

Margaret Walsh

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UFO line runs hot, by Jupiter

By KELLY RYAN

CRICKET fans and smokers have been buzzing the UFO Hotline about a giant white light glowing in the night sky.

World Cup watchers refreshing themselves in the cold air in the wee hours and smokers banished outdoors have noticed the gleaming orb pulsating in clear night skies.

But the moving light is not an unidentified aircraft. It is Jupiter, the biggest planet, slowly setting in the north west.

A similar sight is occurring on the other side of Melbourne with Venus setting in the east.

National operations manager for the National Space Centre's UFO Hot-

line, Ross Dowe, said Jupiter could be seen rotating close to the moon.

Sightings of the two planets on the same sky occur only twice a year.

"Smokers are increasingly our most frequent callers because when they are banished to the backyard, they tend to stare at the sky," Mr Dowe said.

"And other callers are telling us they have been falling asleep while watching the cricket and have gone outside for a cold blast to snap them awake again."

Skywitness reports can be found on the Internet at www.over.to/ufo

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