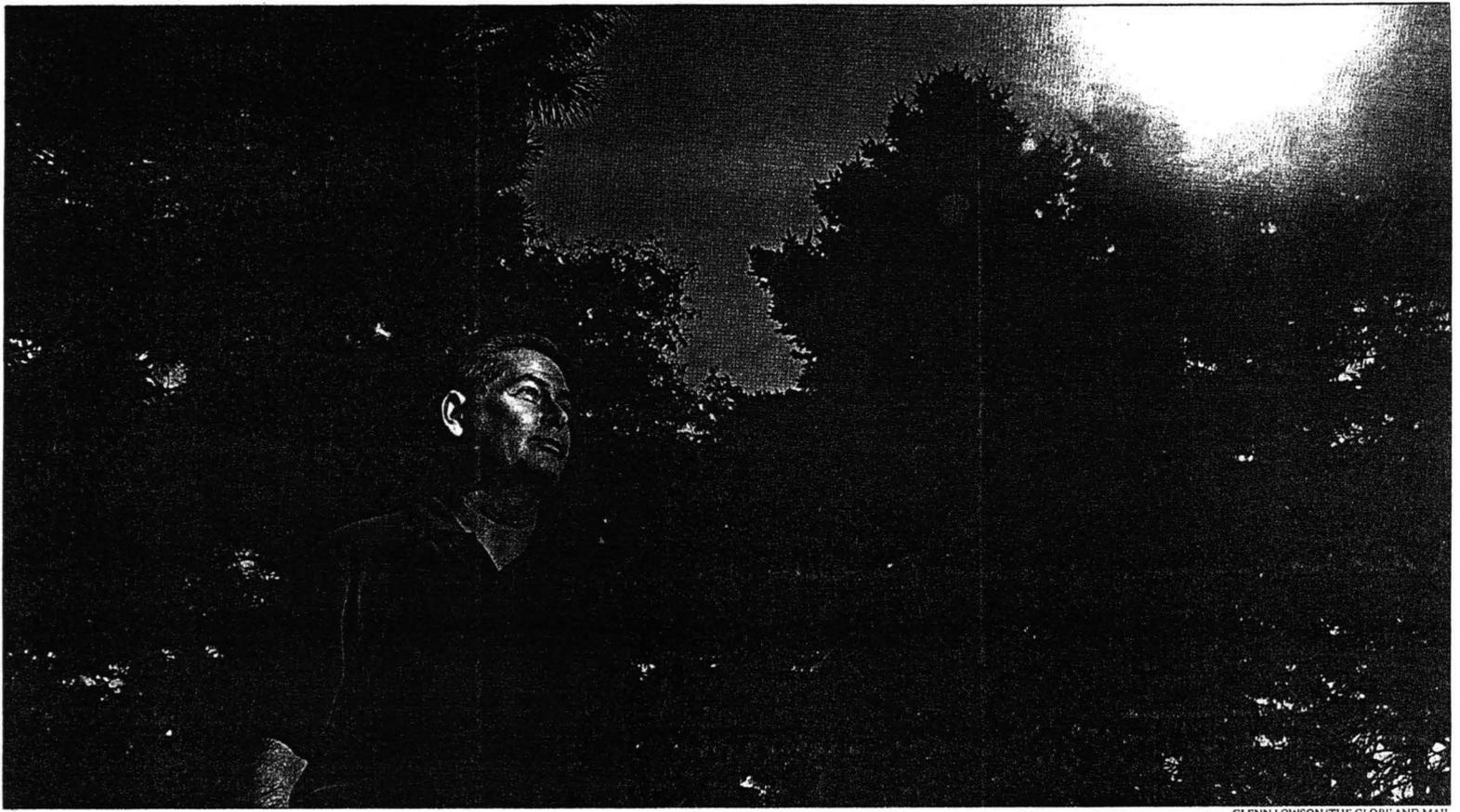
Aviation group public relations officer Andy Taylor said the station had been a Ground Controlled Interception (GCI) station when it was set up in 1941.

He said: "The exhibition will include details of the devastating fire which broke out at the site in 1951, destroying the station's control rooms and almost all operational records and leading to the cancellation of a pioneering upgrade to anti-nuclear status.

"It will also feature copies of original documents, site maps, aerial photographs and fascinating details of Operation Charlie, the station's role in the world's first tracking of a UFO in 1947.

"There will also be regular showings of an RAF training film called Broadcast Control which was filmed almost exclusively at Trimley Heath in and around 1950 and was recently unearthed by the group in Ministry of Defence archives."

■ The exhibition will take place at Capel St Mary village hall on August 28 and Kesgrave Community Hall on October 16, from 10am both days, admission free



GLENN LOWSON/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Mike Bird of MUFON (Mutual UFO Network) says he's seen four UFOs in the Toronto area — most recently from a crop formation north of Milton.

They're coming. Are we ready?

This weekend, Toronto will host some of the UFO community's more level-headed types, writes **ANTHONY REINHART**. They believe alien visitors are on the way, and we should be prepared to make contact.

On a warm September evening in 1975, while sipping pre-dinner drinks outside with his family, Mike Bird found his truth right here — not "out there," as they would say later on the *X-Files*. From his perch on Close Avenue in south Parkdale, Mr. Bird turned his 24-year-old eyes to "a bright, fuzzy ball, just sitting there, shimmering" over Lake Ontario.

"I watched it for two hours," says Mr. Bird, now 54, recalling how he fetched his telescope and trained it southward. "My wife looked at it, my parents looked at it. Before long, I was firmly convinced that we were dealing with something real."

Tomorrow, at the University of Toronto's Convocation Hall, Mr. Bird will join hundreds of fellow earthlings who, he hopes, will be similarly convinced — not only that UFOs exist, but that governments know far more about extraterrestrial visitors than they're letting on.

"It's not about selling T-shirts," he says of the event. "It's about putting up the best speakers who can represent the position that we are not alone."

The day-long symposium, dubbed Exopolitics Toronto, is an effort by the UFO community's more moderate and serious adher-

ents to prod officialdom into opening its own X-files so that citizens of Earth can plan for the day aliens make contact.

Their beef about secrecy is an old one, easily dismissed by skeptics inured to supermarket tabloids, sci-fi blockbusters and out-there conspiracy theories. The trouble, Mr. Bird and his colleagues say, is that credible data get overlooked in the process.

To them, official disclosure would not only help to silence the skeptics, but also the wackier elements of the UFO community, who only make the issue easier for the rest of us to laugh off and for governments to avoid.

"I stopped reading science fiction once I saw that the UFO was real," says Mr. Bird, the regional head of Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), a small but committed international band of volunteer investigators, founded in the United States in the 1960s. "It became science fact that just hasn't been proven yet."

Soon after his Close Avenue encounter 30 years ago, Mr. Bird heard a radio ad for a night course on UFOs at Castle Frank High School, taught by Henry McKay, founder of MUFON Canada. He signed up, and a year later, he and Mr. McKay rounded up a dozen others, rented a

small bus and headed to a MUFON conference in Michigan.

There, they heard J. Allen Hynek, the astrophysicist who set out to debunk UFO claims for the U.S. Air Force in the 1950s — only to find that he couldn't. Dr. Hynek, who coined the term "close encounters of the third kind" before Steven Spielberg made it famous, was among the first scientists to lend credibility to UFO study.

Mr. Bird, a computer programmer and recreational hockey player, cannot claim similar credentials. He does, however, claim an abundance of curiosity, fuelled by that first sighting in 1975, and three more since then in the Toronto area.

In the early days, Mr. Bird would sit on the roof of his father's cottage and scan the night sky, but he saw nothing but stars and satellites. Subsequent sightings came during field investigations for MUFON, which he sometimes conducts with other members, but not his wife. ("She's not enamoured by it," he admits, "but she doesn't think I'm a nut.")

The last one happened three years ago just west of the city.

"I was standing in a crop formation north of Milton," Mr. Bird says. "I look up and I see this super-bright light up to the north and west of

me."

He watched the big light overtake a smaller one, from a plane, and head east toward Pearson airport.

Thoughts that it might have been an unusually bright jetliner disappeared weeks later when he found a similar report on the Seattle-based National UFO Reporting Center's website. It described a sighting near Kingston, several hundred kilometres to the east, from the same night.

"To me, that's a match," Mr. Bird says, "but I don't need a match. I need to get down to the hard work of making this mean something."

That can be a lonely job in Canada, much less Toronto. MUFON counts just 50 members coast to coast, while similar local groups have come and gone.

Mr. Bird hosts occasional meetings at an Etobicoke library, which typically attract about 20 of the curious — though few are curious enough to join MUFON. All volunteer investigators must first pass a test on the contents of a 311-page field manual, which sets out strict procedures for evidence-gathering.

As for tomorrow's conference, advance ticket sales were slow this week, but Mr. Bird, hoping for a crowd of at least 1,500, is banking on a lot of walk-in traffic.

"We think we're bringing forth the best people on the planet," he says of the five speakers on the bill. Most anticipated, perhaps, is the latest addition to that list: Paul Hellyer, a former defence minister in Lester Pearson's Liberal government, who believes that UFOs exist, and that officials have been too quiet about it.

Also on the list are American author and historian Richard Dolan; Italian journalist/researcher Paola Harris; researcher Stanton Friedman of New Brunswick; and Stephen Bassett, Washington's only registered UFO research lobbyist and a frequent speaker on "exopolitics" — the policies humans might employ in the event of contact with extraterrestrial beings.

Like many in the movement, Mr. Bird puts great stock in the hundreds of plausible, if unproven, accounts that MUFON has collected in firsthand interviews, often from sources who are easy to trust: astronauts, military and commercial pilots, police officers.

"If a pilot says a UFO hovered off the bow of his plane, it either happened or it didn't," Mr. Bird says. "It's either yes or no, and if we're not alone, our planet needs to know that so that we know what to do tomorrow."

POST, Cannock Chase, England
Aug. 11, 2005

Expert welcomes findings Chase is a UFO hotspot

Exclusive by Kevin Edge
kevin_edge@mrrn.co.uk

A Cannock UFO expert has welcomed new findings that list the Chase as one of the top UFO hotspots in the country.

Graham Allen, co-ordinator of Staffordshire UFO Group, has backed a survey by national magazine *Fortean Times*, which places the Cannock forest land in the top 13 sites in the country for UFO sightings.

The Chase was listed in a region-by-region guide to weird and unexplained activity in the UK in a special 200th edition of the magazine, which devotes itself to paranormal and spooky happenings around the world. For the Cannock-based Mr. Allen it is a validation of the importance of the area for UFO researchers.

"It's no surprise to me at all that Cannock Chase made the list," Mr. Allen said.

"The Chase is known all over the world for its unexplained activity. This is just a recognition of that."

"It backs up what we've been researching all this while."

This month's edition of the popular magazine, sees cryptozoologist Dr Karl Shuker compile a list of sightings in the Midlands region, placing the Area of Natural Beauty in the top 13.

He writes: "This extensive tract of woodland has become a major hotspot in recent years for sightings of triangular UFOs."

The expert added the Midlands boasted an 'impressive array of ghosts and spectres, UFOs and ancient

stones'.

The Chase is no stranger to mysterious phenomena. UFOs, big cats and even a bigfoot type creature have been reported over the woodland.

Scores of witnesses have claimed to have seen flying objects on the Chase and video evidence was showcased at a special world conference on paranormal activity held in Japan last year.

TRANSLATIONS

[The following translations are all courtesy of Scott Corrales and the Institute for Hispanic Ufology, with translation copyright being retained. Credit for individual contributors will be given at the end of each article. All articles are from South American and other Spanish-language newspapers and media sources.]

October 5, 2005 — *Vanguardia*, Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico — MEXICO: SECURITY CAMERAS RECORD UFO OVER COAHUILA — RAMOS ARIZPE, COAHUILA -- A strange unidentified object that flew over the eastern part of this city on Monday morning was recorded by the urban cameras of the Municipal Public Security's 060 System.

The 27 minute long video was shown yesterday to the media by Homero Duran Flores, head of this government agency.

"A phone call was received at approximately 03:00 hours Monday from a citizen reporting some lights that could be seen to the east of the city. When the cameras were focused in that direction, the object in question was perfectly visible," he explained.

The image shown to the media clearly depicts a round object with a grey-colored ring and a black circle in its middle, rotating, and was recorded at different times as it approached and withdrew. "We are startled by the magnitude of the object and the clarity with which it can be seen, because given the camera's location, it is believed to have been at an approximate altitude of one kilometer." Duran Flores said that the video, recorded between 03:07 and 03:34, is at the disposal of experts in the subject, since it is "without a doubt an important document, taking into consideration the clarity and sharpness of the images."

Mayra Gallegos Muniz, a radio operator for the 060 System who was on duty at the time the call came in, said that upon looking through her office window, the unidentified flying object "appeared very large, four or five times the size of a star."

This event was made known in TV Azteca's "Hechos" news program, hosted by journalist Jorge Zarza, who ended by saying: "Like all good UFOs, it vanished leaving colored rings [in its wake]."

The strange flying object startled witnesses by shifting shape, as can be seen in the second photo. This eliminates the possibility of any conventional origin.

Says Prof. Ana Luisa Cid: "I believe, from my personal perspective, that this material represents one of the best items of UFO evidence in Mexico."

Some information regarding the city where this extraordinary evidence was obtained: The municipality of Ramos Arizpe is located in southeastern Coahuila at coordinates 100°57'2" longitude west and 25°32'26" latitude north at an elevation of 1,380 meters above sea level. The La Paila range borders the municipality on the west, covering the entire southwest and a considerable part of the municipality's northeastern section. To the east is the Las Cuatas range, bordering the state of Nuevo Leon. The Patos creek enters through the south as it comes in from General Cepeda, feeding the Alto de Noria Reservoir. The creek flows throughout the east until it reaches the state of Nuevo Leon. The municipality has three reservoirs: Alto de Norias, El Tullillo and Nacapa, fed by the waters of the Patos and Las Vegas creeks. The Hipolito Dam represents another source of water storage. — CREDIT: Prof. Ana Luisa Cid and Jesus Jimenez

October 6, 2005 — *www.analuisacid.com.mx* — UFO Sighting From An Airliner — Mexico, September 21, 2005 — Ing. Carlos Cauich Carrillo shot a video of an unknown object that appeared to accompany the airliner in which he was a passenger for several minutes. The flight was covering the Tapachula-Mexico route on September 21, 2005.

When interviewed, the witness states that he felt very nervous and that he felt as though "something or someone" had placed him there at the exact moment the sighting was to occur, since he was initially only filming images of the landscape as seen from the air.

The video was made with a Cyber Shot DSC-P32, 3.2 megapixels, and has an approximate duration of 10 seconds.

Upon reviewing the material, I noticed that this unidentified flying object was performing irregular movements at high speed, vanishing completely out of frame at certain moments. This confirms Ing. Cauich's notion that the alleged UFO was speeding away from the airliner and then returning.

This event took place at 14:15 hours as the Mexicana de Aviacion airliner flew over the state of Oaxaca's Salina Cruz region.

Ing. Cauich has had sightings prior to this date. His steadfastness in watching the skies and his ability to obtain UFO evidence is noteworthy.

As an additional piece of information, I interviewed aviation technician Alfonso Salazar Mendoza, a UFO researcher and writer, who kindly informed me that commercial airliners flying at cruising altitude achieve speeds of 800 km per hour and an altitude of 12,000 meters. This information provides an approximate estimate.

Sincerely,
Prof. Ana Luisa Cid

October 9, 2005 — *La Patria*, Oruro, Bolivia — UFO FLIES OVER BOLIVIA — An unidentified flying object (UFO) flew over the skies of Oruro early yesterday morning for approximately an hour. It was recorded by citizen Gustavo Ponce, who at first did not believe what he was seeing.

The time was approximately 01:30 hours in the morning when Ponce was heading for bed. At that time, he saw a yellowish light in the sky that drew his attention, prompting him to reach for his binoculars to look at it more carefully.

"It was a very strange and shiny figure that could be seen through the binoculars. I went ahead and took out my camcorder to videotape the UFO in the sky. As the camera zoomed toward the object, I could see how it was breaking down into a shape resembling a jellyfish or something like it. It was very strange."

He added that the object was flying over the eastern part of the city and that it was the first time he had ever seen such an object, having never had previous visual contact with a UFO.

La Patria visited Ponce's home to see the images captured by his camcorder, attesting to the fact that the shining object broke down into a full circumference, adopting the shape of a jellyfish.

This is not the first time that a citizen has reported such objects. It is known that some reports of UFOs seen in the sky were told at a certain time, but they were not given credence by the public at large, since there is considerable skepticism toward the subject of UFOs and extraterrestrials. — CREDIT: Guillermo Gimenez, *Planeta UFO*

October 13, 2005 — *CIUFOS-LaPampa*, La Pampa, Argentina — ARGENTINA: AIRCRAFT ACCOMPANIED BY UFO — During the last week of July 2005, the time being approximately 19:30 hours, the presence of an unidentified flying object was reported toward the south of Santa Rosa, La Pampa, just as a commercial airliner was making its final approach to the local airport's runway.

The Airport Control Tower Operator was observing the approach trajectory of a commercial flight from Buenos Aires when he detected the presence of a luminous object moving slowly and parallel to the aircraft, from east to west.

Faced with this circumstance, the tower operator requested a confirmation of the unknown object's presence from the Flight Plan Operator, located in the lower level of the control tower building. Both men could visualize the airliner entering its final approach from a south to north direction while the luminous object halted its movement, issued a bright flash of intense blue-white light, restarted its movement, stopped again to emit another flash, and subsequently vanished before its departure trajectory could be detected.

This UFO was seen on radial 140 and some 20 degrees over the horizon, vanishing toward radial 180, and at no point ever being detected by the airliner's crew. — CREDIT: Raul Oscar Chaves

October 13, 2005 — *CIUFOS-LaPampa*, La Pampa, Argentina — ARGENTINA: ANOTHER UFO OVER SANTA ROSA — The time being 21:14 hours on October 13, 2005, a luminous object was seen by three witnesses as it flew over the northern sector of the city of Santa Rosa, La Pampa.

The object, whose apparent size was greater than the planet Venus, was detected some 75 degrees to the east and almost directly over its witnesses, flying from the south to the north. Its luminosity was observed for some 15 seconds, being an intense white in color, dimming gradually until it vanished completely. — CREDIT: Raul Oscar Chaves

October 14, 2005 — *La Patria*, Oruro, Bolivia — BOLIVIA: UFOs CAUSE CURIOSITY AND AMAZEMENT IN EASTERN REGION — Channel 39 Managed to Capture Images of Five Unidentified Objects — Five unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were seen last Wednesday night over Eastern Oruro, causing curiosity and amazement in thousands of witnesses who managed to directly see those unknown images, which were also captured by Channel 39 of the Corporacion Orurena de Comunicacion (COC).

The flying objects appeared in the sky at 22:30 hours. They were two strange objects located in the eastern region that drew people's attention due to their red, green and blue lights, sequentially, and they also appeared and vanished in the firmament.

The most notorious one was a silvery, circular UFO that presented two circumferences -- a smaller one located inside the object and another outside the circumference, spinning at an impressive speed.

The spectacle drew the attention of local residents. Channel 39 staff managed to record the UFOs' presence as citizens phoned the television station to describe what they could see from their respective areas.

Abel Flores Mujica, one of the witnesses, manifested his surprise at having seen the unidentified object in space.

"I refer to it as an artifact, since I couldn't believe what I was seeing. My daughter went outside and I told her: 'That's a UFO.' She replied that it wasn't a UFO, that it was the planet Mars that was delayed in covering space (sic). But that object had lights and it wasn't a star. Last night's event startled me and then my daughter said: 'Look, it's not the only one, there are others there,' and it was evident," he said.

Channel 39 journalist and show host, Pedro Rubin de Celis, said that Wednesday night's sighting confirms the theory that we are not alone in the Universe. "This has been a marvelous presence of UFOs in the firmament, and many people stepped out onto their balconies to observe this spectacle. The camera zoom has shown us, beyond the vehicle's flashes, a circle making concentric movements within other circles around the vessel and with a black dot at the center. The objects also had their own movement," he explained. — CREDIT: Guillermo Gimenez, *Planeta UFO*

October 17, 2005 — *CIUFOS-LaPampa*, La Pampa, Argentina — ARGENTINA: ANOTHER UFO IN LA PAMPA (2004) — The time was approximately 1800 hours on October 16, 2004 and Gustavo Jose Montiel was traveling along Santa Rosa's Circunvalacion Sur Avenue, heading from east to west. Upon turning onto Ameghino Av., which runs from south to north, he noticed a "flying machine" to the left of his car some 45 degrees over the horizon.

Faced with this circumstance, Montiel alerted his wife, telling her that the object was not an airplane. The witness moves in aeronautical circles due to his work, which is connected to avionics and radar systems.

Montiel stopped his vehicle and got out. Both he and his wife observed in wonderment as "two devices, clearly visible, dark in color, shaped like inverted soup bowls, were suspended in mid-air, issuing long jets of steam or white smoke from their lower section toward the ground."

The witness immediately contacted the Airport's Control Tower with his airport, asking if "they had any aircraft in that sector." Tower personnel responded that they did not, and that "they could not check that radial due to a lack of radar coverage." Finally, Montiel and his wife remained alongside other witnesses who watched the phenomenon, seeing how the "long jets descended and rose from those aerial vehicles."

At one point, one of the UFOs "interrupted the jet of steam and initiated an escape toward the east, flying over the city, at an impressive rate of speed, vanishing in a matter of seconds." The remaining object, after remaining stationary for a few seconds "began to move toward the southwest, also vanishing suddenly." — CREDIT: Raul Oscar Chaves

October 18, 2005 — *La Patria*, Oruro, Bolivia — BOLIVIA: JOURNALISTS FILMED TWO UFOs FLYING OVER URURO — Two unidentified flying objects were recorded by the cameras of Bolivian TV channel ATB last Thursday. The first sighting occurred in the early hours of Monday, October 10th. Since then, local residents could not help but notice the presence of other UFOs in the skies over their city.

According to Julio Espinoza, Paola Medina and Jose Romero, the time was 20:30 when they went out to the street adjacent to the television station to see the possible presence of a UFO. Since last Saturday, the staff was following up on the phenomenon after having collected the images provided by Gustavo Ponce, a citizen who had visual contact with an unidentified flying object (UFO) in the morning hours on Monday.

According to Paola Medina's account, they began to watch the skies at 20:30 hours and by 21:00 had detected a strange object to the southwest of the Bolivian city of Oruro, which was rhomboidal in shape and with incandescent lights that changed colors from yellow to red to blue.

"It also changed shape, since it transformed from a rhomboidal shape into a perfect square and into a classic flying saucer," she said.

This observation was confirmed by the citizens who phoned the TV station from various parts of the city to report the presence of the phenomenon. Citizens also saw another object flying over the eastern section of the city: it was circular in shape with a shiny yellowish light. It moved with a swinging motion and vanished

from the sky half an hour later.

Last Friday, several persons reported the presence of strange objects in the skies over the city. One citizen even said that one of the UFOs was at the altitude of the radio and TV antennas located on San Felipe hill. — CREDIT: *Revista Investigacion*

October 17, 2005 — *Planeta UFO*, Argentina — UFO OVER GUATEMALAN CAPITAL IN 2003 — On August 19, 2003 (he doesn't remember the time), Mario L. M., a resident in the 18th zone of the Guatemalan capital, was able to see some sort of craft flying over the northeastern corner of his house. He found this strange, as the object's trajectory was highly erratic.

At first he thought it was a helicopter, but its flight path was extremely "wild," so it drew his attention. He later thought the object was about to fall from the sky, since it went up and down. He shouted to his son Ernesto, 16, to bring him the camera (a common analog model) to take some photos. He managed to take four photographs.

The person retains the negative and no overexposure or film defect was found. After photographing it, the strange object either took off very quickly or suddenly vanished. — CREDIT: Guillermo Gimenez

October 19, 2005 — *Ana Luisa Cid* — MEXICO: AIRLINER CREW REPORTS UFO ENCOUNTER — Information provided by aviation expert Alfonso Salazar Mendoza, researcher and co-author of the book *Los Ovnis y la Aviacion Mexicana*.

During the first days of October 2005, the crew of a Boeing 737-200 (registration XA-MAA) witnessed the maneuvers of a plate-shaped unidentified flying object, described by the flight engineer as being highly luminous and similar to platinum.

The event occurred at 12:30 p.m. in the air corridor of the Mexican state of Oaxaca, at an altitude of 20,000 feet and under conditions of perfect visibility.

Witnesses describe the mysterious object as having emerged from a cloud and entering another, becoming visible during that period of time. They estimate that it was at a distance of 10 nautical miles from their aircraft.

The crew found the sighting truly remarkable, as in an earlier instance, another airliner belonging to the same company (Magnicharter) had reported a strange sphere that remained static over the World Trade Center air corridor in Mexico City.

In the opinion of researcher Alfonso Salazar, a large percentage of aviation professionals is convinced that unidentified flying objects indeed exist and in his next book, *Los Ovnis y la Aviacion Mexicana II* (co-authored with Carlos Guzman), he will reveal new cases of UFO and aircraft encounters. — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid

October 20, 2005 — *Planeta UFO*, Argentina — ARGENTINA: Fireball Reported Over Buenos Aires at 20h 18m, October 19, 2005 — **Another intense UFO wave recorded on this evening** — **Blackouts reported** — At 20h 18m, a fireball crossed the skies of Capital Federal from the Southeast to the Northeast, passing near Venus. But later on, over the central districts of the city of Buenos Aires -- Almagro, Palermo, Once -- the mysterious fireball increased its glow and vanished over the River Plate. The phenomenon had a duration of over 3 minutes and was of extraordinary characteristics.

Only seconds before this phenomenon was reported, a blackout was reported in Almagro, one of the city's districts. Minutes later, intense and repeated "light pulses" -- completely anomalous and of considerable magnitude -- flashed in several districts, but always from the city's zenith. An abnormal and incessant number of lesser lights were reported at various points of the sky over the city. At 20h 50m, another glowing trail crossed the city from the Southeast to the North, modifying its trajectory abnormally toward the west. Several important photographs were taken, including fragments of the pulses of light.

For more information: www.glaucoart.com.ar — CREDIT: Guillermo Gimenez and Ricardo D'Angelo

October 18, 2005 — www.analuisacid.com.mx — MEXICO: STRANGE LIGHTS REPORTED IN RAMOS-ARIZPE, COAHUILA — Strange lights flew over the skies of the Mexican state of Coahuila and toward the city of Ramos-Arizpe, having been photographed on the 8th and 10th of October.

The witness, Ing. Narciso Rodriguez Mireles, reported the following verbatim to this author:

"I went to visit my sister [who lives] five blocks down from where I live, and upon returning, I saw a bright light that turned off and on.

"Upon returning home, I climbed onto the roof to open the water tank. I had my camera with me ... the light was moving very quickly (as if gyrating and shifting position) and it was hard to focus on it. I even took some ten photos like the ones I sent you on October 8, 2005. It was headed toward Ramos-Arizpe and perhaps has something to do with the one recorded by the security cameras in Ramos.

"[The phenomenon] had an approximate duration of 15 minutes, after which it shut off and I never saw it again.

"On Monday, upon returning from work, I saw the light once more but heading toward Monclova. I reached for the camera and climbed onto the roof once more. The object was moving just as quickly and I was only able to take the photo dated October 10th, which I sent you. I estimate that it was at an altitude of 1000 feet and the total observation time was 10 minutes."

A Sony Cyber-Shot T-33 5mp 10x was used in taking the photos.

"I'm a 47 year-old industrial engineer ... my opinion about UFOs is that it cannot be possible for us to be the only ones to exist, with the Universe being as big as it is." — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid

October 20, 2005 — *Terra.d*, Chile — Chile: Strange Object Photographed Over Santiago de Chile — SANTIAGO, October 20, 2005 — On the evening of October 13, photographer Sonja San Martin was on the roof of a building on San Ignacio street in the heart of downtown Santiago de Chile. Using her Nikon D70 camera, she began to take photos of the Santiago evening.

She did not realize at first that something strange was making its way across the sky. However, when it came time to develop the photo, she became aware of the presence of a mysterious object that at first appeared to be flying at low altitude over the buildings in the capital.

"The photo was taken at 21:24:44 hours exactly, and if I had seen the object earlier, I would have used a greater telephoto lens," indicated Sonja San Martin.

The photo was sent to graphics expert Leonardo Guazzo from *Andesenios.net*. His preliminary conclusions were that the object was neither a conventional artifact nor a reflection.

"It appears to be a solid object with an irregular shape and four very clear lights. I cannot state that it is a vessel from another world, but I can say that isn't anything conventional," said Guazzo.

It should be mentioned that more exhaustive analyses are being performed on the image, which could provide greater clarity and certainty as to the enigmatic object. — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid

October 16, 2005 — *www.analuisacid.com.mx* — MEXICO: FURTHER UFO SIGHTINGS IN TEPEXPAN — Multiple UFO sighting reports have issued from the town of Tepexpan in the state of Mexico, particularly those witnessed by Victor Gabriel Gonzalez Gonzalez.

Based on these events, Salvador Guerrero and this author visited this location on October 16 in order to conduct a skywatch with Victor.

The first sighting took place by the roadside, quite near the tollbooth, when it became possible to witness a white-hued spherical object that entered quickly into a cloud bank, apparently headed for Tepexpan.

Subsequently, at around 5:00 in the afternoon, Salvador and Victor recorded two UFOs that were suspended near a hill on the way to Teotihuacan. The witnesses described them as "resembling sting rays."

Two hours later, an object of indefinite shape crossed the skies. It was red in color and traveled at high speed in a NE-SE direction.

This sighting was picked up on three different cameras, proof that something truly inexplicable is taking place in Tepexpan. — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid and Salvador Guerrero

October 25, 2005 — *El Mercurio*, Santiago, Chile — CHILE: CHANCE UFO PHOTOGRAPHED IN OLMUE — VALPARAISO - The apparition of a UFO in a photograph taken by a reader of *La Estrella* in Olmue, becoming visible when the frame was printed, reopened the subject of UFOs which has occurred repeatedly in Chile's 5th Region.

In early October, a resident of Cerro Monjas claimed having observed a UFO in broad daylight, capturing it on his digital camera and submitting it to the Valparaiso newspaper, *La Estrella*, according to Radio Digital FM.

On this occasion, Jeannette Faundez Nunez, at around 19:15 hours on Sunday, October 15, after having enjoyed a lovely picnic in Olmue with her husband, children and other relatives, noticed the beauty of the landscape lit by the full moon at dusk, and took a photograph.

She was considerably surprised when upon printing the image, the staff of the Digital en Valck shop in Vina del Mar expressed surprise, summoning all of the workers to see the UFO that appeared to one side and which had not been seen unaided. The object is seemingly metallic and as luminous as the image of the Moon, which is the main subject of the photo.

The situation can be added to the apparition of another UFO, this time in daylight hours, taken by reader Daniel Alvarez in the Cerro Monjas sector, which also became known in early October. — CREDIT: Guillermo Gimenez, *Planeta UFO*

October 27, 2005 — *www.analuisacid.com.mx* — SPHERES OVER MEXICO by Ana Luisa Cid — A special program titled "Esferas en Mexico" (Spheres over Mexico), recorded on October 25, 2005, presents filmed evidence that allows us to state that not all of the spheres floating in the sky are balloons.

The Filiberto Lopez video, taken in the year 2000 from Puebla (Mexico), presents a pattern of behavior that can hardly be reproduced through the mass launching of balloons.

This material shows how the witness records a fleet of spherical objects moving in a northerly direction. Minutes later, this contingent makes a rendezvous with another larger object of undefined shape that rapidly absorbs the group of spheres, subsequently heading toward the Popocatepetl volcano.

There are many more witnesses to this event, which this author interviewed for the aforementioned telecast.

Another noteworthy event was the one recorded on Sunday, October 23 of this year, when multiple reports of fleets traveling in two contingents were reported. The first of them was in the east, recorded by Lic. Efran Guzman (collaborator) and the second in the municipality of Naucalpan in the state of Mexico, recorded by Mrs. Monserrat Romero, a member of the "Los Ojos de la Ciudad" ("Eyes of the City") association.

We subsequently received reports that the groups in question had dispersed and that only isolated spheres remained.

Some hours later, Salvador Guerrero and this author witnessed several cube-shaped structures flying in the north region. What we found most striking is that some of the spheres were rapidly adhering to the sides of these objects, engaging in unconventional maneuvers. It was determined that there was no apparent explanation for this event.

Mr. Guerrero presented this material as an exclusive for the "Viva la Manana" program.

When we, the aforementioned, are able to ascertain that the events in question were the result of a mere flight of balloons, we will then concede the point to others. Until this happens, we will continue to document and state that not all spheres are balloons in Mexico, nor are all balloons UFOs, and that no easy explanation is available for all aerial phenomena. — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid

October 30, 2005 — *La Patria*, Oruro, Bolivia — BOLIVIA: UFO WAVE CONTINUES OVER ORURO — "Oruro is undergoing an unidentified flying object (UFO) flap," said UFO specialist Alvaro Munguia Becker after witnessing and evaluating the recordings and photographs provided by journalists and citizens alike, taken since October 8. The ufologist reached our capital city yesterday in order to evaluate and study this phenomenon. Journalists and citizens who took photos visited the Federacion de Empresarios Privados de Oruro (FEPO - Private Business Federation), where they met with the expert to glean his knowledge.

Munguia expressed admiration over the quality of the images and for those who took them.

"This causes the images to be more credible. I say more credible because tricks and montages abound, and this results in the belittling of any UFO investigation. However, what I was able to see were varied images that have similarity [to each other]," he said.

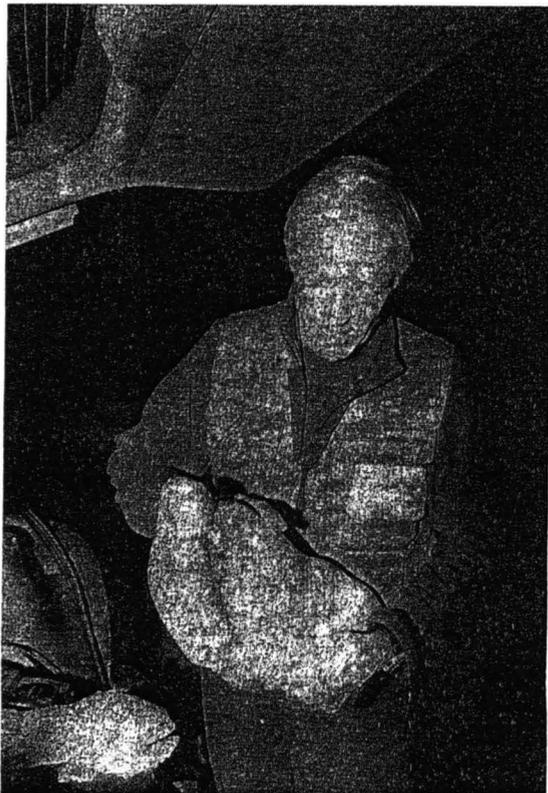
The ufologist did not venture as to whether these were beings from other worlds or alien vessels or from other dimensions. However, similar images have been analyzed in Spain, the UK and the USA.

"They fully match, and in closing, we can say that the images taken by a varied group of individuals must be digitally analyzed in order to determine the number of pixels, color, heat and everything that these images might represent, eliminating all atmospheric or meteorological phenomena, ballistic missiles or advanced technology aircraft," he added.

"This can be analyzed, but what strikes one most is the phenomenon's continuity in Oruro. I understand that this situation commenced on October 8 and we are now on the 28th and 29th of October. This makes it approximately 20 days that the sightings have occurred, confirmed by citizens and journalists. The phenomenon continues, and this gives us the guidelines to say that a UFO flap is taking place over Oruro," he explained. — CREDIT: Jose Martinez, *Proyecto ARGUS*, Puerto Rico



KITSAP SUN, Bremerton, WA - May 28, 2005



John Andrews of Camano Island holds a cast of a footprint he believes was made by Sasquatch in the hills of eastern Skagit County near Concrete.



John Andrews, left, and Jason Valenti show the equipment they use in their search for Sasquatch.

Sasquatch is a real creature. For Andrews, Valenti and other aficionados, finding proof of the reportedly shy creature is a calling, one that borders on addiction.

"It's like a drug," Valenti said.

Andrews and Valenti say there is something out there, and they want to know what it is. They network online and attend conferences, sharing tips and Sasquatch sightings.

And at least once a month, Valenti and Andrews head to the hills of eastern Skagit and Whatcom counties in search of "the 'squatch."

They say the magic hour to find sign or sound of Bigfoot falls between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m.

The two men load Andrews' Subaru with equipment including a thermos of hot chocolate, a camcorder, an aluminum baseball bat and a tape recorder. The bat is to strike rocks and trees in hopes that Bigfoot will respond by pounding on trees or rocks.

The recorder's microphone is attached to a metal dish designed to gather sound. Andrews' recordings of what he believes to be Bigfoot calls are available on Valenti's Web site: www.sasquatchresearch.com.

Valenti, who lives on the Lummi Reservation, has organized a Sasquatch symposium. He said he is putting together a nonprofit corporation and hopes he can get funding to study Sasquatch full time.

Both he and Andrews have day jobs. Andrews works for the Snohomish County road department and Valenti owns his own computer company and works for the Organic Press, a Skagit-based publication.

Traveling to the remote mountain recently, Andrews and Valenti explained the lure of the simian-like Sasquatch — it's all in the anticipation.

"We usually have a pretty boring time," Andrews said. "When you hear something, it's like you won the Lotto."

They agreed to take a reporter and photographer to a location that Andrews said has a history of activity, provided the site was not revealed. Andrews and Valenti said they fear hunters or volumes of people could disturb or harm Bigfoot.

The two men pick the plac-

There aren't many scientists who are open-minded about the prospect.

JEFF MELDRUM
BIOLOGIST

es they stake out by culling locations from sightings reported to them directly, as well as from various Sasquatch-related Web sites. Andrews said he doesn't screen the reports but looks for patterns instead.

Andrews has been looking for Sasquatch since he read about Bigfoot in a Boy Scout publication. Something about the possibility of the mysterious creature captured his attention.

He chuckled over the memory of himself as a teenager, naively walking up to property owners in the Rocky Mountains Front Range and inquiring if they had seen very tall, hairy men.

Andrews said he has never seen Sasquatch.

Valenti caught the Bigfoot bug in 1996 when he and an acquaintance took a wrong turn while driving near the Apalachicola National Forest near Tallahassee, Fla. He said he and another man saw what he describes as a female Sasquatch.

One look was enough. He's been hooked ever since.

Valenti and Andrews are willing to speak publicly about their search for Bigfoot, but many seekers of Sasquatch are reluctant to discuss their pursuits.

When Valenti and Andrews stopped the Subaru in Sedro-Woolley to meet a woman who had borrowed their recording equipment, she told the reporter: "No names."

Her reticence is understandable.

Some in the Sasquatch community believe Bigfoot has psychic powers, is associated with UFOs or is capable of intradimensional travel.

For many Americans and most of the scientific community, Sasquatch is very much part of the paranormal, and therefore, not worth investigating.

"There aren't many scientists who are open-minded about the prospect," said Jeff Meldrum, a biologist specializing in the evolution of primate locomotion. "There is such a stigma unfortunately attached to it that a lot of

scientists haven't stopped to ask themselves the very questions of what would it entail."

However, there also are a few primatologists or biologists employed at universities who have considered questions such as: If Bigfoot exists, what would it need to survive? Or how might it have evolved?

Some scientists say they have concluded that there isn't enough forage in North America for a giant ape to live.

Meldrum, who teaches at Idaho State University, disagrees. He says it would be possible for a large primate to survive in North America, especially if it ate meat.

Does that mean Meldrum believes in Sasquatch?

"It's not a matter of belief," Meldrum said. "It's 'does the evidence justify a serious consideration of the question?'"

Meldrum said he has investigated tracks, casts of tracks and collected enough anecdotal reports that he is convinced scientists should consider investigating what is causing these sightings and tracks. He fits his own investigations into a few weeks each year between other research.

Meldrum hasn't ruled out the existence of Bigfoot nor he also hasn't proven that such a creature may exist. He is one of the speakers at the Sasquatch symposium in Bellingham.

Back on the mountain-side, Andrews and Valenti explained they believe Bigfoot stands between 7 and 12 feet tall and weighs between 1,200 and 2,000 pounds.

Based on reports to various Sasquatch Web sites and laymen researchers such as themselves, the men believe if such a creature were to exist, it would live near fresh water anywhere from sea level to about 2,000 feet.

There's a lot of speculation about what it would eat. Andrews said he is convinced it migrates along the west side of the Cascade Mountains.

Something caught Valenti's attention.

"What's that?" Valenti asked.

"Quiet."

After a few moments, he broke the silence.

"Did you hear that?" Valenti asked. "It sounded like a high-pitched scream."

Andrews said he didn't hear it. The night grew chilly as the men continued calling

EDITOR'S CHOICE

They're Desperately Seeking Sasquatch in Skagit County

By MARTA MURVOSH
SKAGIT VALLEY HERALD

MOUNT VERNON

Howling like a foghorn, Jason Valenti sent out a call into the night to any Sasquatch that might be passing by. The 34-year-old Valenti's cry echoed down a remote mountain-side in eastern Skagit County.

As the sound faded, the rush of a stream in the distance broke the dark night's quiet.

Valenti's friend and fellow Bigfoot

aficionado, John Andrews, commented on the overcast sky and remoteness of the location at the end of a rough logging road.

"It's a beautiful night," said Andrews, a 62-year-old Camano Island resident who has been searching for Sasquatch for 40 years. "It's a perfect Sasquatch night."

For many, the large, ape-like Sasquatch is a creature of legend. Cryptozoologists, those who study hidden creatures, would like to prove

and talking about Sasquatch.

The search continues. Around midnight, a light, cold rain began to fall, and Valenti considered their likelihood of success.

"I don't think we're going to get much tonight," Valenti said. "The wind's picking up. The best is a quiet, quiet night."

They pile the gear in the back of the Subaru and Andrews used a flashlight to check the area to ensure they have left nothing behind.

On the ride down the mountain, Valenti held a camcorder to his eye as Andrews drove. People have reported encountering Sasquatch crossing logging roads. Valenti said he

wanted to be ready.

On the drive down the mountain, the men talk about their experiences, past conferences and the upcoming event.

Andrews and Valenti don't seem to mind that they didn't hear their quarry. In the mountains of northwestern Washington, quiet, overcast nights are common. And they will be out again soon, banging on trees and calling out to Bigfoot from a mountain.

For Sasquatch aficionados, the fun is in the possibility that the next trip might yield a track or even a sighting.

"If you ever hear a sound, it makes it all worth it," Andrews said.

POST-JOURNAL, Jamestown, NY - Oct. 15, 2005 CR: D. Munson

25 years ago

• Persistent reports of strange creatures in remote, swampy jungles of western Africa lead two scientists to believe that dinosaurs still might walk the earth. Both historical reports from Westerners and first-hand accounts from natives indicated dinosaur-like creatures might exist in a virtually unexplored part of the People's Republic of the Congo. Dr. Roy Mackal, a research associate at the University of Chicago said he believed the animals might be elephant-sized dinosaurs.

Lost City of Atlantis, Found?

By A. DARIN
Epoch Times Chicago Staff

Atlantis is an ancient puzzle that has intrigued scholars, philosophers, authors and adventurers alike. It is said that the island of Atlantis was an ancient, advanced civilization. Some believe it held untold knowledge and technology. Others speculate it was the cradle of life for the Greek and Egyptian civilizations.

With only literary references to draw upon, it is difficult to answer many questions about a place that may have existed several thousand years ago. Did Atlantis really exist? If so, what caused its demise? Where is Atlantis now? Why can no one provide solid proof of its existence? These are the unanswered questions that stir the curiosity of truth seekers around the world. If Atlantis did exist, what would that mean for us?

How would the repercussions of the discovery of such an enigmatic place affect our modern-day history, geography, philosophy, archaeology, theories of human evolution, and so on?

Robert Sarmast, an independent researcher and mythologist, may be on the verge of helping the world solve this mystery. Based on his research, Sarmast believes the location of the lost civilization is near the Cyprus Arc. The Cyprus Arc is an underwater strip of land between Cyprus and Syria, in the Mediterranean Sea. Working with leading experts in the fields



ROBERT SARMAST: Explorer, researcher and mythologist strives to uncover Atlantis.

of geophysics and oceanography, Sarmast was able to obtain very accurate and detailed, 3D imagery of the eastern sea floor of the Mediterranean. This led him to discover an underwater structure with right angles, which is an indication of something manmade.

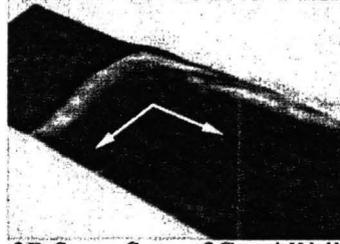
Using state-of-the-art submersible water craft and top-of-the-line video and lighting equipment, Sarmast and his crew plan to make several dives to the area of the Cyprus Arc to collect data and possibly recover some relics that might provide clues or, better yet, answers to some of the puzzling questions surrounding the lost city. The most exciting part of this quest is that Sarmast's final dive will be broadcast in a live, two-hour documentary, which will air in May 2006, produced by "Future Quest" and "Cosmos: A Special Edition."

The documentary will satisfy the appetites of those hungry to learn more about Atlantis or prehistoric civilizations, in general. It will feature historic reenactments of what Atlantean life could have been like, based on references from Plato and the Sumerians. Sarmast will expound his theory about the fate of Atlantis along with a review of previous theories, where and why they fall short. The public will be able to watch and listen as Sarmast descends to the sea floor, embarking on a jour-

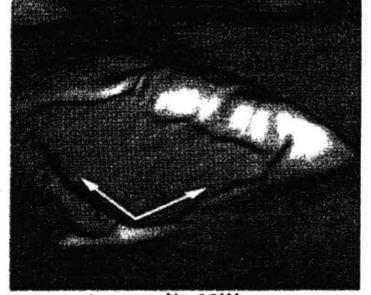
Sonar Images of Atlantis City

Eastern Mediterranean Between Cyprus and Syria
Depth -1500 m (1 mile)

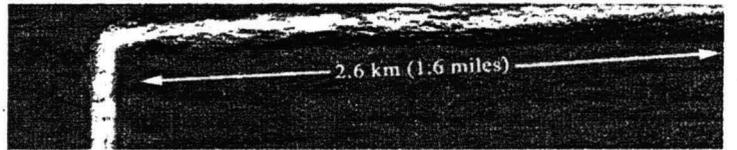
www.DiscoveryofAtlantis.com



3D Sonar Scan of Canal Wall



Acropolis Hill



Canal Wall Width 100 m (330 ft), Wall Height 10 m (33 ft)

UNDERWATER MYSTERIES: The sonar images above are believed to be underwater man-made structures near the Cyprus Arc. Could these structures be part of the lost city of Atlantis? Robert Sarmast is heading an ambitious expedition in the area, with the hope of discovering the lost but not forgotten city. The expedition is scheduled for May of 2006 and will be televised.

ney to solve an ancient mystery for modern man. Possible celebrities who will participate in this event may include well-known actors like Harrison Ford, Jeff Goldblum, or Leonardo DiCaprio. Will Atlantis be found? No one will know until next May.

Robert Sarmast is the author of "Discovery Of Atlantis: The Startling Case For The Island Of Cyprus." He has plans for an upcoming book after his expeditions. Eventually Sarmast plans to do a full-scale underwater survey of the Cyprus Arc.

Small town a bastion of Bigfoot belief

Sasquatch is no tall tale to those who document supposed sightings, four of which are said to have happened in 26 years near rural Seneca

By Dave Wischnowsky
Tribune staff reporter

SENECA, Ill. — A few months ago, the big news in this village of 2,053 residents was that its lone men's barbershop had closed after 42 years.

As the summer wore on, however, many locals found themselves bantering about a more exotic topic: Bigfoot.

For better or worse, Seneca has become a veritable Sasquatch Central following a flurry of investigations conducted by a member of the California-based Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization, which bills itself as "the only scientific research organization exploring the Bigfoot/Sasquatch mystery."

"My mind's open to anything. After all, they just found another planet. So, who knows? Anything's possible," lifelong Seneca resident Jim Maier, 61, joked.

The rumors also create questions. From how and why Bigfoot stories can begin in a place such as Seneca—about 70 miles southwest of Chicago—to the reasons behind our powerful fascination with tales of things that go bump in the night.

"Bigfoot is one of those things that people like believing in," said Dr. Christopher Bader, an assistant professor of sociology at Baylor University in Texas. "Because, how boring would the world be if we thought we had discovered everything?"

Since Stan Courtney of the BFRO first visited Seneca, he has deemed reports of four separate Bigfoot encounters near town credible enough to post on the group's Web site. Two of the alleged encounters happened in early June, and the others date back to 1979 and 1983.

Courtney first posted two Bigfoot reports on the group's Web site July 9, prompting the Daily Times, a newspaper in nearby Ottawa, to publish a story about the rumors. After that story ran, Courtney said he received information about other Bigfoot encounters. He posted two more reports in late August.

All four of the supposed sightings were within a mile of each other in a densely wooded area just south of the Illinois River along Seneca's narrow and twisting DuPont Road. Three occurred in Grundy County, while the fourth was in LaSalle County. One account involved two Bigfoot creatures.

"We heard some commotion over in the woods, and we were looking down into the trees. . . . At first, I didn't know what to think," a man identified only as "Tom" is quoted as saying on www.bfro.net, the official Web site of the Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization. "If anything, it could be a man in a suit."

"Then I saw the second one in the clearing as plain as day. I guess I don't know how to explain it, but I just knew it wasn't

a man at that time."

"Tom" believes the creature he saw in June near Seneca—allegedly covered in hair, standing more than 8 feet tall and reeking of a pungent odor—to be Bigfoot.

To many longtime Seneca residents, such stories are actually nothing new. Tales of a towering, hairy creature stalking the woods along DuPont Road date back four decades, they say.

"Growing up, it was always the 'DuPont Monster,'" said Kim Tedford, a resident of Seneca for more than 30 years. "The [Daily Times] newspaper story was the first I'd ever heard about it being Bigfoot."

Whatever the names, countless towns throughout the nation boast tales of the supernatural. And like a good scary movie, those stories can provide a dose of excitement, Bader said.

"Every state has its roads where there's a phantom hitchhiker, and every town has its haunted houses," he said. "Regardless of whether there are such things as Bigfoot, people like that thrill of uncertainty, that sense of danger. It's exciting to try and discover the unknown. And it's a lot more fun to have that little bit of doubt when you're sitting out in the woods."

Bader says he once sat alone inside an isolated cabin in Washington state at 3 a.m. with a recording of a Bigfoot "scream" playing outside. The effort failed to attract any creatures, he said.

But it didn't fail to excite. "The only time I've believed in Bigfoot was from 3 a.m. to 6 a.m. that night, when I thought playing that tape was the stupidest thing I'd ever done," Bader said. "I was scared out of my wits. . . . But I felt that thrill."

A belief in Bigfoot also can provide a sense of significance and belonging, said Dr. James Alcock, a professor of psychology at York University in Toronto and member of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal.

"One type of a believer is a person really fascinated by something strange, but who typically doesn't have much background in science, or found science hard or boring growing up," Alcock said. "But if they jump on the bandwagon with

'Bigfoot is everywhere. So I'm not at all surprised he's in Seneca.'

— Dr. Christopher Bader, assistant professor of sociology at Baylor University

flying saucers or Bigfoot, they think that they're doing some sort of science. And that in some way they're a 'real' scientist at the forefront of trying to make a discovery."

"It's a shortcut," he said. "To become a paleontologist, it takes years. But to become an 'expert' on Bigfoot, you just have to read a few books and join a few groups, and you know as much as anyone else."

"Another thing is that you're treated with respect if you join these groups. Nobody laughs at you. And if you also bring up ghosts or other [supernatural] things, people will not say you're an idiot."

The BFRO says the Internet has made it easier for people to report sightings directly to investigators, without fear of public ridicule. Alcock contends the Web also has helped such beliefs grow.

"In small towns, there is more opportunity for a belief to spread," he said. "And the Internet has a small-town flavor. It's a place where you can seek out those who share your belief."

On its Web site, the BFRO documents Bigfoot sightings in every state except Hawaii, and the encounters occur almost exclusively in rural locations.

TRIBUNE, Chicago, IL - Oct. 10, 2005 CR: CUFOS



Leader photo by Beth Anderson

Bigfoot sightings have occurred all over North Texas.

You Hear Leaves Crush, See a Dark Figure in the Woods, But What Is It?

By Beth Anderson
Staff Writer

That hirsute man crawling out of the wooded areas in the area may not be your neighbor making an ill-advised nature walk au naturale. If local scholars are to be believed, Grayson County and parts of Collin County are prime territory for a seasonal resident of the very hairy kind.

The resident?
Bigfoot. Yeti. Sasquatch.
And yes, if the existence of Bigfoots...
Bigfeets...
Sasquatches. If the presence of Sasquatches this far south surprises you — you're not the only one.



Bigfoot

But the Texas Bigfoot Research Center gets calls regarding the presence of Bigfoot all the time — and even has an entire website devoted to researching their existence, migratory patterns, and explaining to the general public how to report a sighting.

"Contrary to the notions of some, these animals are not exclusive to the Pacific Northwest, although that region may indeed contain the largest group," the TRBC said. "These animals have a long history of habitation in Texas and neighboring states; in Texas, encounters are reported predominantly in the eastern third of the state."

Although the Lake Texoma area, and the Red River, are right smack in ground central for Bigfoot migration, sightings are also reported a little farther afield — such as Van Alstyne, Denison and McKinney.

"We don't think they live here all the time," said researcher Jerry Hestand. "But we do think the area is in their migratory pattern."

"We think they use the Red River as a migration area," Hestand said. "There have even been sightings north of the river and north of Lake Texoma, and around Pottsboro."

JIMPLECUTE, Jefferson, TX - Oct. 20, 2005



A KEY to the city last week went to Craig Woolheater, founder of the Texas Bigfoot Research Center. At left is Jefferson City Administrator Corby Alexander who made the presentation. The Center last weekend held its annual conference in Jefferson. Organizers said more than 400 people attended the conference.

(Photo by Nan Carter)

"We usually have a backlog of reports," Hestand explained. "But we do get back in a timely fashion."

After reading the reported sighting, Hestand and other investigators get back with the person to suss out whether or not the claim is legit.

"We interview them, and go back over the report," he explained. "We usually have a map of the area, and we'll ask questions about the area to see if it sounds legitimate."

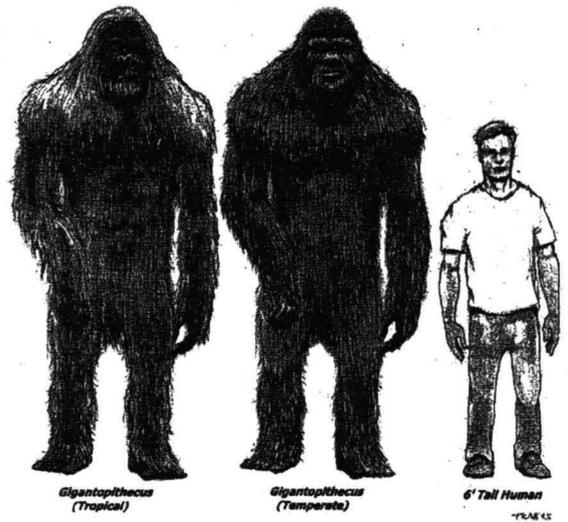
If it is, a report is typed up and sent in. "If it's a recent sighting, we'll go to the site and look for evidence," Hestand added.

One such report came to the TRBC in 1999. Three high school friends living in Van Alstyne were on their way to toilet paper a house when they had their close encounter of the big Yeti kind.

The intended TP target was a quarter mile away, and to get there, the three

friends planned on cutting through a field. When dogs started barking, the three feared that they would be spotted, and ran for cover behind some hay bales.

"As we sit there the dogs stop barking



(Blackie) starts pointing things on a tree line about five acres away."

The dog began acting more frightened, and began whimpering. After looking around several times in the direction the dog was watching, "I hear something from behind us, just the crack of a limb, a faint noise as if someone stepped on a limb or ran into a dead limb and knocked it off a tree."

At first, the three thought it was a cow, but was worried by Blackie's continued whimpering.

"I won't lie, I was starting to get scared," the report read. "Me and my dog have been chased by longhorns and hogs and hunted coyotes, skunks and all kinds of small varmints that roam the Grayson County area and she has never acted like this."

And then it happened. "It was a rancid musk only some large wild animal could make," he said. "I stare at this clearing and see two red eyes and

and begin to kind of yelp and then an eerie silence came over the area and we were already kind of spooked by the dogs," the man said in his report. "Not wanting to be spotted we sat there and talked quietly behind these hay bales and my dog

this tall dark figure stand up walk two steps and drop into the creek bed that runs through the tree line. I stood up and got my — the hell out of there. I was scared. No lie I ran that half a mile in two minutes or less. When we all got back to my house I asked my friends if they had seen or heard the same kind of thing I did and they all had near the same story I did."

The investigator who followed up said the story was credible. All the boys told the same story each time

But visual encounters aren't the only proof the group says exists of Bigfoot. Physical evidence in the way of footprints, handprints, hair samples and recorded vocalizations have also been accumulated.

In the case of the Van Alstyne sighting, "the next day the witness found tree breaks where the sighting took place," the investigator reported.

Hestand agrees there are those who would scoff at the notion that Bigfoot actu-

ally exists. In fact, most rank Bigfoot believers right up there with UFO watchers and other fodder for National Enquirer. But Hestand and the TRBC insist that Bigfoot is scientific — and that they have the research to prove it.

According to the group, Bigfoot is a "bipedal, nocturnal primate."

"This would effectively move Bigfoot/Sasquatch from the realm of cryptozoology into zoology," the group says.

And Bigfoot isn't scary — he's misunderstood. He's not a monster, but an animal — like a monkey.

"We are dealing with a primate, an elusive primate, not a monster, the 'missing link,' a shape-shifter from another dimension or an extra-terrestrial being," they explain.

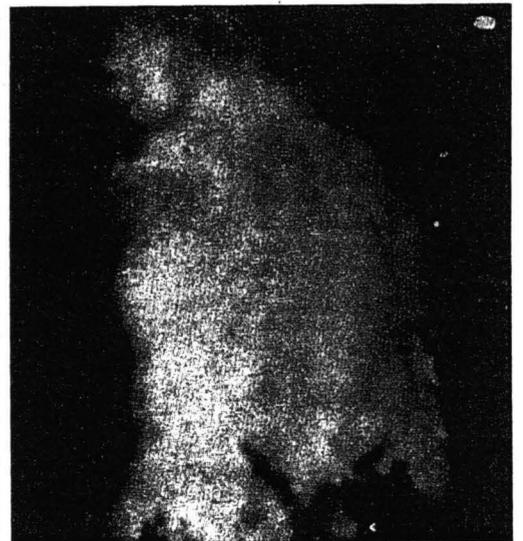
"They're omnivores," Hestand added. "We've had reports from deer and turkey hunters of them coming and taking their catch. There are people who own orchards and plum trees who have reported seeing them pick from them."

"They'll eat whatever they can find," he said. "They're very opportunistic."

There is much uninhabited, or less densely populated areas in Oklahoma, Texas and Louisiana, Hestand said, that is hospitable to Bigfoot.

But as that land is lost to development, the chances of seeing a Bigfoot will actually increase — just like bear sightings and panther sightings increase when humans began taking previously unpopulated land.

"As growth occurs, there is the possibility that we may see more sightings," Hestand said.



But Bigfoot is also verging on extinction, he said.

"There aren't that many left, and they may be on the verge of extinction," he said. "But they're really just another species of ape."

The fact that they are primates, Hestand said, gives researchers many clues about why sightings occur.

"Just like with other primates, when the male becomes a juvenile, they're kind of separated from the pack and begin looking for a mate," he explained. "Lots of these sightings are just juvenile males looking for a female. The sightings around the Red River and Lake Texoma are just chance encounters."

So yes, if you ask three young men in Van Alstyne, they'll tell you — some of the area's most faithful yearly visitors may just be more monkey than man.

A. F. U.

Box 11027

11 NORRKÖPING

Sweden William DeWitt, Calhan rancher, on speculation that 16 of his horses were electrocuted through a barbed-wire fence

Town baffled by deaths of 22 horses

By Amy Brouillette
Denver Post Staff Writer

Authorities are considering everything from poisonous weeds to a lightning strike to explain two incidents this month that have killed 22 horses and have residents in the ranching town of Calhan on edge.

"People are really nervous," said Eileen Johnson of Pikes Peak Co-Op, a horse-feed supply store in Calhan, a town of about 900 people 35 miles northeast of Colorado Springs.

"If it were just one incident, that would be different."

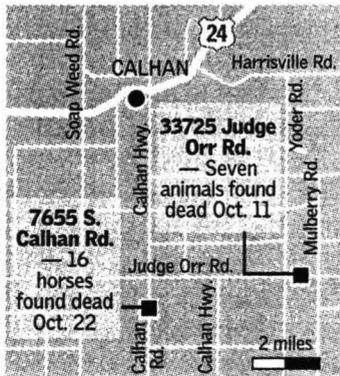
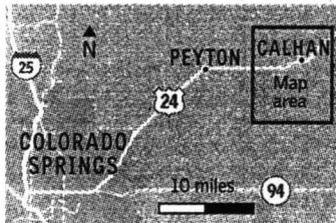
On Saturday, 16 dead horses were discovered in a pasture owned by rancher William DeWitt.

The animals were found on the barren landscape not far from a neighboring ranch where six horses and a burro were found dead Oct. 11.

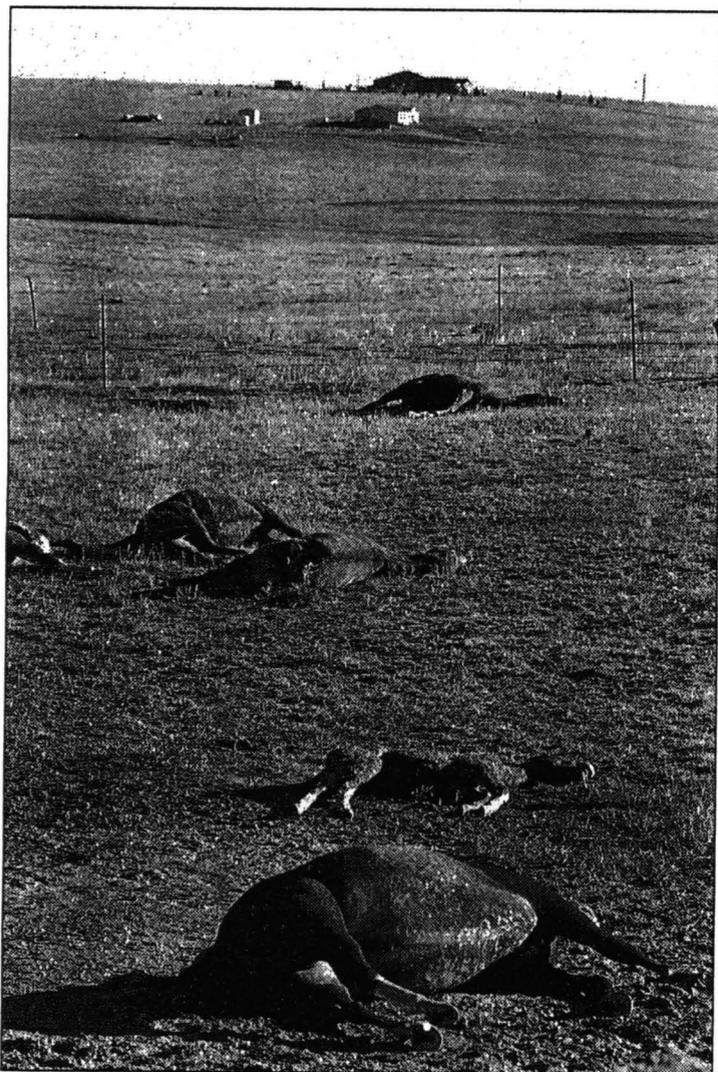
"The cases may be linked, but at this point we are just not sure," said Lt. Clif Northam, spokesman for the El Paso

Mysterious deaths of horses

Authorities in El Paso County are investigating the mysterious deaths of 22 horses and a burro in the past two weeks at two locations near Calhan.



The Denver Post



Chuck Bigger | The Denver Post

The carcasses of some of the 16 horses found dead Saturday are strewn on a pasture owned by William DeWitt near Calhan.

County Sheriff's Office, which is investigating both incidents.

At 10 a.m. Saturday, DeWitt discovered the horses after being alerted by his neighbor Ned Sixkiller, who had been checking his stalls in an adjacent field.

When DeWitt arrived on the scene, he found the horses on their sides, strewn around the pasture. He immediately called police.

"I've never seen or heard of anything like this," said DeWitt, 72, a lifelong rancher who owns 40 more horses. "I was shocked."

Investigators said the horses had been dead at least three days and that there was no sign of trauma. A veterinarian called to the scene speculated that because of their proximity to one another and a barbed-wire fence, the animals may have been killed by lightning.

Northam said there were reports of lightning in El Paso County on Wednesday night.

"If it was lightning, it would be the largest strike I've ever seen," DeWitt said.

Foul play is not suspected in either case, but investigators said they are "ruling nothing out" until they receive results from autopsies and other tests.

Sixkiller also reported to authorities the animals found dead Oct. 11. He told investigators he found the animals — three mares, a filly colt, a stud colt, a filly yearling and a burro — that evening after an early-season snowstorm.

The animals were riddled with puncture wounds that authorities initially thought were bullet holes but were later determined to be from an unknown source.

An autopsy of the animals revealed no bullet fragments, said Northam.

Officials at Colorado State Uni-

versity have been conducting toxicology tests on the animals found two weeks ago. El Paso County authorities said they expect the results of those tests this week and are also waiting for results from plant and soil sample tests from the county health department.

"It is a total mystery," said Ted Evanoika, 70, who owns a 40-acre horse ranch a half-mile from where the second incident was discovered Saturday.

The incidents have reminded some of an unsolved gruesome spate of animal deaths in the area 30 years ago.

In 1975, more than 36 animals were found dead of mysterious causes in eastern Colorado, according to accounts published in The Denver Post. By September of that year, the paper reported that 201 animals statewide had been "victims of gruesome killings" in which portions of their facial hide and other body parts were cut away.

Speculation as to what was responsible for the killings ranged from reports of Satanists who "use parts they cut from animals in weird ceremonies" to mystery killers who, because of a lack of tracks or other evidence, were thought to have used a helicopter.

Evanoika said those killings were never solved. He said he other area ranchers are protecting their animals by pulling their herds closer to the house and away from roadsides.

"I'm sure everyone is keeping a better eye on their livestock," he said.

Denver Post librarians Barb Hudson and Barry Osborne and The Associated Press contributed to this report.

JIMPLECUTE, Jefferson, TX - Oct. 20, 2005

Heard about town

By Vic Parker

Well, another Bigfoot conference has come and gone. This time around, there was some big-time media in town for the event held at the high school. In addition to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, there was the History Channel and CNN. My sister in San Luis Obispo, Calif. called Sunday to say the event had been covered in their hometown newspaper. And, it was the subject of a feature in the October issue of Texas Monthly.