

UFO

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HERALD, Portsmouth, NH - Sept. 2, 2005

OUR VIEW

UFO incident makes us examine the unexplained

Einstein said, "The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science."

If we dwelt on this thought for only a moment, most of us would probably agree.

Forty years ago, something happened in our Seacoast that unnerved the scientific world. To this day, the event has fascinated thousands of people — the "Incident at Exeter."

Credible witnesses testified that, indeed, a mysterious object floated and flew through the area. Extra-terrestrial? Critically examining and analyzing the events, the Department of the Air Force was unable to identify the object seen by credible police officers.

The Pentagon originally denied the whole thing, alluding to it as "twinkling stars and planets." The denial was short-lived when a few months later, a now-renowned comprehensive report on the incident, compiled by a UFO investigator representing the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena in Washington, was read into the Congressional Record during the first open Congressional hearings on UFOs. Thus, the Air Force had to admit it was a sighting of an unknown object.

Since May 1946, illustrations of UFO sightings have been disclosed from every country on Earth. Some say they may have been around longer than modern man. Millions of people have given reports about strange objects in the sky.

Some are explained.

Some are not.

How does one explain a description from the 12th century William of Newburgh's Chronicle, which states that "a flat, round, shining silvery object flew over the abbey and caused the utmost terror."

A meteor, a comet or a falling star?

Maybe.

Maybe not.

In this huge universe, of which we are a tiny part, who are we to say that man, as we know ourselves, is the only intelligent species?

— Portsmouth Herald

KENTUCKY NEW ERA, Hopkinsville, KY - Aug. 20, 2005

Aliens among us



TONYA S. GRACE | KENTUCKY NEW ERA

Alien impersonators Cindy Glass (left) and Cindy Hancock hassle Mills Foster, Christian County property valuation administrator, at his office Friday.

Abductors swoop in on Hoptown

BY TONYA S. GRACE
NEW ERA STAFF WRITER

As a youngster, Mills Foster used former Hopkinsville police chief Russell Greenwell's report on the Kelly alien encounter for some of his school work.

On Friday, he enjoyed an alien encounter of his own when the door to his office burst open and he was confronted by two creatures with long flowing robes and almond-shaped eyes.

The creatures surrounded him and threatened abduction ... until, that is, Foster, the property valuation administrator for Christian County, forked over the requisite \$30.

For \$30, Mills got to enjoy the remainder of his workday in undisturbed peace, and the aliens took their ill-gotten goods and departed, alas, without an abductee.

QuickInfo: Little Green Men events

Events at the Little Green Men Festival, Hopkinsville-Christian County Conference and Convention Center.

Saturday:

■ Intergalactic trade show, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

■ "What Really Happened in Kelly?" panel discussion, 9 a.m.-noon.

■ Symposium speakers: Dr. Joe Nickell, paranormal investigator, noon; George Fawcett, UFO investigator, 1:30 p.m.; and Peter Daven-

Identifying themselves as officers from a planet called Obitar, the two out-of-this-world figures said they had returned to Hopkinsville "to party" during this weekend's Little Green

port, National UFO Reporting Center, 2:30 p.m.

■ "Monsters of the UFO," a film documentary, at 4 p.m.

■ "Space Jam" Alien Ball, featuring The Cruisers from Louisville, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

All events are free, except for the dance. Dance tickets are \$25 per couple, \$15 for single.

Sunday:

■ Intergalactic trade show, noon-4 p.m.

■ Karaoke contest, 1 p.m. Registration at noon.

■ Bus tours of Kelly with William T. Turner, city-county historian. Tickets required.

Men Festival.

They admitted that they had left behind some friends when they first visited Kelly 50 years ago on Aug. 21, 1955, and they

(continued on page 2)

wanted to pick them up and drop off others to continue canvassing the local community.

While on reconnaissance for their planet, the two volunteered this time to actively support the ongoing festival, and they were busy on Friday collecting ransom fees from individuals who weren't interested in returning with them to Obitar.

The Kentucky Circuit Court Clerk's Trust for Life Charity had asked the two obliging

aliens to abduct folks in the community to help raise funds for the charity and support organ and tissue donor awareness. Earthlings were invited to contact the organization and volunteer their friends and family as abductees as part of the "Alien Abductions" fund-raiser.

In exchange for the \$30 fee, the intended victims could ransom themselves, or friends and family could bail them out of the aliens' mother ship, which was docking at the Pennyroyal Area Museum.

One determined victim, upon finding that he was a prospective abductee, visited a nearby ATM machine and returned only to find that he had withdrawn \$40 instead of \$30.

The aliens said he gave them a \$10 tip in exchange for his freedom.

Most folks, the aliens said, were agreeable to paying their own fees rather than risk being taken back to the aliens' ship, although a couple did end up at the museum.

One enterprising person, they said, even requested she

be kept until the end of the day so she wouldn't have to return to work.

"We kept them for experiments," one of the aliens — dressed in a white and silver robe — explained. "We took them back to the mother ship for experiments. Hopkinsville has fine specimens."

Both aliens noted that they had signed up to be organ donors.

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UFO expert to speak at Green Men festival

BY EMILY BURTON
NEW ERA STAFF WRITER

After a lifetime of studying what many brush off as science fiction, Peter Davenport is relatively certain of two things. First, that UFOs exist and have been witnessed on Earth, and second, that the government has known about them for decades.

As director of the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Davenport has spent the last 11 years filing accounts and eyewitness reports of UFO sightings.

The reporting center in Seattle consists of one phone, one fax, and one Web master, and is

"Please believe me, I'm not crazy."

The beginning of many anonymous e-mails or phone calls Davenport receives

almost completely privately funded by Davenport and donations.

Often, Davenport receives anonymous reports of UFO sightings in e-mails or phone calls from people who begins, "Please believe me, I'm not crazy."

He has been interviewed by

Peter Jennings, the History Channel and the Discovery Channel, to name a few. Davenport will regale the crowd at the Little Green Men Festival today with tales of what he believes are some of the more fascinating, provable cases reported.

The festival, at the Hopkinsville-Christian County Conference and Convention Center, commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Aug. 21, 1955, report of an alien invasion at Kelly.

As Davenport retells each sighting with an immense focus on scientific details, his out-of-this-world stories become more science and less fiction.

out, moving side to side, "hovering above the trees. And it made no sound. It had turned from white to red and was fading in and out. By this time I had chills. What can this thing be, and what could it want? We are stunned and confused about it."

■ October 18, 1974: Hopkinsville, three saucer-shaped craft, with multi-colored lights flashing sequentially, followed witnesses around Lake Tandy. "We saw all three craft hovering above the lake and the craft in the center of the three had flames coming from the center of its underside." Both witnesses lost approximately three hours of time after the sighting, and couldn't remember driving back to their apartment.

QuickInfo: More local sightings

A sample of other local sightings reported to the National UFO Reporting Center, listed at www.ufocenter.com:

■ July 9, 1966: Hopkinsville, a capsule-shaped object landed in a field. "The craft sat there for what seemed to be five to 10 minutes when with fire coming from underneath, it began lifting back into the air and rose several hundred feet, then abruptly turned on its side and shot off with a great swooshing sound and left a mist type vapor in the air."

■ May 11, 2004: Hopkinsville, bright red object, fading in and

tivity reads like a textbook.

"Once you have evidence, there's the question, is it accurate? Does it come from independent sources? Is it indelible in the sense that, do you have photographic evidence or just eye-witness accounts?"

Take for example the 1998 UFO report from a former Canadian fighter pilot, who said he saw green balls of light in the sky. Or the 14 forestry workers in Washington who all witnessed a horseshoe-shaped object lift an elk from the forest and fly away with it. In St. Clair County, Ill., five years ago, "officers from eight police departments witness, pursue, and photograph a huge, triangular object," Davenport wrote from reports.

Witnesses include a commercial pilot, a radar patrol officer, a former Navy Chief, a Federal Aviation Administration air traffic controller, and even an astronaut. Local officials and high-ranking government agents who know of nowhere else to go with reports of a UFO sighting now call him, Davenport said.

"We are the facility to which law enforcement agencies, military facilities and the FAA report UFO events."

By his own admission, about 70 percent or more of the reports to Davenport's hotline and Web-site have nothing to do with actual UFOs. But of the remaining 30 percent ...

During a classified meeting on the East coast several years ago, with a government agency Davenport is not at lib-

erty to identify, the exact scope of the government's involvement in their own UFO research was partial revealed, he said.

"They identified themselves, ... and they said, 'Peter, we know who you are. We have visited your web-site extensively.' And they said, 'You appear to us to have information that we are very interested in.'"

They wanted to know more about a UFO that had been seen near a commercial airliner.

After a four-hour meeting, they thanked Davenport and told him, "Out of our sense of gratitude, we're going to tell you what our position about UFOs is in the U.S. government," he said.

He said the government officials told him they know UFOs exist.

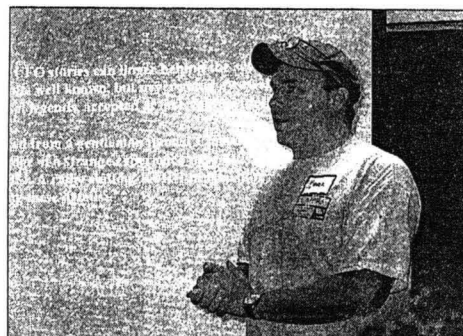
But if the government knows anything about UFOs, they aren't about to crack, Davenport said.

Is there intelligent life cruising the night skies, and did it ever visit Kelly? If local lore can't convince us, maybe science and an extensive collection of similar stories can.

"If it were not for our center, I fear the American people would be naked in the face of whatever threat we may be dealing with. Even if its just as mild of threat of ignorance of UFO phenomena," said Davenport. "And that threat makes me very uncomfortable."

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BARNSTABLE PATRIOT, Hyannis, MA
Sept. 2, 2005



PAMELA R. HIGGINS PHOTO

SAUCER FULL OF SECRETS — Derek Bartlett, founder and president of the Cape and Islands Paranormal Research Society, speaks about stories of UFOs on Cape Cod.

Close Encounter

Residents,
CAPIRS share
UFO stories,
history

By Pamela R. Higgins
news@barnstablepatriot.com

Kate Boland is familiar with strange phenomenon. Five years ago, while staying

at a log cabin she owned in Kent, N.Y., she says that she received some unexpected visitors.

She awoke at 2 a.m. to find she was paralyzed and "feeling as if someone was in the room." "I remember asking myself why the dogs aren't barking," said Boland, who lives in Centerville with her husband Michael and

according to Kaestner. "There are lots of sightings in Bourne, Falmouth, Sandwich and Mashpee," he said, noting the proximity to Otis Air Force Base. "Many sightings occur in the Barnstable Harbor area, which is a flight path area for the airport."

Kaestner, a bit of a skeptic, wonders why aliens would travel millions of miles to probe us. "We are too primitive and warlike," he said.

He said society has moved toward a more open door policy towards paranormal and UFO research. "Regardless of how far fetched the story may be, this is the paranormal and the stories are not mainstream," he said. "We will believe you until we can prove it wrong."

Kaestner's presentation included a history of artifacts with UFO related themes. From ancient astronauts painted in caves around 10,000 B.C. in Val Camonica, Italy to Iraqi artifacts from 4500 B.C. with reptilian heads and the Bruges' Summer's Triumph tapestry, with its space saucers, from 1538, human history is full of references to visitors from outer space.

"I hope there is more intelligent life out there," said Kate Boland, who wonders where her visitors came from. "We need it."

three Shih Tzus. "They said, 'We are not human.'"

The next thing Boland knew she was being transported to a large object that looked like an upside down stadium.

"It reminded me of Shea stadium; the lights were real bright, like headlights," she said. "The closer I got the more afraid I was. I remember screaming I want to go back to earth, I like earth warts and all."

She said she never realized how much she loves the planet she lives on until that moment. She found herself back in bed with her three Shih Tzus. All were still sleeping.

Boland shared her story at a recent presentation by the Cape and Islands Paranormal Research Society (CAPIRS) on UFO sightings on Cape Cod.

"Roughly three million Americans have reported being abducted by aliens," said Keith Kaestner, lead investigator for CAPIRS.

Both Boland and her husband Michael are near-death survivors and attend presentations of the society occasionally. The area of Kent, N.Y. where Boland had her experience, is located in the Hudson River Valley, which is known for UFO sightings, according to the UFO evidence Web site.

Similarly, Cape Cod has areas where many UFO sightings have been reported,

For more information, check out www.caiprs.org, www.massmufon.com and www.ufoevidence.org



Barbara Harris and her dog, Harley, stand in front of the Integratron near Landers.

Trevor Summons/For The Sun

From another world

By Trevor Summons
Correspondent

The Earth's population can probably be divided into two types of people — those that believe in UFOs and those that don't. There is little doubt that George Van Tassel was in the first category, and during the 1960s and '70s, he gathered a lot of followers who shared in his beliefs.

In the desert of Landers, there is a monument to Van Tassel's life and it is the result of an extraterrestrial experience he reported over 50 years ago.

In 1951, Van Tassel said that he saw a large airship on the far side of an airstrip he had built in the area. The sighting was confirmed by two other men. Van Tassel originally kept the story to himself, but in August 1953, he said he was awakened by an alien from Venus named Solganda, who in-



Courtesy photo

A photo of George Van Tassel, creator of the Integratron.

ited him into a spaceship which at the time was hovering 25 feet off the ground.



Courtesy photo

An angel cloud over the Integratron.

The Integratron

2477 Belfield Boulevard, Landers

- Phone: (760) 364-3126
- Web site: www.integratron.com;
www.getunplugged.org
- Special events and group tours available

The Venusians reported to Van Tassel that although they were impressed by the human race, they were sorry that our lifespan was so short, and they had a machine that would help. The result, he said, was the design for a "high-voltage electrostatic generator that would supply a broad band range of frequencies to recharge the cell structure," and thereby extend human life.

This machine was to become the Integratron.

Joanne Karl is one of three sisters who now own the Integratron and is an enthusiastic member of a community that regularly meets there.

"Most of us came from corporate lives in the helping or technological professions," she said from the well-cared for desert garden close to the building.

"Many of us used to come here for relaxation in the early days," she said.

As for an explanation of the phenomenon, she explains it in two ways: "It was one man's Field of Dreams," she said.

The other explanation is a little more complicated.

"It's constructed along geomagnetic lines. It is a 16-sided dome supported by glue and laminated wooden spines held together by the pressure of a 1-ton block of concrete at its apex. It was made with no metal fasteners in its construction."

Originally the dome was to rotate, generating 50,000 volts of static electricity. Seekers of rejuvenation could walk through the building in white clothing exposing every cell in their bodies to the cosmic forces that would reportedly prolong life.

Unfortunately for the builder, the final stage was never completed. In 1978 Van Tassel died at age 68. He had set the stage, however, for an abiding interest in cosmic travel, extraterrestrials and other unworldly events.

"We are having a very important symposium on the UFO phenomena of the 1950s and '60s," said event coordinator Barbara Harris of a gathering scheduled for April 2006. "It will be held in conjunction with the Institute of Mentalphysics of Joshua Tree."

Harris has been a frequent visitor to the Landers area for the last 25 years.

"Often my husband and I would hang around hoping to see the interesting building. But it was mostly closed back then," she said.

In fact, following the death of Van Tassel, the Integratron was deserted for many years.

Fifteen years ago, Landers was the epicenter of a more terrestrial experience with an earthquake of 7.3 magnitude. It shook buildings hundreds of miles away, but the Integratron stayed firm, anchored to the earth.

Today, the Karl sisters are only too happy to arrange tours and plan overnight events for visitors.

"The Integratron is a wonderful place to relax," Karl said. "It's ideal for people who want to unwind — not just on the outside, but on the inside too."

She said that many people from the creative side of life come here to relax and create new works of art. Its acoustics are prized by musicians.

"The construction of the dome makes for some wonderful sounds, and many composers use it," said Karl.

In fact, the upstairs chamber is used for "sound baths," where the recipient sits in a chair and allows sound to wash over them.

The truth is out there ... in Randolph County

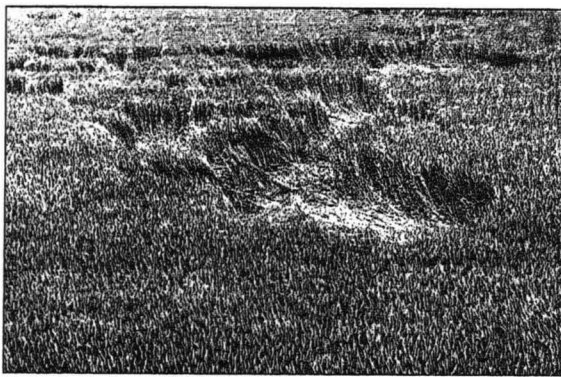
Weather phenom?
Alien message? Strange
marks in wheat field
mystify the neighbors.

By COLLEEN STEFFEN
csteffen@muncie.gannett.com

It's a perfectly cinematic spot for crop circles, if in fact that's what they are. A bona-fide alien couldn't have chosen better: a field of green wheat undulating between a thick wood and arrow-straight 1000-W. Nearby, two century-old farmhouses weather picturesquely.

And from the road, the strange markings that appeared in the field early this week look truly impressive, like interconnected circles and arrows with some secret meaning — something right out of Signs or X-Files.

From the air ... well, not so much. From the air, they look like what they most likely are, the result of last weekend's turbulent weather.



KYLE EVANS / THE STAR PRESS

CALLERS TO The Star Press reported seeing crop circles in a wheat field along Windsor Road and 1000-W in Randolph County. The random designs looked from the road as though something had made the pattern without leaving a path. The unusual patterns look like wind damage from the severe storms that passed through the area Sunday, a local storm expert says.

That hasn't stopped Farmland mom Michelle Slaven from telling everyone she knows.

She glimpsed the markings half-way between Farmland and Parker City near Windsor Road

Monday on her way to a local convenience store and immediately pulled over so she could stand on the roof of her truck for a better look.

"I said, 'Oh, my God!' I'm

telling you, I was so excited," she said. "Those are shapes. ... There is something there."

Farmer Ralph Bosworth, who owns the wheat field, was equally mystified if less easily impressed.

"I sure don't know nothing about it," he said, taking a break from his chores in the barn to survey the field. "(But) I'd say that's nothing but wind that's done that."

Dr. David Arnold agreed. The Ball State University meteorology professor looked at a photograph taken from a small airplane and reported, "This looks very much like 'blowdown' from thunderstorm winds and rain. I have seen these patterns many times and feel quite confident they are weather related."

Certainly they didn't have the eerie geometry of crop circles one might see late at night on the Discovery Channel. If they were the result of a hoax, their creators could use a math tutorial.

But not so fast, said Roger Sugden of Fort Wayne, a

founder of Independent Crop Circle Research Associates, which investigates crop circles throughout the Midwest. Many "randomly down crops" that don't have surprising shapes do show the energy signatures of an extraordinary event. He said only testing of the soil and the damaged plants would show for certain.

"All we know is there's some high energy that hits the field ... It's microwave-like," he said. "... I'm not saying UFOs cause them, but they're definitely related."

And here's one more addition to the mystery in Randolph County: Neighbor Linda Price said she heard loud voices in the road late one evening over the weekend and called 911 (though that call could not be confirmed). Math-challenged jokesters, weird weather, aliens with a mysterious message to convey — whatever caused the markings, one thing is certain.

"I never saw nothing," says Slaven, "especially never in Farmland, like that before."

Contact assistant lifestyles editor Colleen Steffen at 213-5852.

LINCOLN TIMES-NEWS, Lincolnton, NC - Sept. 2, 2005 CR: G. Fawcett

The truth is right here

SARAH GRANO
Staff Writer

As a child, George Fawcett came across a newspaper headline proclaiming "Silver Balls Floating in Air Nazis' Newest War Device."

Prior to finding the clipping, Fawcett was an avid World War II collector. He already had 43 scrapbooks full of memorabilia.

After reading that headline, however, his focus shifted.

"I didn't realize it was going to snowball, and I was going to become the Curious George of UFO research," Fawcett said.

From the age of 10 on, Fawcett devoted himself to UFOs. Sure, he also took time to be a Boy Scout, college athlete, YMCA director, newspaper reporter and general manager, but he became most acclaimed for his work in UFO research.

He has investigated first hand sightings from coast to coast and traveled everywhere from Panama to England to lecture on what he learned.

Now 76, he is one of the members of the Board of Directors at the UFO Museum and Research Center in Roswell, New Mexico. He has also published two books and continues to lecture across the country.

When investigating, Fawcett heard first person accounts of UFO sightings and alien encounters from a wide range of Americans — policemen, farmers, pilots and "the average man on the street."



Chris Deen / Lincoln Times-News

This friendly doormat greets visitors, both earthly and otherwise, at the Fawcetts' home in Lincolnton.

"Some of these people are highly intelligent, highly educated," he said. "It's not the city drunk or the crackpot."

He used the information he gathered for his books and papers. Over the years, he also donated over 248,000 items to the UFO Museum and Research Center.

As for skeptics who mock his work, he pays them no mind.

"I've never met an informed skeptic in my life," Fawcett said. "They don't exist. If you do your homework, you're not a skeptic."

He believes 80 percent of people believe in UFOs and aliens. Many sightings, however, go unreported, and he chucks that up to two things.

"The first reason is the 'Little Green Men Ha-Ha-Ha Syndrome.' People simply don't like the ridicule."

"They might report (sightings) to their next door neighbors, and the next door neighbor laughed so hard they didn't report it again," Fawcett said.

The second reason is

government cover up.

"It's the second highest rated on national security," he said. "It's next to the atomic bomb."

Fawcett is full of statistics like this on all things alien.

"I'm sort of a walking encyclopedia," he said.

In his 66 years of UFO enthrallment, he has heard many different stories.

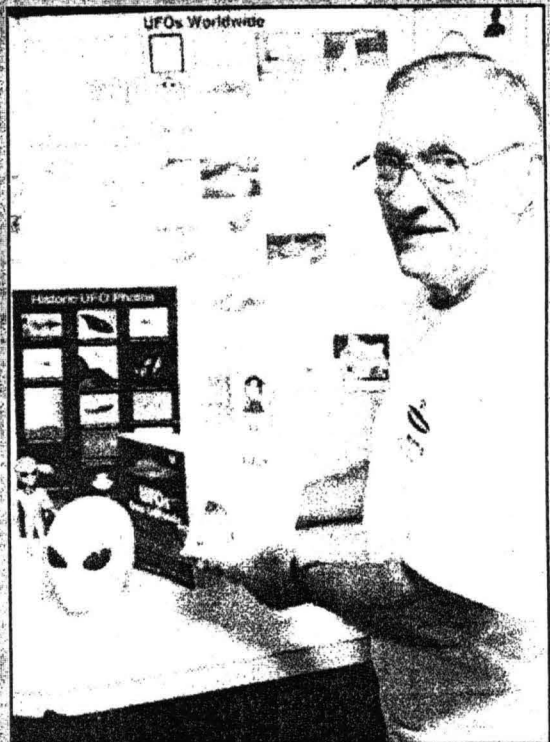
The "shot first, asked questions later" one is quite popular. People have claimed to shoot at UFOs with rifles and chase them down with cars.

Fawcett doesn't suggest such behavior — UFOs rarely harm people unless they are provoked, he said.

There are also other, more pleasant, stories about miraculous healings. One formerly cancer-ridden woman was healed after she claimed to have an alien encounter.

"That's worth looking into," Fawcett said.

Although his research is slowing down, he's still perfectly happy to be the one doing that looking.



Chris Deen / Lincoln Times-News

George Fawcett has researched Unidentified Flying Objects and their occupants for 65 years, starting at age 10. Above, he holds his first book.



Chris Deen / Lincoln Times-News

Fawcett has donated 248,000 items to the UFO Museum and Research Center in Roswell, New Mexico where he is on the board. Even so, the Fawcett home is still has files full of UFO research (above).

UFO sighting terrified locals 40 years ago

'Incident at Exeter' unique because of police credibility

By Bonnie Meroth
news@seacoastonline.com

EXETER — Engulfed in the blackness of a late summer night, a teenage Navy recruit walked down the quiet country highway. Suddenly, a huge object loomed above him. Throwing himself to the ground to avoid being hit, he huddled against a stone wall. The blood drained from his face.

The time was around 2 a.m. The date was Sept. 3, 1965. Thus began the "Incident at Exeter," a series of sightings officially qualified as a legitimate visit from an unidentified flying object.

In September and October 1965, several sightings in New Hampshire were carefully investigated and documented by local and federal offices.

The encounters that night took special precedence over other UFO sightings because of the credibility of Exeter police officers Eugene Bertrand and David Hunt, as well as Reginald "Scratch" Toland, who was dis-

fied flying object in that area. Units 2, 4 and Pease Air Force alerted. At 3:17 a.m., received a call from Exeter operator and Officer Toland. Advised that a male subject called and asked for police department, further stating that call was in re: a large unidentified flying object, but call was cut off. Call received from a Hampton pay phone, location unknown."

The official report to Project Blue Book from the director of administrative services of the Pease Air Force Base at Portsmouth concluded with this paragraph by the investigator: "At this time, have been unable to arrive at a probable cause of this sighting. The three observers seem to be stable, reliable persons, especially the two patrolmen. I viewed the area and found nothing in the area that could be the probable cause."

Project Blue Book is a compilation by the U.S. government to repute the existence of extraterrestrial objects.

Peter Geremia, New Hampshire state director of the Mutual Unidentified Flying Object Network Inc., noted: "The police officers involved put their careers on the line. They courageously came forward and stated what they saw at a time when witnesses were not allowed any credibility on the subject."

Geremia, who has appeared on national media programs including "Unsolved Mysteries," presented chronological depiction of what happened the night of the Incident at Exeter.

His "decent rendition of what happened" matches the series of events starting with Muscarello being frightened by a UFO.

Bertrand, although an Air

Force veteran, was never able to put a name to the UFO.

"What do you call a UFO? Was it from another planet? We just couldn't identify it," he noted.

He meticulously described it as a "huge, shapeless object with five sequentially pulsating-from-left-to-right bright red lights, so bright you couldn't look at it."

The Pentagon repeatedly denied the sightings, but the incident was read into the congressional record in April 1966 by Raymond Fowler, representative of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena in Washington. It was the first open congressional hearing on UFOs.

Fowler, internationally renowned author of 11 books about UFOs, has studied UFO reports for decades.

In a recent interview, he shared his thoughts on the Exeter incident and the stories that followed.

"The second-hand speculation stories were varied and perhaps hypothesized," Fowler said. "Muscarello's mother purportedly saw confidential patterns of a UFO landing site drawing that was handcuffed to an Air Force investigator who visited her house. The neighboring farmer was instructed by the Air Force to plow under landing marks in his field.

"The hens in the neighborhood stopped laying eggs. The air-base intelligence officer was seen buying up all the newspapers carrying stories about Sept. 3. A base commander was seen in civilian clothes rather than uniform while investigating," he related.

Then, there was the irrefutable.

"There were major similarities with these area sightings that

patcher and supervising officer when the shaken teenager, Norman Muscarello, came to the police station claiming he had encountered a UFO.

A similar report substantiated his story. Earlier, Bertrand had come upon a lone woman parked on the side of Route 101 near an overpass two miles outside Exeter.

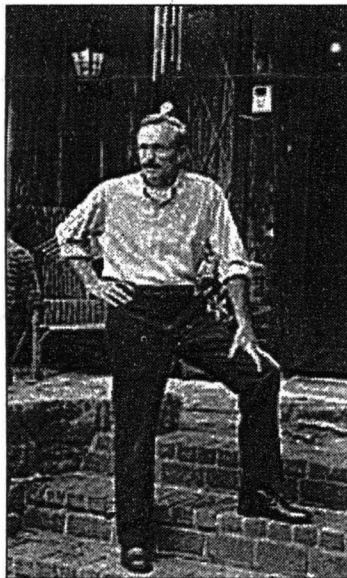
She said a huge, silent, red and brilliantly glowing airborne object had chased her from the town of Epping about 12 miles away. It had been only a few feet from her car before it departed at a tremendous speed and disappeared.

Bertrand saw nothing but a bright star and sent her home. Toland also spoke to the woman, who told him she had been chased by the "low-flying, large, round object with flashing red lights."

An hour later, Bertrand received a call from Toland to report back to the station immediately because "a kid had come in who had seen a UFO." The police officer picked up Muscarello at the station.

The teen led him back to the site where he'd seen the craft. After sitting in the parked cruiser for several minutes, Bertrand radioed the dispatcher to say they saw nothing unusual.

Bertrand, instructed to check out the field before heading back, proceeded to do so with Muscarello.



Courtesy photo

Peter Geremia, the state director of the Mutual Unidentified Flying Object Network Inc., has appeared on numerous national media programs, including "Unsolved Mysteries."

conform to documented cases. UFOs tend to be seen near swamps, major power lines or nuclear sources. Muscarello noticed the object coming from over a line of trees behind which were major power lines. There was a swamp in the area. Pease and the Navy yard both had nuclear power entities. And, when a Pease Air Force base commander attempted to disprove it was a UFO by simulating the incident by turning on runway lights, he failed," noted Fowler.

Fowler, now retired from active investigation, noted in a letter to the United States Air Force, "The UFO sighted by Norman Muscarello was identical to the UFO seen later by

Horses in a nearby barn began to kick and whinny. Dogs in the neighborhood began to howl.

Muscarello shouted, "Look out, here it comes!" and they watched as something luminous rose from behind tall evergreens.

The aircraft, about 100 feet away, silently sped so close to Bertrand that he dropped to the ground and drew his service weapon.

"There was this huge, dark object as big as that barn over there with red flashing lights on it," Bertrand later told an investigator. "It barely cleared that tree right there, and it was moving back and forth. ... It seemed to tilt and come right at us. Norman told me later that I was yelling, 'I'll shoot it! I'll shoot it!' I did drop on one knee and drew my service revolver, but I didn't shoot."

Bertrand, dragged Muscarello, frozen with fear, back to the cruiser.

From the car, the men saw no tail, no wings and heard no sound.

Already en route, Hunt arrived within minutes and saw the UFO as it "floated, wobbled and did things that no plane could do" before it darted away toward Hampton. They returned to the station to write their report.

Toland received a call shortly after from a Hampton telephone operator who said that a distressed motorist attempted to contact the police from a pay phone. He yelled at the operator, saying he was being chased by a flying saucer that came right at him and that it was still out there. He was then disconnected.

A Hampton Police Department's blotter entry for that night reads: "September 3, 1965: 3 a.m. Exeter Police Department reports unidenti-

"The police officers involved put their careers on the line. They courageously came forward and stated what they saw at a time when witnesses were not allowed any credibility on the subject."

Peter Geremia

Muscarello, Bertrand and Hunt.

"There is no question in my mind that the same or similar object was involved in both of these particular sightings.

"Since I did not interview the unnamed woman, I am not certain of the details ... but according to Officer Bertrand, the object ... was very similar to the UFO they sighted later ... another witness, a male motorist, also sighted a similar object. ..."

Because of the viability of the testimonies of those involved on the night of Sept. 3, 1965, and because of Fowler's testimony into the Congressional Record in April 1966, the United States Air Force admitted that indeed, the Incident at Exeter involved an unidentified flying object.

Carbondale's 'UFO': Case closed, or cover-up?

Filmmaker turns spotlight back onto 1974 incident.

BY LISA SCHENCKER
STAFF WRITER

CARBONDALE — Mary Sutherland sat with her husband and three friends in a booth at McDonnell's Restaurant in Carbondale on Monday eating pancakes, cutting sausage and discussing UFOs.

"So many years they tried to bury it," Carbondale resident Frank Scassellati said as Ms. Sutherland put down her fork and leaned forward.

thing very similar to Roswell," Ms. Sutherland. "Roswell actually didn't have the witnesses Carbondale has. There's a better story here than in Roswell, and what I have to do is bring this story to light."

Officially, the story is this: A small group of teenagers told police they saw a red, whirling ball fly over Salem Mountain and into the old, murky mine pond on Nov. 9, 1974. When police arrived, they saw a mysterious light glowing beneath the water.

Soon, military workers, reporters and UFO enthusiasts joined a growing group of onlookers to test the water for radiation and inspect the site. The glow lasted for nine hours.

Two days later, a diver pulled

"And we're going to change that," she said. "I want people to say Roswell/Carbondale."

The conversation centered on a night in 1974, when a glowing light in a pond near Russell Park attracted crowds of gawkers and UFO enthusiasts to the Pioneer City.

Now, 31 years later, Wisconsin filmmaker Ms. Sutherland is making a documentary about that night and the theories that have grown out of it. She

a small lantern from the pond, and the mayor of Carbondale held a news conference to announce that extraterrestrials were not to blame for the mysterious light.

To further cement things, in 1999, one of the then-teens who originally reported the sighting, Robert Gillette Jr., admitted the whole thing was a hoax, according to Times-Tribune archives. He said he and his friends threw the battery-powered lantern into the pond to scare his little sister.

Case closed.

Or is it?

Ms. Sutherland, her husband and at least two area natives, Mr. Scassellati and Ron Hannivig, think not. They think the lantern was a cover-up. Why do witnesses report seeing a larger object dragged

hopes to distribute the filmed interviews, raw footage and documentary to cable television channels through the Sutherlands' Burlington UFO and Paranormal Center.

She wants to eventually hold UFO conventions in Carbondale.

"My hope is that we'll turn the Carbondale crash into some-

from the pond that night? Why weren't reporters allowed near the scene? How could a small lantern emit so much light at the bottom of a pond?

Carbondale police have offered a number of answers to those questions, but Ms. Sutherland, Mr. Hannivig and Mr. Scassellati don't buy them.

"Anyone can say 'I threw a lantern in.' Maybe someone did throw a lantern in," Ms. Sutherland said. "But there's a lot more to it than that. It's not the story that sounds the best. It's the story that has the evidence to support it."

Ms. Sutherland spent much of Monday looking for that evidence. She climbed atop an old mine entrance to get a full view of the silt pond now surrounded by trees and dozens

of dirty, discarded tires. She scanned the area with her digital camera gathering still shots and returned later to interview witnesses and local UFO enthusiasts.

After touring the site and speaking to witnesses, Ms. Sutherland said she still doesn't know exactly what happened that night.

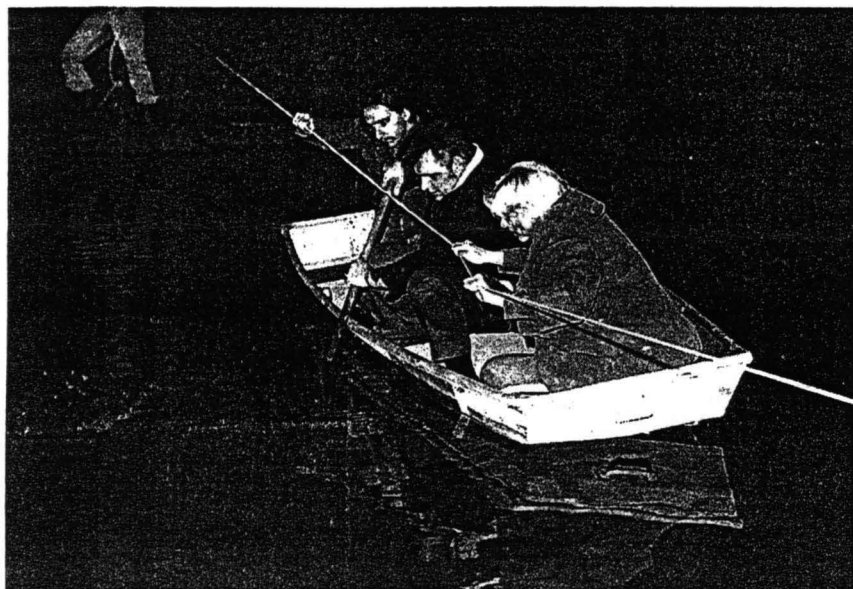
Maybe a spaceship splashed down into the pond. Maybe a portal to another dimension opened. Maybe someone simply threw a lantern into the pond.

"I totally believe there was a UFO crash here, but it doesn't matter what I believe," Ms. Sutherland said. "I have to present enough material for someone else to believe."

Contact the writer:
lschencker@timeshamrock.com



A scuba diver recovers a lantern from a Carbondale pond in 1974.



Three people probe a Carbondale pond for the source of a glowing light in November 1974.

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS, PEOPLE HEADED FOR ROSWELL THIS WEEKEND

If the idea of a UFO convention in Carbondale sounds odd, head over this weekend to Roswell, N.M. to see the idea in full force.

The "Roswell 2005: UFO Festival," will bring thousands of dollars and between 2,000 and 3,000 people to the remote desert city, according to Christine Firch of the Roswell Visitor Center.

This year will be the biggest one yet, with highlights including an "Alien Oldies" concert, a lecture on "The Science Behind Alien Encounters" and "Poof went the Proof," a play performed by the Roswell Community Little Theater.

"The hotels are pretty

much booked out," Ms. Firch said.

"A lot of people book two to three months in advance to get a room."

Attendees have travelled from as faraway as France and Britain for the festival, which began in 1997.

The region's notoriety dates to July 1947, when an unknown object crashed near town.

Many residents believed it was a flying saucer.

However, the federal government said the wreckage belonged to an off-course weather balloon, but skeptics claim the announcement was part of an elaborate conspiracy to hide an alien spacecraft.

— JON SCHUBIN

COLUMBIAN, Vancouver, WA - Aug. 22, 2005

UFO center collects mountain of data

Researcher certain they exist, government knows

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Peter Davenport has received more phone calls than he cares to count that have an unusual opening: "Please believe me, I'm not crazy."

For Davenport, director of the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, it's part of the job.

Davenport spoke Sunday at the Little Green Men Festival in Hopkinsville, Ky., with tales of what he believes are some of the more fascinating, provable cases reported. The festival, at the Hopkinsville-Christian County Conference and Convention Center, commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Aug. 21, 1955, report of an alien invasion at Kelly, Ky.

After a lifetime of studying what many brush off as science fiction, Davenport feels certain that UFOs exist and have been witnessed on Earth. And he believes that the government has

known about them for decades.

"I have not just a mountain of data, perhaps a mountain range of data. And I assure you, it's strictly by accident," Davenport told the Kentucky New Era in an interview.

Davenport has spent the last 11 years filing accounts and eyewitness reports of UFO sightings from a reporting center that consists of one phone, one fax, and one Web master, and is almost completely privately funded by Davenport and donations.

Davenport graduated from Stanford with degrees in Russian and biology and received his MBA in finance and international business. But, years before receiving a master's degree in genetics and the biochemistry of fish, Davenport heard of the Kelly Green Men incident on the radio.

The story from Kelly was one of

several that piqued his interest in UFOs and eventually led to his involvement in the National UFO Reporting Center.

Davenport said his perspective of UFO sightings took on a new dimension on a July night in 1954 when he was 6 years old. Davenport said that's when he, his mom and brother saw an object in the sky while at a drive-in theater on the edge of the St. Louis Airport.

"We didn't know it at the time, but my father, and people in the tower on the north side of the airport, were looking at the same object with their binoculars," he said.

Davenport said the object appeared to be about the size of the moon, bright red like a traffic signal and slightly oval in shape.

"And (it) stopped, almost stock-still, in the sky to the east of our location. People were getting out of their cars,"

Did you know?

■ According to the SciFi.com Web site, a Roper poll showed 56 percent of Americans believe UFOs are real and 48 percent believe extraterrestrials have visited the Earth.

Prof is on a 'Night Search' for UFOs

Philosophy teacher focuses on unexplainable phenomena

By LINDSAY SONSKY

Special to Midtown & Downtown Appeal

During the week Eddie Middleton teaches philosophy at Southwest Tennessee Community College, but on Friday evenings he can be found "chewing the fat — paranormal style" with experts from across the country.

As host of "Night Search," a radio call-in show from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. on WMC-790 AM, Middleton, 61, along with his callers and rotating lineup of paranormal specialists, explores the world of UFOs and unexplained phenomena.

During the two-hour segment based out of the Midtown radio station, he receives calls, such as a Haywood County farmer reporting crop circles in his cornfield, a Collierville woman explaining a close encounter with a UFO and an alien abduction in East Tennessee.

The calls flood in from as far away as Philadelphia ... and as close as Downtown.

"It will blow people's minds when they find out what's going on right here," said the host of the only UFO/paranormal radio show in the Mid-South.

Occasionally Middleton will get a few pranksters on the horn, but he does his best to quickly get them off air. For the most part, people dialing in are sincerely interested in discussing personal and reported experiences not easily explained by science.

He's been back on the air since May. Middleton once hosted "Night Search" on WREC-AM 600 and Flynn Broadcasting. He hopes to make Memphis the home of the Mid-American UFO Conference in November. Middleton believes they can pull in about 250 people.

Although it's still too early to tell what kind of ratings his radio program is getting, the Web broadcast is giving the station a pretty good idea of its popularity. Streamlined through *nightsearch.net*, during its first two weeks back on-air 1,200 people logged on to listen. According to the operator of the site, Tommy Wilson of HGC Technology Groups, nearly 3,000 people from six countries are visiting the site each week.

Middleton believes the level of interest in UFOs and paranormal has increased as a result of the documentaries on personal encounters and Hollywood blockbusters like the newly released "War of the Worlds."

"The public is more receptive than they used to be," said Middleton, who has had his share of ridicule over the years.

At one point the philosophy professor of 25 years was pulled aside by the dean of the college to reprimand him for speaking about UFOs in his class. But his background in philosophy opened him up to unearthly possibilities.



Midtowner Royal Stewart (left) and "Night Search" show host Eddie Middleton participate in a radio call-in show from the WMC-790 AM recording studio in Midtown. The show focuses on the world of UFOs and other unexplained phenomena. Middleton teaches philosophy at Southwest Tennessee Community College.

sibilities.

"Philosophy deals with what's reality and to look and search with an open mind," he said. For 10 years Middleton has been studying "the unexplainable" and developing contacts all over the world.

Middleton's shows have included guests like Barbara Batholic, a distinguished investigator into the dark side of alien abductions, and John Zaffis, the country's leading expert on demonic possession cases. Others include Nancy Talbot, a leading investigator on crop circles, and Jim Marrs, an award-winning, investigative journalist who wrote "Cross Fire" and "Alien Agenda."

"My whole purpose is to educate people," said Middleton.

Part of educating the public, he says, is waking them up to the reality that people are having UFO encounters, are being abducted

on a massive scale and that aliens are possibly integrating with the human race.

In local UFOlogy circles, Middleton is seen as a pioneer of the paranormal. In 1996, he formed Memphis's first UFO Discussion Group, which is still active. About the same time he started a speaker series that brought leading researchers and field investigators from across the country to Memphis.

His interest in the UFOs got started 32 years ago. He and his girlfriend were sitting out under the stars in East Memphis to watch a meteor shower. It turned out to be one of the most profound moments of his life as they watched a disc-shaped object come across the sky and hover for a several moments.

"How could I not be curious and want to investigate that? What amazes me is how uncurious other people are," he said.

"Philosophy deals with what's reality and to look and search with an open mind. ... My whole purpose is to educate people."

EDDIE MIDDLETON
host of "Night Search"

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver, CO - Aug. 13, 2005 CR: P. Noonan

Philip Klass, 85, debunked UFO sightings

By Douglas Martin

NEW YORK TIMES

Philip J. Klass, an electrical engineer and aviation editor who earned the nickname Sherlock Holmes of UFOs for his assiduous, acidic debunking of flying saucers and those who claim to see them, died Tuesday at his home in Merritt Island, Fla.

The cause was prostate cancer, Rosanne Klass, his daughter, said. He was 85.

Mr. Klass was for many years a top editor at *Aviation Week & Space Technology* magazine. But he became known to a wider audience as a leading critic of the ev-

er-growing number of Americans who are convinced that alien beings have visited Earth and taken at least a few lucky, or quite unlucky, people for a spin in space.

Mr. Klass applied careful, reasoned analysis to what is often a very emotional topic, as he repeatedly found explanations for saucer sightings in natural phenomena and man-made objects. He used details like the typefaces on documents to question the veracity of what some contended were deliberately covered-up government documents.

In addition to his sister, who lives in Manhattan, Mr. Klass is survived by his wife, Nadya, and a stepdaughter and stepson.

Fawcett speaks at 'Green Men' fest

George Fawcett of Lincolnton was one of the keynote speakers during the Little Green Men Festival on Aug. 19-21 in Hopkinville, Ky.

Fawcett has been a UFO investigator and researcher for 65 years.

During the festival, he presented a slide show of the cases he has investigated and exhibits of data collected. He also autographed copies of his book, "What We Have Learned from UFO Repetitions 1947-1984." Copies of the book are \$10 plus \$2 for postage and handling and are available by mail: George Fawcett, 602 Battleground Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092, (704) 735-5725.

OBSERVER, Charlotte, NC - Sept. 2, 2005 CR: G. Fawcett



Rona K. Johnson

HERALD
COLUMNIST

Crop circles authentic

Northwood, N.D., phenomenon is referred to as a 'thought bubble'

Word of the crop circles that were discovered near the Northwood (N.D.) Municipal Airport has traveled all the way to Cambridge, Mass.

The Northwood crop circles, which are in what's referred to as a "thought bubble" formation, are being studied by BLT Research Team Inc. a nonprofit organization that was formed for the purpose of studying crop circles.

Although field representatives were still working at the site, BLT President Nancy Talbott informed me via e-mail this week that the Northwood crop circles are authentic, not man made.

Authentic means the circles meet the standards researchers at BLT have developed through 15 years of examining several hundred crop circle formations in countries including England, Sweden, Norway, Israel and Canada.

BLT scientists believe crop circles are caused when the plants are exposed to brief, intense heating, possibly by microwave radiation. The heat causes the plant stems to soften all the way down to the base of the plant, which then bends over without breaking.

Super heating

BLT uses local people to collect samples at the site of crop circles. In this case, it is relying on Brad Jenson, Manvel, N.D., and Echo Butz, a Northwood resident.

The first thing BLT looks for at the site of crop circles are elongated apical nodes on the plant stems.

"When sample plants from inside the formation are compared with control plants taken outside the flattened areas, these differences in node length can be quite dramatic, in some cases up to 250 percent over the controls," Talbott wrote in an e-mail.

Talbott said the nodes are elongated when the moisture inside the plant stems is heated.

"Just as in your microwave oven,

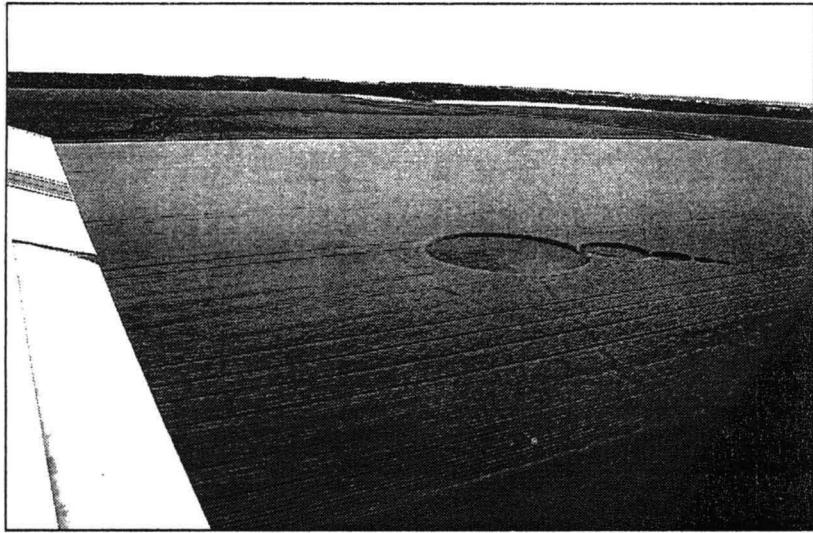


Photo submitted by Brad Jenson

An aerial view of the crop circle near Northwood (N.D.) Municipal Airport shows a trail leading to the circles caused by people wanting to get a better look at the phenomenon.

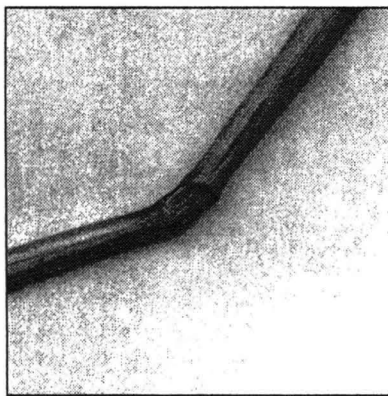


Photo submitted by Brad Jenson

BLT Research Team has determined the crop circles are authentic and not man made because of the elongated nodes that appear in stems within the crop circles.

the moisture turns to steam and — in order to escape and release the built-up pressure — the upper node stretches as the steam seeps out, leaving behind these elongated nodes," she said.

BLT has also found abnormalities in the seeds collected from within crop circles. In crops where the seeds have not yet fully formed, the plants are sterile, Talbott wrote. But in crops where the plants are fully mature just the opposite occurs.

"In a majority of these cases we find that the seeds will produce markedly enhanced growth (growing up to five times the rate of normal) and, more importantly, enhanced yield," according to Talbott.

If that's the case, farmers may want to check into BLT's research.

BLT scientists believe the enhanced growth and yields are caused by electrical impulses.

These scientists also have found that the soil within the crop circles contains hundreds of tiny spheres of magnetic iron.

"Levengood and Burke (1995) hypothesize that microscopic particles of meteoric iron (which are falling to the earth all the time as meteors enter the earth's outer atmosphere and break up) are caught up in the descending turbulent atmospheric plasma energy system they believe is creating the crop circles," Talbott wrote.

Talbott, a music producer with a research background at the University of Maryland and Harvard College, John Burke, a New York businessman interested in geomagnetic and electromagnetic theory and

W.C. Levengood, a Michigan biophysicist, are the "BLT" in the BLT Research Team.

In talking to people in the Northwood area, Talbott also surmised that the crop circles were created on Thursday and not Friday as most residents there had estimated.

She said that the crop circles typically occur between 2-4 a.m. and that it causes electromagnetic interference locally. She said that quite a few Northwood people told her that there were power outages on Thursday night.

To summarize, BLT scientists hypothesize that microwaves, unusual electrical pulses and strong magnetic fields combine to create the crop circles.

"There are, of course, people who make some crop circles," Talbott said. "But they do not make all crop circles... and the ones they don't make provide enormous opportunity to learn more about what we call 'reality'."

Friendly folks

Talbott said studying crop circles is a slow process because there's very little funding available for organizations like BLT, which relies mostly on donations from the private sector.

"There is also the problem of ridicule, caused mostly by the fact that the mainstream media has refused, by and large, to inform the public of the factual information available, preferring instead to bore the public to death with notions about little green men," she said.

I have to admit I'm guilty, but the media aren't alone. Remember the movie "Signs."

In conducting her research, Talbott has also had the opportunity to talk to some of the people from the Northwood area and was greeted with the usual North Dakota nice.

"My impression of the local people is that they are considerably more intelligent, and curious, than in many situations we've worked in, and that they are also extremely nice people," she said. "If I ever move to North Dakota I know exactly where I want to go."

If you are interested in reading more about BLT and its research, visit the organization's Web site at www.bltresearch.com.

Johnson reports on local news and writes a weekly column. Reach her at (701) 780-1229; (800) 477-6572, ext. 229; or rjohnson@gfherald.com.



FOREIGN NEWS

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

MERIDIAN BOOSTER, Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada - Aug. 22, 2005

Midwest a hotspot for UFO action?

LEO PARÉ
STAFF WRITER

Midwest residents are keeping their eyes on the skies this summer, with dozens of strange reports beaming into the local UFO research office.

In November of 2004, paranormal believer Barb Campbell established Saskatchewan's first UFO research centre in her hometown of Maidstone, but she may have got more than she bargained for in her not-for-profit venture. Animal mutilations, strange lights, crop impressions and fireballs are among the 29 X-File-worthy reports the Northwest Saskatchewan UFO Research Centre has fielded since January of this year, and in 2004 the NWSURC reported more than 50 unusual incidents and sightings. All of this year's sightings have occurred in or around the communities of Gurnsey, Lanigan, Lloydminster, Maidstone, Melfort, Midale, Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Paradise Hill, St. Walburg, Prince Albert, Qu'Appelle, Regina, Saskatoon and Tisdale, but Campbell has also received reports from as far away as Idaho.

"The beginning of the year seemed slow, but sightings have picked up this summer," said Campbell. "All my reports are pretty incredible ... and I'm very interested in some of these cow mutilation cases."

This past June, Paradise Hill rancher Ray Riguidel discovered one of his cows mutilated in surgical fashion on a pasture near his farm, and although he isn't prepared to point the finger at aliens, Riguidel swears whatever butchered the animal could not have been human.

"When you see a cow go down, you go look, but I didn't have to look twice," said Riguidel in a previous interview with the *Booster*. "There was a guy with me, and we

both popped our eyes.

"I've heard about (cow mutilations) before, but it never really sunk in. But it's sunk in now. It's real."

Fernand Belzil, a rancher from St. Paul, has been investigating and compiling information on cow mutilations for several years. Belzil visited Riguidel's farm after the mutilation discovery, where he took samples from the animal to be tested in a U.S. laboratory and he is still awaiting the results of those tests.

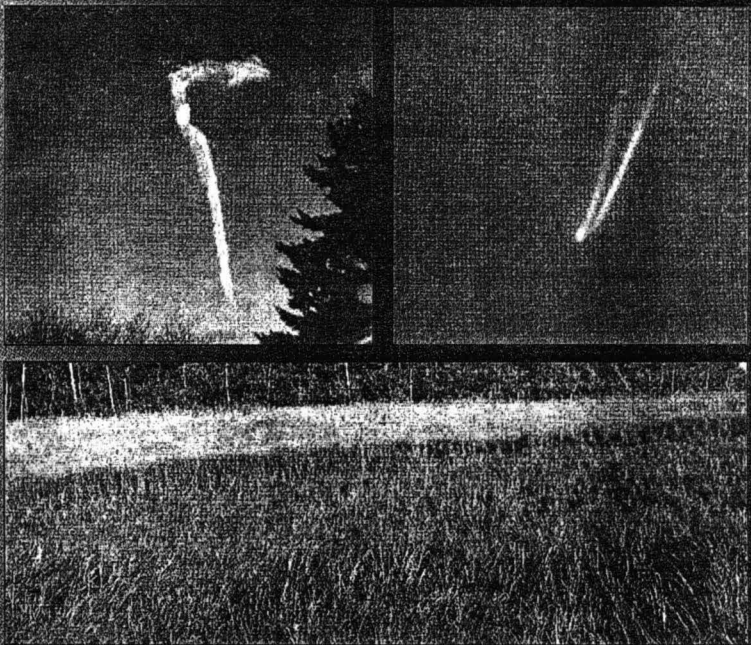
An unnamed Maidstone-area witness recently spotted an object matching the description of another object suspected to be responsible for crop circles discovered in southern Saskatchewan earlier this year. And in Maidstone, an individual reported seeing an object resembling a satellite suddenly stop in the sky, turn on a very bright light for a few seconds, then switched it off again before continuing north.

There have been several sightings in the Maidstone area since 1963 where witnesses reported seeing cylindrical, spherical, rainbow and cigar-shaped objects in the sky.

When receiving a report, Campbell typically interviews the witness, visits the sight, and photographs any possible evidence of unusual activity, and every effort is made to eliminate the possibility of a hoax or false report.

Witnessing several unusual sightings herself, Campbell said she has been a believer in the unknown for as long as she can remember, but many of the reports she receives each month continue to astound her.

"I've always believed there is life out there beyond our world. As a kid, I saw things flying around, but I never thought of UFOs," she said. "I've always kept an open mind, but the more I learn about all this, it still blows



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

There have been some anomalies spotted in the Midwest skies in recent months, and there appears to be no simple explanation for the unusual impressions discovered on a crop near Prince Albert.

my mind."

Campbell will be speaking at the first-ever What The Frick Is Going On In Saskatchewan conference in Saskatoon on Oct. 22. Joining her will be Belzil to discuss cattle mutilations, Beata Van Berkow will give a presentation on crop circles, and a man who calls himself Earthwalker will discuss and hear accounts of alien abduction.

Campbell encourages anyone who has

witnessed any unusual activity, recent or past, to contact her by phone at (306)893-4009, or e-mail her at www.nwsurc@yahoo.ca.

"I don't care how long ago it was. It's all very important," she said. "I'm looking for similarities and patterns. I'm not just collecting. I'm hoping that one day we'll know 'What are these things?' I have a hard time believing they are just military experiments."

MIDWEEK NEWS, Bracknell, England - Aug. 31, 2005

'When I told people they said I'd had too much to drink'

Ex-special constable is latest to report UFO sighting

By VICKY HUNTLEY

CALLS from people claiming to have seen alien spacecraft have not stopped coming into the *Midweek* UFO hotline.

More than a month after the *Bracknell News* series' first article about a flying saucer hovering above the Coppid Beech Hotel in Binfield, 67-year-old Janet Burrell contacted the hotline to say she had seen a UFO.

Mrs Burrell, who lives in Priestwood, said she saw a UFO in the sky above Binfield around 30 years ago.

The ex-special constable, who suffers from insomnia, said she saw the object one night when she was having trouble sleeping.

She said: "There was a bright, bright light far away

and I just looked at it out of the window and was mesmerised watching it.

"I stayed there looking at it and looking at it and then it started to come closer and closer. Then it just hovered outside my bedroom window. It was really close; not so close that I could touch it but it was really close.

"Then it sort of dropped down and turned away. There wasn't any sound. It was really amazing. I just wish my husband had woken up, then he would have seen it too."

She added: "I was so amazed at what I had seen that I told everyone but nobody believed me."

Mrs Burrell said that she gave up telling people about her sighting because no one believed her.

She said: "When I told peo-

ple they said that I'd had too much to drink."

It was not until she saw other stories in the papers that she began to think about her experience again.

She said: "It has brought it all back really. I hadn't thought about it for years."

"I can only imagine it must have been some kind of UFO. My mouth just gaped open."

Have you spotted an alien craft? Have you managed to take a picture of it? Call our UFO hotline on 01344 456611.

'There was a bright, bright light far away and I just looked at it out of the window.'

Communicating with UFOs 'is not science fiction'

Marese McDonagh

EXTRA-terrestrials are out there and it is possible to communicate with them, delegates attending the second annual Irish UFO conference heard.

Scientist and astronomer Eamonn Ansbro, who has a purpose-built observatory at his home in Kingsland, Co Roscommon, told the weekend conference in Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim of a number of close encounters of an extraordinary nature that he had investigated or witnessed.

A former meteorologist with the British Ministry of Defence who "got into UFOs by accident," Mr Ansbro told of one incident in February 1998 when he was one of a group of six people in a remote valley in Kerry who witnessed what they believe was a UFO.

Mr Ansbro, who believes communication with extra-terrestrial life is possible through mental focus or "remote viewing," said that one of the group asked this object to do a figure of eight in the sky, which it did. There were no cameras at the scene. Betty Meyler, founder of the UFO Society of Ireland, said UFO sightings had become so common

that those who believed in a parallel world were less likely than ever before to be ridiculed. "Of course there are people who ask me am I making sandwiches for the little green men, but many people are genuinely interested in recent sightings."

Ms Meyler, also from Co Roscommon, said she has photographic evidence of two recent UFO sightings at Lough Key near Boyle, an area regarded as a "UFO hotspot". She said she has received literally hundreds of reports from around the country of UFO sightings, some dating back 20, 30 or 40 years, when people would have been afraid to tell of their experiences.

"At another time I probably would have been burned at the stake or locked up but this is the age of Aquarius and of enlightenment and people are more open to ideas."

UFOs manifest themselves as unexplained lights that move very fast in an erratic fashion often changing direction abruptly, according to the UFO society. Ms Meyler cautioned that UFOs have turned out to be disco lights. Lights from a nightclub at Castlereagh, Co Roscommon have sparked many false alarms.

IRISH INDEPENDENT, Dublin, Ireland - Aug. 29, 2005

Is circle of light in night sky a UFO?

ELECTRICIAN Neil Krohn didn't believe all the mumbo jumbo about UFOs — until he saw a spectacular apparition from his bathroom window in Paignton.

Beary-eyed Neil, 58, was shocked to see a baffling circle of lights which danced across the night sky to the accompaniment of a curious humming noise.

His 3am entertainment, also watched by his equally amazed wife Jeannette, lasted nearly an hour before the show faded away in the eastern sky at the break of day.

"I've never been taken in by all this UFO stuff you see in the news. I've always been sceptical until now. I really thought I was seeing things."

"I'm glad my wife saw it too because she would never have believed me. It was a privilege to see what we

saw," said Neil, who lives in Wills Avenue and is recovering from major back surgery.

He's at a loss to explain what he witnessed. He was so captivated by the light show that he failed to record it on his camcorder.

"I reckoned it would disappear as soon as I got the camcorder. And when I checked it later I realised I wouldn't have got anything because the battery was flat," said a miffed Neil.

He said the humming noise, similar to the sound of a spinning top, first alerted him to strange happenings above his home.

"I looked out and couldn't see anything. Then I opened the bathroom window and looked into the garden. There was nothing, and then I looked up and saw these incredible circles of lights. There were about four or five lights in a circle and a

similar number of circles," said transfixed Neil.

He then called Jeannette to see if she could see what he saw — and she did.

"The object was moving above a low cloud, so it couldn't be a laser show. It then moved from the Livermead area across to Berry Head and back.

"We just stood there looking up in the sky together like a young couple in love. I just could not believe it was happening. We left it after about an hour as it started to fade with the onset of dawn," said Neil.

He was anxious to know if any other Herald Express readers had experienced the same distraction.

Neil said he had since charged up his camcorder battery and would have it at the ready for any future visitations.



■ **STUNNED:** Neil Krohn who saw a UFO from his bathroom window.

PHOTO: Karen Friend
HCC03972_KF_001

PHONE HOME

Is this really a picture of a UFO over Stirling?

OR

A flying saucer-shaped trick of the light being shot by video phones?



EXCLUSIVE
By GEORGE MAIR

THE dramatic rise in the number of flying saucers reported over Scotland is caused by... video phones.

The illusion of an extra-terrestrial force is sparked by the phones being pointed into the sun.

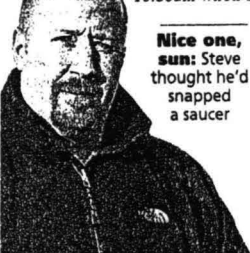
This creates an image of a blurred object that appears to hover before flashing a "ray gun" into the ground.

Steve Bird, 36, spotted what he thought was an alien craft last Tuesday, as it apparently hovered around 40ft in the air.

He was walking on the Dumyat hill, overlooking the Wallace Monument, near Stirling, when he captured what he thought was incredible footage on his mobile phone.

It shows a blurred shape remaining static in the sky as light sweeps below. Salesman Steve, of Cornton, Stirling, said: "I decided to walk to the summit of Dumyat because it was such a nice morning."

"It was around 10.30am when I



Nice one, sun: Steve thought he'd snapped a saucer

Phoney: Steve's Nokia video mobile stopped for a rest near the top and decided to take my phone out to capture the view over Stirling on video.

"I pressed the record button and, within seconds, spotted this shape on the screen."

"It hovered in the sky, about 100 metres away from where I was standing, then tilted and flew off to the left. Then it was gone."

"When I put the phone down, I had to sit down on a rock to compose myself. I was shocked and could hardly sleep that night for thinking about it."

"It was the shape you normally associate with flying saucers, with a ridge around the middle."

Steve's view is backed by Scotland's self-styled UFO expert, Ron Halliday, who has been investigating paranormal phenomena for more than 20 years.

on phone videos. The Stirling University-based expert, who is also chairman of Scottish Earth Mysteries Research, said: "The shape of the UFO is consistent with other alien sightings across the world."

We asked researchers to get to the bottom of the UFO mystery. Gordon Ridley, senior lecturer in photography at Glasgow College of Printing, said: "I believe the footage came about due to sensor burn-out when the picture was taken into the sun."

"The limited sensor in a camera phone cannot cope with the brightness and a solid black blob appears in the image in the middle of the bright area."

"The rays coming down can be explained by the flares created from photographing into the sun, causing the sensors to overload."

Mr Ridley's views are shared by Sunday Mail picture editor Andy Hosie.

He said: "The flare is caused by sunlight shining directly into the lens. The blurred shape stays static and is probably due to some sort of burn-out with the camera."

"But the fact these are 'low quality' images which are very difficult to analyse adds to the intrigue."

Scotland is regarded as one of the world's UFO hotspots.

Bonnybridge, just 10 miles from Stirling, has the highest number of reported UFO sightings in Britain, with dozens of unexplained phenomena every year.

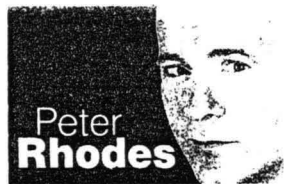
Residents there have also claimed the greatest variety of spaceships, describing everything from flying saucers to hovering cigars.

Locals have previously campaigned for their town to be twinned with Roswell, in New Mexico, where — it was claimed — a spaceship came down in 1947 and was taken to a secret military base.

■ SUNDAY EMAIL

SCOTTISH SUNDAY MAIL, Glasgow, Scotland - Feb. 20, 2005

EXPRESS & STAR, Birmingham, England [Date Unknown], 2005



Peter Rhodes
THE UFO craze has gone quiet recently. Graham Birdsall, editor of UFO Magazine, died a couple of years ago and his magazine died with him.

But Unidentified Flying Objects still have their followers and a £130-a-head conference in London next month offers them "hard scientific evidence for UFOs," presented by Timothy Good, the writer and lecturer.

Good knows his subject but his most intriguing prediction is a long time a-coming.

In an exclusive interview with the Express & Star, Good said the US authorities were about to prepare the public for what he called the ultimate secret — that aliens had made contact with humans.

That interview was 14 years ago. We're still waiting.

Space oddity: An image from the footage Steve Bird shot with his phone, believing it to show a UFO

Caution needed

I MUST be a voice of caution over UFOs (Indy, June 5) on two grounds: One, the unwillingness of this Government — and others — to disclose their information and proof in verification of the existence of these craft or any of their crews.

Two, the gathered and assembled evidence — independently gathered at best — is only one fifth reliable and based on empirical and circumstantial speculation.

Therefore, on its own it is not conclusive or clear evidence in support of the existence of UFOs and any of their crew people.

Solely on those two points, I have to challenge and question the evidence as it stands.

I sincerely do wish that individual national governments and the UN did trust people enough with the evidence of UFOs that undoubtedly does exist. But since it is not disclosed then we must conclude, logically, that we can't proceed any further in pushing and shoving for disclosure.

Individuals will also suffer if they try to be overenthusiastic with the existence of UFOs and any crew — or to prove it.

I came a bit of a cropper in overspeculating on the two elements of UFOs and their crews. That cost me membership of an Armed Services sci club on the associate level six years ago.

So, I've been — in a large part — a victim of having supported a notion without any supportable evidence so people can imagine that I'm not keen on being frazzled like that a second time.

STEVEN FARTHING
Hengrove, Bristol

Another UFO 'spotted'

AFTER reading the letters about the Dordon UFO in the Thursday, April 7, edition, can I tell you about something similar?

Two weeks ago, I was spending the evening at my cousin's house which is in Woodville. It was about 9pm and we were lying outside in the back garden looking at the stars, when I suddenly noticed an orange glow moving across the sky.

It stopped right above us and then came closer. It got really bright and then it shot back up into the sky and dimmed, then took off into the distance and disappeared. All this happened with no sound at all.

Dozens report seeing spooky orange lights

Formation in sky is a conundrum

■ By RYAN KISIEL

DOZENS of people have reported seeing mysterious orange lights above Cheltenham.

The Echo has been inundated with calls from people who saw the unexplained lights on Saturday night.

John Day, 48, took the picture of them while hosting a party at his Up Hatherley home.

He said: "There were about 19 people in the garden and one of the small girls noticed the lights in the sky.

"I was taking a picture of our friends who were celebrating their anniversary and thought these lights looked strange so I started taking snaps.

"We thought it was a balloon with lights in at first, but when it passed over the house we weren't too sure.

"The girls think it was a UFO. The lights were strange."

Coach driver Pamela Bailey, 48, pulled over when she saw them.

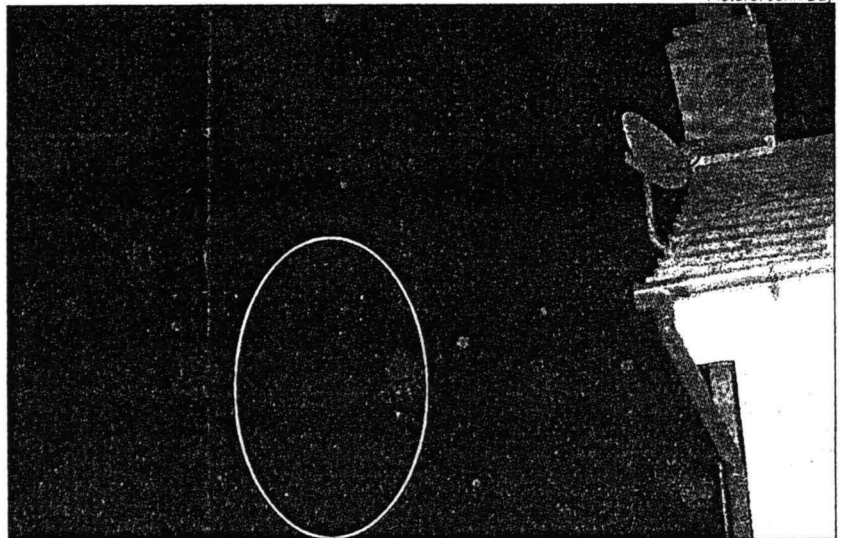
She was driving the Megabus back from London when she saw the lights from the A40 at Golden Valley.

Mrs Bailey said: "I stopped at the Arle Court roundabout and the passengers were all looking up at the sky.

"I then moved on to the Westal Green bus stop and three men jumped out to have a look. All the passengers were totally amazed.

"When I got to the depot in Cheltenham all the other drivers had seen them."

John Creed saw the lights with his wife



■ **LIGHTS IN THE SKY:** dozens watched the strange display

and six friends while at a house in Warden Hill Road, Warden Hill.

He said: "Amazingly, the group seemed at one point to slowly take on the positions of the stars in The Plough or Big Dipper, not unlike those in a scene in the film Close Encounters of the Third Kind, before drifting apart again.

"These were definitely not conventional aircraft.

"I've had a keen interest in aircraft since a boy and have held a private pilot's licence for the last 33 years, so I'm well aware of the sort of lights displayed on conventional aircraft.

"I'm also a retired police officer. We all agreed that these objects were remarkable and unlike anything any of us had ever seen before."

Kevin Downes, 52, was running with his wife Alexandra in Winchester Way, Warden Hill, when they saw the lights at 10.30pm. He said they stopped, hovered above them then faded and dispersed.

Gloucestershire Airport managing di-

rector Ian Statham, told the Echo on Tuesday: "Lights on aircraft are red, white or green - not orange."

Rod Salisbury, secretary of Cotswold Astronomical Society, says the lights could not have been meteors.

■ Do you know what the orange lights were?

If so please call the Echo newsdesk on 01242 271822 or email news@gloucecho.co.uk

"We all agreed that these objects were remarkable and unlike anything any of us had ever seen before."

John Creed

BELLS & CROWLE ADVERTISER, Epworth, England - July 14, 2005

UFO over Isle?

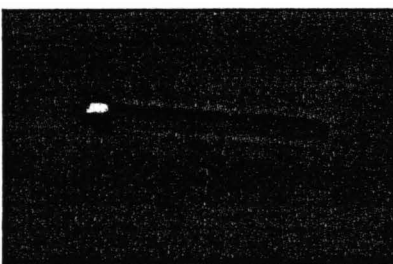
IS it a bird, is it a plane - or are alien invaders coming to Epworth?

This amazing picture of a UFO in the skies above the town was taken by keen photographer Lesley Paige on Tuesday afternoon.

And a stunned Lesley is calling on Bells/Advertiser readers to come forward if they too spotted the silver coloured cylinder-shaped object which was seen hovering above the leisure centre for more than half an hour.

She said: "I have absolutely no idea what it was. It wasn't a plane because it wasn't moving and it was the wrong shape for a balloon. It was really strange and for half an hour we couldn't take our eyes off it."

Lesley was among other parents watching their youngsters enjoy a game of football on an outdoor court at the Burnham Road centre when one of them pointed out the missile



It's a mystery: The strange silver coloured UFO spotted above Epworth on Tuesday.

shaped object hovering in the bright blue sky.

"I had my camera with me so I began taking pictures," said Lesley. "It was about four o'clock when we first saw it and it was there for about half an hour.

"It didn't make any noise and it was only moving very gently up and down in a rocking sort of motion."

Lesley was determined to capture the event on film and rattled off a few snaps - but when she went to fetch a long range lens from her car to take some close-ups, the UFO suddenly disappeared.

"It was only just visible," added Lesley, "but I am sure other people must have seen it."

A spokesman for the Met Office was unable to shed further light on the sighting but said that bright sunlight - the weather on Tuesday afternoon - was sometimes responsible for unexplained objects in the skies.

• Did you spot the UFO? Are little green men set to land on the Isle? Tell us your views by writing to Letters, Epworth Bells and Crowle Advertiser, 13 Market Place, Epworth or email editorial@epworthtoday.co.uk

Teachers spot 'spy plane'

A MYSTERIOUS cone-shaped object has been spotted hovering over houses in the North leading to speculation it was either a UFO or a spy plane.

It was seen for five minutes above Carlisle before disappearing out of sight.

UFO monitor Chris Parr, who is investigating the sighting, revealed he was alerted by two teachers.

He said: "They were having their breakfast about 8.30am when they saw a silver object in the sky outside their kitchen window.

"They thought it was about 100 metres or so above them and described it as cone-shaped.

"The object was making a silent and fluid motion across the sky. They were adamant it was not a plane and I think it gave them a bit of a fright."

Chris believes it is some sort of a spy plane and investigators are linking the sighting to the famous Rendlesham Forest case in 1980 where a "glowing" triangular object was seen by US Air Force police in the woods, near RAF Woodbridge in Suffolk.

Chris said: "I think it is secret spy technology being tested across Cumbria, but we will be investigating this further."

UFOS SIGHTED IN SKY OVER CROWN WOOD



Watching: Maurice Jones points to where the objects were, while Alaina Jones, Pemb Ibrahim and Metin Ibrahim keep a look out for any return visits. 0519845

WHEN dad-of-three Maurice Jones looks through binoculars it is usually to spot birds of prey circling high above his Bracknell home.

But when he and some of his family saw not one, but two UFOs hovering above their house in Lightwood, Crown Wood, last Tuesday at 4pm they knew something strange was happening.

They were so gobsmacked at what they saw they got some neighbours to look as well.

Maurice, 50, a Parcel Net courier, said his 12-year-old daughter Alaina, who attends East-hampstead Park School, spotted the strange object first.

Maurice said: "The first object was huge and the shape of a plane fuselage or a cigar tube. It was

Family spots two strange objects

By RICHARD CROWE

brown and rotating in the sky. "I just couldn't make out what it was. When it caught the sun it had a metallic appearance. It came right over the top of us."

Mr Jones said the object was in the sky for around 20 minutes before disappearing. His 49-year-old wife Lee, a teaching assistant at St Joseph's RC Primary School, also had a look at the strange sight.

But the group could not believe their eyes when they saw the second object a few minutes later - a flying saucer spinning fast in the

sky at a similar height.

At this point the family told neighbours Yuce and Guran Ibrahim about what was happening.

Maurice said: "This object was going a lot faster than the other one. I gave the binoculars to Guran and she said 'Oh my God, what the hell is that?'"

He added: "We were so gobsmacked we thought what we were seeing might have been a hoax."

He said he was concerned as both objects were in the Heathrow Airport flight path.

● See this week's Bracknell News for further UFO sightings. If

you think you have seen an intergalactic visitor, call the UFO Hotline on 01344 456611.

'The first object was huge and was rotating in the sky. I just couldn't make out what it was.'

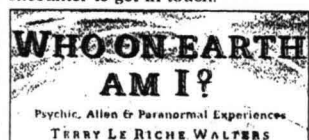
Bracknell man says interstellar aliens operated on him - for free!

'Flying saucer surgeons cured my dodgy back'

By NICK CAPEHORN

A RUSH OF reports to the News about UFO sightings over Bracknell have prompted one man to go one better - he says he has been operated on by aliens.

And Terry Walters, 62, wants anyone who has had an extra-terrestrial encounter to get in touch.



In 1966, Mr Walters, of Nine Mile Ride, Crowthorne, was left in agony when his back gave way as he loaded heavy luggage into the back of a Mini.

He faced a trip to the doctors and possible confinement to a wheelchair. But as he laid in bed that night, someone entered his room and told him to follow them.

When he awoke his back had been cured, so he went to Heatherwood Hospital to ask for the surgeon who operated on him.

But staff denied any knowledge of it. Further tests showed he had undergone then-impossible back surgery.

Not only that, but his blood make-up matched an astronaut who had spent 10 hours in space. Doctors said the only rational explanations for this could be if he were a lifelong smoker or had visited polluted Mexico City - but he had done neither.

A Harley Street specialist has since told him of other people who had experienced interstellar medical procedures.

He also said Mr Walters would later probably find other operations he did not remember. Mr Walters revealed he later discovered a further back

operation and ear surgery. He added his claims have been supported by University of Connecticut scientists.

Mr Walters said: "Before the operation, if someone had spoken about UFOs I would have thought they were mad.

"But it is the way we are brought up, we are taught there must be an explanation for everything.

"Ninety per cent of me still doesn't believe what happened to me, but there is 10% that neither I, nor anyone in the medical profession, can explain.

"I am not airy-fairy about this. I don't sit in my garden at night waiting for another UFO to appear, but it has certainly made me believe that there is extra-terrestrial life."

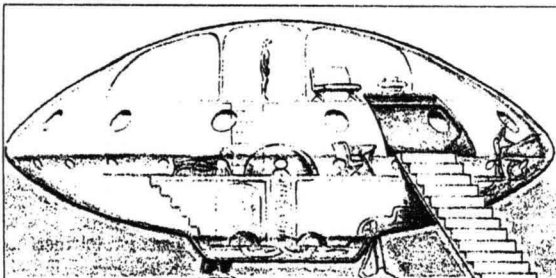
Mr Walters has written a book on his experiences called *Who on Earth am I?*

He has also since lectured all over the country and met many celebrities and real-life alien investigators who do a similar job to fictional FBI X-File agents Mulder and Scully.

If you have had a close encounter, or have seen a UFO over Bracknell, contact the UFO hotline on 01344 456611.



Back to the future: Terry Walters and below, his sketch of a UFO hospital.



UFO MYSTERY

Boy snaps weird lights hovering above town

By Susan Lochrie

A 14-YEAR-OLD boy believes he has snapped a UFO hovering in the Greenock skyline.

Jonathon Smith had to rub his eyes after waking up in the middle of the night to see a trail of flickering blue, green and red lights.

He snatched his digital camera and started snapping from his home, an 11th floor flat in Belville Street, Greenock.

Wellington Academy pupil Jonathon said: "My mates say it must be loads of planes, but they wouldn't be so close together. There are too many lights."

"I don't know what it is."

In the clear light of day he points to the spot from his living room window in Melrose Court.

Explaining the strange events of the night, Jonathon said: "I woke up at about 2.30am when I heard shouting in the street, but when I looked up I saw all the lights. I never really believed in UFOs before."

Jonathon phoned his dad John to tell him about his big discovery.



JONATHON Smith captured a strange sight from his window and, inset, a UFO over the skies in Greenock.
Picture: Kris Cairns

John said: "First I received a text and then I was talking to him on the phone. He was telling me about it."

Now the pair are desperate to get to the bottom of the objects captured floating high in the sky and heading towards Langbank.

They have studied the images enlarged on their TV screen countless times, but still do not have a clue where the lights came from.

Single parent John said: "I really don't know what it is. But I would like to get clearer images."

A scout captured a blurred image on camera while camping at Everton, near Inverkip two years ago.

At the time the Glasgow UFO Research Organisation said they had a number of reported sightings in the Inverclyde area.

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.]

September 7, 2005 — *CIUFOS-LaPampa*, La Pampa, Argentina/*Planeta UFO*, Argentina — **UFOs OVER LA PAMPA** — The time was approximately 18:00 hours on October 16, 2004 and Gustavo Jose Montiel and his family were heading to Santa Rosa along Circunvalacion Sur Avenue from east to west. Upon merging with Ameghino Avenue from north to south, he observed toward his left, some 45 degrees over the horizon and at an unspecified altitude and height, a "Flying Object."

Faced with this circumstance, he alerted his wife and told her the object was not an airplane. The witness is linked to the aeronautical world through his activities involving electronics and radars. He stopped the vehicle and upon getting out, he looked on in amazement as "two devices, clearly visible, dark in color, shaped like inverted soup plates, were suspended in the air, venting long streams of vapor or white smoke from their lower surfaces."

He immediately contacted the local airport control tower with his cellphone to ask whether "they had any aircraft in that sector." Tower personnel replied they did not, and that they could "not check that sector due to a lack of radar coverage." Finally, the witness remained, along with other people, observing the phenomenon for several minutes, watching how the "long streams went up and down from those aerial vehicles."

At a given moment, one of the UFOs "cut the stream and initiated an escape toward the east and over the city at a prodigious speed, vanishing in a matter of seconds."

The remaining object "remained static for a few seconds, then began moving in a southwesterly heading, vanishing in an equally sudden manner." — CREDIT: Raul Oscar Chaves, *CIUFOS-La Pampa*

September 14, 2005 — *Proyecto ARGUS*, Puerto Rico — **TRIANGULAR UFO OVER PUERTO RICO -- Proyecto ARGUS Reports** — The following is a preliminary report of this event in Puerto Rico -- the flight of a large triangular UFO over Puerto Rico. More witnesses to this sighting are coming forward, since there were more people on the avenue when the event took place. We would like any witnesses living in Puerto Rico's Carolina and Urb. Los Angeles districts to please phone us at the following numbers in order to continue our research. At this time only one person has photographed the object, but we are aware that more people saw

it, including administrative personnel from the [Luis Munoz Marin International] Airport. Tel.787-821-1671 and 787-764-3206.

Transcript of the Interview by Willie Durand Urbina and Jose A. Martinez Echevarria with the witness to the triangular UFO seen on May 15, 2005 at 12:16 a.m.

Willie: Hi, Wilfredo, please tell us the experience you had when you left work.

Wilfredo: Well, it was one night when I left work at around 12 midnight. I was in the town of Carolina near the Los Angeles development, on an avenue exactly facing the airport and beyond Baldorioty [de Castro Avenue], or exactly behind Baldorioty. Then I saw a glow that came from behind a hill and thought it was strange.

Willie: There's a hill there?

Wilfredo: That's right, in the rear. That's when I heard the dogs barking, the birds singing and I saw the animals were becoming desperate. I was frightened. What could it be? Then when I looked behind me, I saw a great, very large glow. But I couldn't see the craft because I was inside the van. I pulled the van over and got out -- that's when I saw an immense triangular object. I can't give you the exact measurements, can't describe it in meters, but I can tell you [and compare it] to the size of a ball park or two enormous ball parks. It was going very slowly and passed directly over me.

Willie: Was it making any noise in particular?

Wilfredo: None. No sound, just a light coming out of the middle.

Willie: Did you feel any heat, atmospheric changes, or temperature [changes] as the object went by?

Wilfredo: Yes, it seems that the light emitted some sort of heat, I don't know what kind of heat. It was like a high voltage bulb and you could feel the heat of the light. It made no noise whatsoever and was going slowly, very slowly, and that's when the van's engine and lights went out completely. I got inside, tried to turn the engine over, but nothing. Ahh!! But before getting inside, I took my camera phone and tried to take photos of the object, but I had to remove the finder to lower the light intensity, because it couldn't be seen in the photos when I took it. I removed the light intensity from the camera and that's how I managed to capture the craft and photograph it. Then I took another photo from inside my vehicle, and that's strange, because nothing electrical worked, yet the cellphone camera worked. I don't know how, but it's as if they wanted me to take a picture. "I'm up here, take a picture!" is what I'm thinking. Then I took the shot and it kept moving. The streetlights went out as it flew overhead, flying over the parking lot and away...

Willie: Did other cars stop as the UFO flew overhead?

Wilfredo: Yes, there were some three cars, but quite far from where I was. When the UFO went away, my van started up just fine. I even found it strange that the airport was under [the object's path] and its lights also went out. There must be more people there who saw the object too. After passing over the airport it went higher and vanished into the sky at high speed.

Willie: Did you see any airplanes at the sighting spot or near it, in the vicinity of the sky?

Wilfredo: I didn't see any other airplanes flying over the area. It was also cloudy. In fact [as the object rose], it was possible to see the clouds very well lit by the object as it ascended. It was so immense that the glow continued lighting up more and more clouds. I looked at this and thought "wow!"

Willie: And it lit up the area you were at?

Wilfredo: Yes, it all looked like noon. It was incredible.

Willie: What residential developments were you facing when you took the photo?

Wilfredo: Urb. Los Angeles.

Willie: Could you give us a point of reference, such as a shop or other place of business?

Wilfredo: No shop or business as a reference -- it's a very large avenue, the one that intercepts Baldorioty and crosses Los Angeles right in the middle of the development.

Willie: What's the name of that avenue?

Wilfredo: I truly couldn't tell you, but I imagine it has something to do with Urb. Los Angeles.

Willie: What company was there, at that corner of the section?

Wilfredo: None, but it's a major avenue that takes you to the heart of the Los Angeles development. There are houses on either side. In fact the bridge on Baldorioty is an overpass that leads to that avenue.

Willie: In other words, the event occurred near that overpass?

Wilfredo: The event occurred at the overpass?

Willie: Did your car experience any paint alterations or changes?

Wilfredo: The vehicle, well, it was stolen some 3 weeks after the event. No one heard anything. It was an odd robbery -- no one heard anything and my van had a pipe on its muffler that made it heard from far away when the engine was running, but no one heard anything. They took it while I was asleep and no one heard anything.

Willie: Your car was stolen from your own home?

Wilfredo: Yes, from my home. It's odd, but some two weeks after the experience, I began noticing that the paint on the car began to show some little spots.

Willie: Were you able to recover the vehicle later?

Wilfredo: No, it was stolen not very long ago, about a month and a half following the UFO experience. Then I realized that nothing could remove those spots, as if the spots were coming from within the paint outward. The stains were blood-red or mud colored that fell on the paint. In desperation, I even applied degreaser to the paint, but nothing worked to remove the spots. It's as if it was burned and it was throughout the entire vehicle.

Willie: As far as your health is concerned, did you undergo psychological changes after the experience with the object?

Wilfredo: I got sick after the experience. I became ill, don't know if it has anything to do with what I saw.

Willie: How long, or how many days went by before you got sick?

Wilfredo: Two weeks after the experience. I was bedridden. I'd never been so sick. I'm a very healthy person, it's hard for me to get sick and much less bedridden.

Willie: What was the diagnosis?

Wilfredo: It was like a cold or something. I felt weak.

Willie: Did they do any bloodwork to check your corpuscles?

Wilfredo: Yes, but everything was all right in the lab tests?

Willie: Have you felt well after that cold?

Wilfredo: Yes.

Willie: It's odd that your vehicle was stolen.

Wilfredo: Yes. That happened after I spoke to a female co-worker who [claimed] having been abducted by aliens. She told me about her experiences and it turns out that two days after she told me, I felt as though I were being watched. There must be some connection between my co-worker's experience and mine. There must be something.

Willie: Your car's theft must be related to the event. Did you report the theft?

Wilfredo: Yes, I have the report number and everything. It's been two months and still no sign of it.

Willie: What color were the craft's lights?

Wilfredo: It was only a white light, incandescent, in the middle of the object. Its edges had no observable lights, only that central light that covered the entire object. I could see a sort of metal frame, but the light kept me from seeing what was in the middle. Something metallic could be seen at its tips.

Willie: Did it change colors?

Wilfredo: No, no!

Willie: Any interesting details come to mind?

Wilfredo: Of course. When I'm asleep, I feel as though I'm being watched. Willie, it doesn't let me sleep, because I feel myself being watched. It's like a sensation of being spied upon, looked at.

Willie: Well, Wilfredo, anything else you may feel, a strange dream, any other experiences related to your case, please let us know immediately, so we can probe deeper into your case. Many thanks for trusting us and for explaining your experience. Thanks for sharing it. — CREDIT: Jose A. Martinez and Willie Durand Urbina, Proyecto ARGUS

September 13, 2005 — *Prof. Ana Luisa Cid* — A major UFO sighting took place in Mexico City only a few minutes after an official event involving Mexican President Vicente Fox had taken place.

According to information from Gerardo Martinez Fernandez, a reporter from *Grupo Imagen*, the executive inaugurated the dining room of the "Reino Unido de Gran Bretana" primary school located in the Aztec capital's Col. del Valle district.

Only a few minutes prior to the first citizen's arrival, many witnesses were able to see a shining spherical object in the sky. An anonymous girl granted an interview to the reporter in question and the young lady explains on audio that the object resembled a very shiny star.

Gerardo Martinez stated verbatim: "On Tuesday, September 13, I covered an event involving President Vicente Fox between Calle Parroquia and Av. Coyoacan. We arrived at 9:30 a.m. and managed to film some people directing their attention skyward. Upon getting out of our vehicle, they told us they were watching an unidentified flying object. Personally, I didn't get to see it, but I asked other reporters if they knew anything about this strange event and Jesus Cardenas from Televisa told me that his cameraman had indeed got it on film."

It should be noted that Gerardo Martinez was the first reporter to make known the February 14, 2000 sighting [the Azcapotzalco 2 -- Translator's note], securing firsthand interviews with the police officers involved. This distinguished reporter is a key player in Mexican UFO research. — CREDIT: Prof. Ana Luisa Cid

September 18, 2005 — *www.ovni.net* — PUERTO RICO: MYSTERIOUS UNDERWATER RUINS UNCOVERED — A small group of professional researchers spearheaded by Andrew Alvarez and Aldo Acosta are currently taking the first steps toward identifying a mysterious underwater formation on the shores of Puerto Rico which are reminiscent of the "Bimini Road" in the Bahamas, which were associated in the 1970's with the possible existence of the lost continent of Atlantis.

The new formation in Puerto Rico was identified through the use of reconnaissance flights and aerial photography. The group has investigated and located certain anomalies on the surface of the Caribbean island, visiting the site to evaluate whether the anomalies are natural, produced by some optical illusion, or manmade. Although the vast majority of the identified anomalies have been satisfactorily explained, it has not been possible until now -- and following repeated visits to the new point of study -- to ascertain if the mysterious underwater formation located near the La Parguera tourist complex and ecological preserve is a natural or artificial phenomenon.

Dr. Alvarez has gathered experts in underwater geology and archaeology in an effort to identify if this discovery could possibly be valuable for Puerto Rico's archaeological history. The apparent structure measures over 250 feet long and is located at a depth of less than 20 feet. A nearby hill contains other structures that appear to be the ruins of an ancient stone wall. Although this discovery is not being associated with another trace of the existence of lost Atlantis, the imagination of many will eventually make such a connection. — CREDIT: Lucy Guzman and Orlando Pla

September 22, 2005 — *Mundo Misterioso* — MEXICO: CHUPACABRAS ALLEGEDLY REAPPEARS IN NUEVO LEON — Six goats were found dead last night in Rancho El Cadillo in the municipality of Juarez, state of Nuevo Leon (Mexico).

The report came from Mr. Jesus Gel Gonzalez, the ranch's owner, at 10:03 p.m. Thursday night, when he advised the municipal police that six of his animals had been found dead from very strange wounds to their bodies. Police officers and Dr. Oscar Sanchez, director of the department of health for Juarez, reported to the scene and found the carcasses of six goats presenting very deep wounds on their necks. The injuries appeared to be bite of some predatory animal, although what most surprised the officials was the fact that there wasn't a drop of blood to be found in any of the bodies.

The rancher stated having seen a creature standing 1.20 meters tall, grey in color and with a 4-meter wingspan, whom he suspects is the culprit in the goat slayings. He added that this is not the first time that animals have been killed in such a way on his property, and that even some of his dogs have disappeared.

Policemen reporting to the scene found some prints resembling large, four-fingered claws, but were unable to determine the type of beast they corresponded to. Dr. Sanchez said that these deaths are not normal, given that a predator such as a puma or coyote would have ripped into the goats' abdomen to feed on their organs. The creature responsible for the goat deaths only sucked their blood, but what type of animal could have caused this remains a mystery. — CREDIT: *Mundo Misterioso* and *Belduque*

September 24, 2005 — *ElSudcaliforniano*, Baja California — UFOs IN SOUTHERN BAJA CALIFORNIA — SANTA ROSALIA, B.C.S. - [eyewitness report by Nicolas Chaidez] - On Thursday night we saw something new and strange that amazed this reporter. The time was 8:30 pm when a plate-shaped luminous object appeared over Sierra de la Reforma, spinning at high speed and heading east from the western reaches of the Gulf of California toward the location known as Las Tres Virgenes. It subsequently vanished as if a large noiseless explosion had occurred. It produced a large, fog-like cloud which covered part of the mountain range in a matter of minutes, which reached this port before dispersing. This luminous object and its colored lights moved noiselessly, leaving behind a wake similar to that of a comet. It is similar to some cases that have taken place in other countries and have been presented on TV by journalist Jaime Maussan, who speaks of them as extraterrestrial spacecraft.

According to several local witnesses, this is not the first time that [the object] has been seen in the vicinity of ranches adjacent to the Las Virgenes volcano, Santa Rosalia and San Jose de Magdalena. Even some of

the parties interviewed after the event agree that they have seen it on other occasions in locations other than the areas indicated.

Yesterday morning, some residents of this port claimed having seen the same phenomenon described by this reporter; even the Sonora radio station made reference to phone calls received from eyewitnesses claiming to have seen a strange light crossing the skies, coinciding with the characteristics and the time at which the UFO sighting took place, causing controversy in Santa Rosalia and its environs.

In the photos taken by this reporter yesterday, it was possible to make out the colors and strange shape of the luminous wake left behind by the object. It was not possible to capture the saucer's image through the lens -- this was possibly due to its intense light and speed. What could well have been an alien spacecraft, by mutual agreement of those of us who saw it, occurred over a region to the north of this port city, which can easily be observed from the higher end of the town.

According to our experience, and from what we have seen on television for years, the object was very similar to the vessels that argue for the presence of beings from elsewhere in the universe -- a fact that our minds struggle against accepting until a sighting occurs, like the one experienced by this reporter, and of which we have proof. — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid and Carlos Clemente

October 4, 2005 — *Panamericana Noticias*, Peru — RESIDENTS OF PUENTE PIEDRA AND VENTANILLA SEE UFOs; ELECTRICAL INTERFERENCE — Residents of the Puente Piedra and Ventanilla districts were witnesses to an unusual event: two unidentified flying objects were reported in both areas. A camera crew from *Panamericana Noticias* recorded this event.

The [objects] appeared in the firmament over one of the many settlements along the Chillon River between Puente Piedra and Ventanilla on Friday [September 30] at 10:00 pm.

They were two powerful lights that could not be mistaken for airplanes, helicopters or aerostats. They descended with such swiftness toward the town that they absorbed energy from several light posts, causing them to go off.

"Those were UFOs and they caused the blackout and interference with artifacts," opined Mario Zegarra.

The area is a chosen location where these strange lights appear constantly. Justo is a gorge near an old mineshaft and the San Diego lagoon. But why has a new UFO sighting wave unleashed itself just as the earth is shaking in various parts of the country?

"They tend to appear when disasters approach. They are warning us of these tragedies," Zegarra added.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.24horas.com.pe — CREDIT: Renato Longato and Ana Luisa Cid

October 5, 2005 — *Hoy Extramex*, Mexico — Alleged Alien Entity Photographed Near Power Station — Mr. Arturo Calcanéo Zapata has informed Prof. Ana Luisa Cid that the watchmen of a thermoelectrical power station in Altamira, Tamaulipas managed to capture an alleged alien entity on videotape, employing the power plant's security cameras.

The likely dates for this incident are variously given as September 25 and 26 of this year.

Mr. Calcanéo undertook his own research into the matter and managed to obtain the news item that appeared in the local newspaper *Hoy Extramex* dated September 28, 2005, in which the photographic evidence is shown.

This is the text as it appeared on the paper's headlines:

EXTRATERRESTRIALS INVADE ALTAMIRA -- Widespread panic has been unleashed in Altamira after a strange creature was videotaped in the section containing the energy-producing turbines of that city's thermoelectric plant, spreading once more the theory that there is an extraterrestrial base in the area, presumably with designs on invading the territory.

There are two major thermoelectric stations in Altamira: Altamira III and IV in agreement with the Federal Electric Commission. At this time the exact location in which the events occurred has not been confirmed.

According to Arturo Calcanéo, this newspaper also published a report provided by fishermen who claimed having cast their nets in the open sea and saw, to their astonishment, how they did not sink and remained floating on the water's surface. Frightened, they reached into the water and managed to touch an object that could not be seen with the naked eye.

I hope to provide you with more information on this subject. Best regards from Mexico.

Sincerely,

Prof. Ana Luisa Cid

www.analuisacid.com

October 5, 2005 — www.astroufo.tripod.com.pe, Peru — PERU: "WE SAW THEM IN THE SKY" — "They were two oval-shaped objects. They flashed, but at a given moment we were able to see them clearly, and they were definitely neither airplanes nor anything remotely similar. We saw them in the sky."

Those were the words of Isabel Tafur, a local resident. Her eyewitness testimony was corroborated by the custodians of public school 2081, who were able to specify the time of the sighting and offered details on it, despite having been several kilometers away from the event.

Electrical devices failed along a section of the La Ensenada Highway due to a phenomenon known as static, said some parties consulted on this matter. It is known that the areas where sightings may next take place could be Chilea, Chancay, Huaral, Huacho, La Molina and Cieneguilla, where hundreds of UFO sightings and recordings have taken place in recent years.

A similar situation involving "flying saucers" also occurs in other parts of Peru, such as Cusco and Puno. — CREDIT: Alex Sender and Eduardo Guerrero

October 5, 2005 — www.astroufo.tripod.com.pe, Peru — PERU: UFOs ALSO REPORTED IN LURIGANCHO — Residents of the very end of Wiesse Avenue in the town of San Juan de Lurigancho have also seen UFOs in recent days. These witnesses indicated that the saucers remained motionless for several minutes before taking off toward Chosica.

With regard to this subject, and purely coincidentally, the 2nd World Congress on Ufology, Extraterrestrial Life and Man in Space is being held in Lima on October 7, 8 and 9 at which Russian cosmonauts Gennay Padalka, Anatoli Berezoboi and Marina Popovich will be present, discussing their experiences aboard the MIR Space Station. Also appearing are Antonio Cordova of the Asociacion Alfa y Omega, Miguel Azcueta, former mayor of Villa El Salvador, and retired USAF colonels Donald M. Ware and Wendelle Stevens. — CREDIT: Alex Sender



Come fall, one man will lead an expedition into the wilds in search of the creature said to lurk there, the Skunk Ape that is . . .

Florida's monster



JOHN ROBERGE /Democrat

By Kathleen Laufenberg
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

It's big. It's hairy. It stinks. It lurks in the woods — and it's been spotted near Tate's Hell. It's Florida's own monster: the Skunk Ape, known in other parts of the world as Bigfoot, Yeti, the Abominable Snowman and Sasquatch.

True believers say the Skunk Ape is real (stop rolling your eyes!). Files at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission confirm that many people say they've seen one.

A few freethinkers hope to spot the legendary creature themselves this fall. That's when Scott Marlowe — a manly man, unafraid to hike into the swamps during the wee hours, when alligators bellow and owls cry — leads an expedition in search of the Skunk Ape, somewhere in the wilds of Florida.

"We will definitely be roughing it," the 51-year-old from Winter Haven said. "We will be in the wild, and we will be camping. . . but we'll also have an RV headquarters to work out of."

Marlowe says he has had two close encounters with Skunk Apes, said to be 7 feet tall and outrageously stinky.

"I was actually beaned by one," he said of his latest encounter, in June.

It happened while he and two Discovery Channel filmmakers were tracking a family of Skunk Apes. (A film about the Skunk Ape later aired as "Animal X" on Discovery.) Marlowe says one of the creatures threw a stick and whopped him on the head, drawing blood.



ROBERT REESE /Special to the Democrat
Cryptozoology teacher Scott Marlowe shows off a cast of a track found in the Ocala National Forest in 1987. He says the 17-by-7-inch track was made by a Skunk Ape. In order to make such a track, he says, "It would probably have stood about 7-foot tall." The photo was taken earlier this month near Marlowe's Winter Haven home.

Such are the perils of monster hunting — or, to use a gentler term, cryptozoology: the study of, and search for, creatures such as Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster. Marlowe — who has held various jobs, including schoolteacher and computer technician, and is working on a bachelor's degree in computer science — teaches a cryptozoology class at the Florida Keys Community College. Anyone with an Internet connection can take the class, which includes a deep-woods expedition.

But before you join a crew of Skunk Ape hunters, know that you risk

encountering ticks, snakes and worse — the antics of snorting friends ("You're doing *what*?") who hoist imaginary glasses to their lips, implying that your judgment is sadly clouded.

If you're like Marlowe, you shrug, smile and forge onward. If you're more of a ham, you could borrow a line from the Bard: "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

Or you could wisely choose to tell no one of your plans.

The ape files

Before "The X-Files," there were the Skunk Ape files: two fat folders at the state's Wildlife Commission offices in Tallahassee. Not surprisingly, the files (which go back to the 1960s) are full of strange accounts and requests.

One man wrote to say he'd lived with a family of Skunk Apes for six months. Others asked whether they needed special permits to bag one. (The official answer: No, because they don't EXIST! And surely if they did, some wildlife officer would've slapped a radio collar around one's neck by now.)

Perhaps the saddest story in the file, though, is the saga of the Green Swamp creature. A wild man was spotted in the swamps of Sumter County in 1990 and 1991. He was finally tracked down and caught by Sheriff Don Page. The swamp man's name was Hu Tu Mei. He was a 39-year-old Taiwanese mariner.

He had wandered off unnoticed from Tampa General Hospital's psychiatric ward eight months before his capture in the swamps. According

A comparison of foot prints



JOHN ROBERGE /Democrat

to news reports, he'd apparently survived by eating small wild animals raw and occasionally stealing food and other items from barns and mobile homes.

After they treated him to plates of food at the jail, the deputies told the man he'd soon be able to go home to Taiwan. Later that evening, he killed himself by wrapping a belt around his neck.

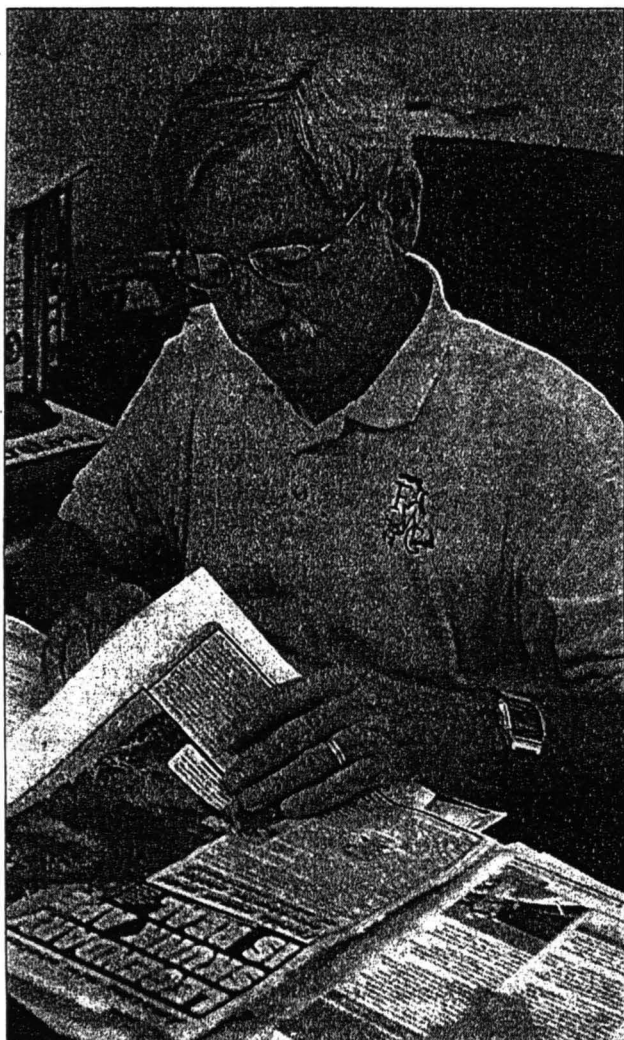
Such a sad ending to the tale of the Green Swamp creature. But it's the only tale in the files that has an ending. The story of the Skunk Ape goes on and on.

Why?

"That's one of those things that's always going to be around. I think people need those myths and legends," said Robert Daniels, a recently retired Florida wildlife officer of 27 years.

He's seen some strange things in the Panhandle woods, the 52-year-old said, but never a Skunk Ape (also called a Swamp Ape).

(continued on page 18)



GLENN BEIL / Democrat
Henry Cabbage, a spokesman at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, leafs through the agency's files on the legendary Skunk Ape.

So, what is the strangest thing he's seen in the woods? That would be a ghost. Daniels said he saw it many years ago, at the Lake Jackson Indian Mounds. But that's another story.

What the . . . ?

Bill Arnold, on the other hand, has never seen a ghost. But he says he has gotten a good, unexpected look at a Skunk Ape.

The longtime owner of Arnold Bicycle Sales & Service Shop in Columbus, Ga., has property in Wakulla County and plans to retire here. So he's often in the area and enjoys going to the beach on St. George Island.

He saw the Skunk Ape, he said, on his way to St. George. (And no, he said, he had not been drinking or doing anything else to impair his faculties.)

He was on County Road 67, a long, lonely stretch of road that winds near Tate's Hell and cuts through acres of undeveloped land. It was one day about this time last summer, he said, around 6:30 p.m., when he spotted something large and dark crossing the road on two legs.

"When I first saw it, I thought it must be a bear," the 52-year-old said. "As I got closer and closer . . . I thought it might be a hunter. A big, hairy hunter."

But then he realized it couldn't be a human, either. It was too big — "probably 8 feet tall" — and it had furry hair "pretty much from top to bottom." He couldn't tell if it was male or female. It had no neck. When it turned to look at his approaching truck, its upper torso turned rather than just its head.

It was a big, hairy ape, he said. And then it was gone, disappearing into the woods on the other side.

And although he's willing to have his name in the newspaper, he said, "I don't tell a lot of people."

He learned quickly it was best not to.

"I got a kind of guarded reaction. 'Oh yeah, sure, uh-huh.'"

He'd heard the story of the Florida Skunk Ape before his sighting, he said, but never thought much of it. But now, "I believe it more because I feel like I really did see it."

Whenever he takes that same road, he's always on the lookout. He keeps a camera ready, just in case.

(Which may not help, even if he snaps one. Photos of Skunk Apes abound, from blurry

snapshots in grocery tabloids to clear photos of what looks suspiciously like Chewbacca, the Wookiee in the "Star Wars" movies. Wait — maybe what Arnold saw was a Wookiee!)

Making a monkey

If you stop in at J.R.'s Aucilla River Store on U.S. Highway 98, across from the Aucilla River Wildlife Management Area, you'll see something that owner Lester Walker Jr. — known to all in this remote area as J.R. — calls a swamp monkey.

You'll find the mysterious stuffed creature along with other stuffed wild animals, such as wild boar, bobcats, turkeys and quail.

Walker, 54, will spin a yarn to inquiring newcomers that the swamp monkey is a creature he shot after it fell from tall trees into his boat. ("I always keep a 9 millimeter with me," he said matter-of-factly, " 'cause down here 911 is a long distance.")

But before his patrons leave, he tells them the truth: It's just something he rigged up using "a deer tail turned upside down."

Still, his pseudo swamp monkey has sparked plenty of tales about the legendary Skunk Ape. Walker's not a believer: "I've never seen anything like that. Just bears. There's a lot of bears around here." But he just smiles and nods. If he's in the mood, he might share his tale of the strangest creature (other than the humans) he's ever encountered in the Aucilla River woods.

It happened, he said, back in about 1970.

"I thought I saw two hogs, and I got out of my truck. I had a 45 with me, and I thought I was ('Gunsmoke' TV Marshal) Matt Dillon with it. I snuck out there to the edge of the bushes."

But what he found wasn't a wild boar.

"It was a big black cat. This thing was about 60, 70 pounds. I knew not to be messing with something like that."

So, quietly, he climbed back in his truck and left.

Today, he's still not sure what he saw. And though it may not be a yowzer of a tale, as many Skunk Ape stories are, it's his. And he has a simple but wise philosophy when it comes to swapping tales of Things I Saw in the Swamps: "I don't mess with your stories, and you don't mess with mine."

That's sage advice to all who seek the Florida Skunk Ape.

■ Contact Reporter Kathleen Laufenberg at (850) 599-2375 or klaufenberg@tallahassee.com.

In search of the Skunk Ape?

By Kathleen Laufenberg
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

If all this monster talk has whetted your appetite for learning more about legendary creatures, here's a wrap-up of non-credit cryptozoology classes offered this fall through the Florida Keys Community College:

■ "Cryptids in Myth, Legend and Folklore I" will examine the history and evolution of fantastic creatures such as the dragon and phoenix.

■ "Cryptozoology Field Study" will take you on an actual expedition in search of signs of the Skunk Ape.

■ "Cryptozoology Practicum" will take you on an expedition to search for signs of one or more jaguarundi living near the Suwannee River. This wild cat native to South and Central America should not be living in Florida. Some say one or more were let loose here after proving to be too wild as pets. A jaguarundi can weigh up to 20 pounds and has a long, otter-like tail. The biggest threat it may pose is mating with domestic cats.

These and other cryptozoology classes are offered through the college's personal recreation department and typically cost \$110 each. They're available to anyone over the Internet and cannot be used as credit toward an academic degree.

You may learn more about these and other class offerings at www.pangeainstitute.us. To register, go to www.fkcc.edu and search for cryptozoology classes.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver, CO Aug. 29, 2005

CR: P. Noonan

Can the body electric affect PCs? Maybe

Question: I've always had trouble wearing wristwatches. Regardless of how expensive they are, they run for a week or two and then quit. Years ago, a high school science teacher told me it might be because I had too much electricity in my body.

**Bill Husted
HELP DESK**

As an adult, I've noticed that I seem to have a higher-than-average amount of computer crashes, both at home and at work. So, is there any truth to what my science teacher told me, and could it be the source of my computer problems?

Answer: This is sure to generate e-mail from other readers because most of us have met at least one person with an identical problem.

You could make a case for how your teacher said — that of what batteries work. A chemical reaction creates the electron flow. Our bodies teem with chemical reactions.

Here at the newspaper, I worked with a reporter who was unable to use the touchpad that substitutes for a mouse on some Apple laptop computers. The reporter was told — by a computer expert who has since left the newspaper — that the touchpad wouldn't work because of the reporter's body chemistry.

What do I believe? I tend to doubt that some people are "wired" in such a way that they crash computers or wreck wristwatches. However, I'm not positive I'm right. And I've heard the same stories that you have. Besides, my stepson (quite honest-

ly) seems capable of crashing a computer simply by walking near one. I can't explain it, but that doesn't in any way mean that it's true. Coincidence is a powerful factor that often explains many weird happenings.

When I did some research, I found a fascinating Web page from Princeton University that takes a look at how humans interact with computers and other devices in unexplained ways.

While it does not discuss the wristwatch problem, it offers research into cases where machines act in strange ways that "can only be attributed to the influence of the consciousness of the human operator." That page is located at www.princeton.edu/~pear/ and is labeled "Princeton Engineering Anomalies Research."

Of course, research papers and professors are not always correct. But it makes for interesting reading.

Canada lab tests "Sasquatch" hair

Reuters

VANCOUVER, B.C. — The debate over the existence of Sasquatch, an apelike creature said to haunt the wilderness of Western Canada and the United States, has entered the world of modern DNA testing.

A laboratory will test hair samples that several residents of Teslin, Yukon, say were left when the large, but so-far mythi-

ological creature — also called Bigfoot — made a late-night run through their community in early July.

University of Alberta wildlife geneticist David Coltman, who agreed to do the tests, said yesterday that scientists have cataloged the DNA of nearly all large animals in the Yukon such as bears and bison.

"So we'll compare it to all of that, and if it doesn't match anything, then it's potentially interesting," said Coltman, who suspects the hair was actually left behind by a much more mundane Yukon bison.

"If Sasquatch is indeed a primate, then we would expect the sample to be closer to humans or chimpanzees or gorillas," Coltman said.

The legend of a large, hairy, two-legged creature dates to before Europeans settled the continent. This was the second report of the creature near Teslin in just over a year.

In the latest sighting, a group of Teslin residents said they heard branches cracking and saw a large humanlike creature run by a house. It left behind large footprints and hair tufts, they said.

Coltman expects to have his results Thursday.



Submitted photo
Leo Selzer finds an X marker in the Norman Lake area he believes was constructed by a sasquatch.

Sasquatch are here, says outdoorsman

by BERNICE TRICK
Citizen staff

A Prince George man whose greatest passion has been hunting for big game admits he's hooked on proving the existence of sasquatch.

Leo Selzer, who has spent 41 years hunting in the bush around Prince George, is convinced the illusive creatures are around, and he spends as much time as he can in the bush area where he believes they live. He says he's had one pretty clear sighting and several occasions when he's convinced he was communicating with his "furry friends."

In the mid-1980s when Selzer was moose hunting in the Gregg Creek area west of the city, he did his loud moose calls that bring in the bulls during rutting season.

"After a few calls I heard a response — like someone banging on a tree about a kilometre away. I would call. Then right away, bang, bang. A small black bear appeared, wandering towards the banging sounds. The bear stopped and stood on its hind legs looking towards a tall fir tree, and then all of a sudden it hightailed it in the opposite direction toward me, veered off and went over the ridge."

It was then that Selzer saw a tall, dark-coloured creature step out from the cover of the fir tree into the open, and then quickly stepped behind the tree and was gone," said Selzer, noting that logged-off area has little human activity. In 2000 Selzer was again hunting at Gregg Creek when, at about 400 metres, he spotted what he first thought was a large bear standing on its hind legs watching the hunters.

"It was standing next to a large, broken-off fir tree and was about the same dark colour, maybe greyish around its shoulders and on its chest.

"Thinking it could be a grizzly, I kept a close eye on it, watching it shift its weight from one leg to the other a couple of times for about a half hour.

"All of a sudden it was gone, but later I realized a bear would never stand on its hind legs for that long without getting down and back up again," said Selzer.

After studying that area closely, he's concluded the creatures leave landmarks and directional signs by piling trees into X marks between closely knit trees, and bending and shaping spindly trees into arches and shaped pointers carefully threaded through willow tops.

He believes Sasquatch eat bark from trees like aspens, and has seen markings showing large fingernails and teeth were used to remove bark.

He's also seen large footprints, but hasn't been fortunate enough to be able to photograph them fresh or complete.

"One footprint, going up a grade, was pretty clear, about 13 to 14 inches long, eight inches wide at the heel, and about six inches wide at the top of the ball of the foot. There were indications of possible toe impressions about one to three inches beyond the ball of the foot."

In 1994 on the Hoodoo Lakes road he could hear at least three individual voices give out a holler or two which was responded to by "jabbering type of language."

"I thought it must be some drunken people back there on a bush road or something, but I later found out there is no road or clearing in that area."

In mid-June, Selzer came across an area in the Gregg Creek, about 300 to 400 yards long, containing a series of blinds and shelters, and tepee-like frameworks he believes were built by a sasquatch.

The blinds are waist to shoulder height with logs and trees pushed or piled together to form a lean-to like structure.

"The frameworks, up to 50-feet high, are made with long spindly trees intricately intertwined to form the structure," said Selzer.

Brian Vike in Houston, who reports on

After studying that area closely, he's concluded the creatures leave landmarks and directional signs by piling trees into X marks between closely knit trees, and bending and shaping spindly trees into arches and shaped pointers carefully threaded through willow tops.

unidentified flying objects and such matters, has received reports from residents about sasquatch sightings in the Buck Flats area.

"Two Houston women, driving up Buck Flats road, were startled recently when a large animal walked upright across the road in front of their vehicle.

"The animal, described much like a sasquatch, made long strides into the forest, but did not turn to look back at the women."

He said a camping party at Silverthorne

CHRONICLE, San Francisco, CA - Sept. 11, 2005 CR: J. Laurino

At a late summer campout with my dad and brother, I remember being lined up in our sleeping bags, staring up and asking, "What's out there past the stars?"

My dad chuckled and my brother pointed to the sky. "You mean like up there in that black spot?" he asked.

"Yeah, and past that."

"More stars. You can see them with a telescope."

"But how far does it go?"

At age 10, it was difficult to accept that there wasn't a verified answer for all of my questions. After all, my dad and big brother seemed to know everything. In a career where I have traveled more than 1 million miles in California, I have more questions than ever about things I have seen and heard.

Here are three such cases, including one reported to me last week, which inspired this column:

The South Fork Pilgrims

Deep in Six Rivers National Forest in the northwest corner of California, a geologist, forester and two assistants were driving up South Fork Road on a fall day to assess salmon spawning habitat, as well as a landslide and the tree-planting program designed to stabilize it.

This was along the South Fork Smith River. From Highway 199, South Fork Road extends for about 20 miles along the South Fork Smith, a remote and beautiful canyon, and then forks off on other roads to trailheads leading to the boundary of the Siskiyou Wilderness.

As they drove in, the crew discussed the matrix of water volume, water quality, soil erosion and spawning habitat capacity, and the effects these factors have on salmon populations. The lead scientist was making a point when he glanced to the left and spotted some folks along the river on a sand bar.

"Look at those people," he said. "They're all wearing pilgrim clothes."

They continued their discussion as they drove on.

About five minutes down the road, while talking about how culverts can block passage of salmon to reach tributaries to spawn, the scientist stopped in mid-sentence.

"You guys all saw those people dressed in pilgrim clothes along the river, right?" the scientist asked. Everybody did, came the answers.

"There's something not right about that. Where did they come from? Did you see any cars parked anywhere?"

He jammed the vehicle to a stop, turned around and high-tailed it back to the spot. But the pilgrims were gone.

"We all know what we saw, some people dressed in pilgrim clothes along the South Fork Smith," he said. "When we realized what we saw, we went back to check it out and they weren't there."

The Klamath flat tire

On a trip to the most remote canyon in Klamath National Forest, my old buddy, the late Jeff Patty, and I were driving to the canyon lip of the headwaters of Blue Creek. This canyon has no roads or trails, and we were going to spend a week trekking on deer trails, fishing and playing tag with the bears.

Lake reported hearing chilling screams in the night coming from around the lake, which cannot be associated with the known animals in the region.

"One other sighting was reported on the Morice River Road when two people fishing witnessed a large two-legged animal on the opposite bank of a river walk slowly into the forest and disappear," said Vike.

American William Dranginis, said he saw a bigfoot once — hairy, seven feet tall and sprinting through the woods of Virginia.

The 12-second sighting changed the life of Dranginis, who outfitted a 24-foot mobile veterinary clinic as a Bigfoot Primate Research lab.

Equipped with scopes, radios and a Night-Sight camera that can detect an animal in the dark at 800 yards away, he heads out at least two weekends a month.

But still no second sighting for Dranginis, who would like to push legislation to protect the creatures.

"Do not shoot it," said Selzer.

"They mean no harm, but they are curious, and incredibly intelligent beings."

Selzer's latest reported sighting on July 20 came from a visiting couple from Saskatoon.

Thet told Selzer that, while driving Highway 16 East at about 8 p.m. near Tabor Mountain, they saw what they first thought was a large man crossing the highway.

Describing the creature as about 7 1/2 feet tall covered with hair, thick barrelled shoulders and narrow waist, they said it crossed the road about 100 yards ahead of them in about three steps.

The couple, who have never believed in the sasquatch theory, were so haunted by the experience they couldn't sleep.

After they got home they contacted Selzer, who has added his investigation of the area to his website: <http://sasquatch-pg.net>.



Tom Stienstra
Outdoors

From the Klamath River town of Orleans, we drove for more than an hour on logging roads into the forest interior. We saw no one. Then, as we neared the canyon rim, we got a flat tire. When we tried to jack up the rig, the jack broke into three pieces.

"This is bad," Jeff said, "real bad." We estimated we were about 30 to 35 miles from another person.

But less than 20 seconds after the jack broke, this ancient pick-up truck with old rounded fenders came around the bend.

Without a word, a young man and woman, dressed in historic Native American clothing, got out, pulled out a jack and tire iron, and changed our tire. They said nothing and waved us off when we tried to help.

Each was an amazing physical specimen. The man was tall, slim and muscular, wearing a buckskin vest with no shirt. His hair was long and black, his nose hooked, with dark, clear eyes and perfect complexion. The woman was his match, a classic beauty, and what I remember best was her radiant brown eyes and perfect posture.

They never acknowledged us. After the spare was on, they got back in that old truck and drove off ahead of us.

After a few minutes reviewing our luck, we started our truck and drove on, and to our surprise, we hit the end of the road in about two minutes.

"Where'd they go?" I remember Jeff asking.

That old truck didn't pass us coming out. There were no logging spurs to turn on. And it wasn't at the end of the road.

Wild man of the woods

In the past 25 years, I received more than 60 reports of Bigfoot sightings. After being hired to lead a six-week Bigfoot expedition in the 1980s and after some 20,000 miles of hiking, I've never seen Mr. Bigfoot or anything in regard to the myth/legend that I couldn't explain.

But last week, I ran into a taxidermist friend who lives in rural Tehama County, a conservative, well-read, salt-of-the-earth kind of guy, who told me this story:

"On the flank of a mountain (that I'm keeping secret for now until I check the area out) in Northern California, I was involved in a logging operation and was driving with my wife on a remote mountain road. Out of nowhere, what looked like a man covered with fur, about 6-feet tall, jumped out of the woods, ran across the road in front of us, and down into the canyon." The incident took a matter of seconds, he said.

"I got out and looked and it was like it disappeared. It went straight down a shale slope. We came back the next day and could not find a single footprint, trail or anything. But we know what we saw. It was something running upright."

He doesn't tell many people about this, he says, but confides it to me in a matter-of-fact style, and his wife, also a straight-ahead type, sitting alongside, never blinked.

Canoeing, biking and exploring Lake Chabot are featured on the TV show "Great Outdoors With Tom Stienstra," which airs tonight at 6:30 on KBHK-44 and Bay Area Cable 12.

E-mail Tom Stienstra at tstienstra@sfcronicle.com.

By Tom Paulu
THE DAILY NEWS

He's out there.
Or at least a lot of people think so, or want to believe so. Bigfoot, the big, hairy, foul-smelling man-ape, lurks in the depths of our imaginations, if not the depths of western forests.

Southwest Washington is prime Bigfoot habitat, with plenty of wooded land and harsh terrain that discourages human travel.

Mount St. Helens is the focus of a lot of Bigfoot lore. A deep chasm on its eastern flank is named Ape Canyon, the site of an alleged Bigfoot attack in the 1930s. South of the mountain, Ape Cave is named after a Boy Scout group that explored it, which took its name from ape legends.

If you drive up Spirit Lake Memorial Highway, you'll see a big Bigfoot statue in Kid Valley, near a tourist shop.

If you hear terrible screaming deep in the woods in the middle of the night, it might be Bigfoot. Or perhaps a recording broadcast by members of the Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization, who believe they have a tape of the big guy. They broadcast it in hopes of hearing a reply.

The BFRO lists recent reports of possible sightings on its Web sites. Someone reported seeing a Bigfoot at 1:30 a.m. one morning last November on Forest Road 90 near Eagle Cliff, south of Mount St. Helens. Another recent report gives details of a 1993 close encounter near Fort Stevens State Park in Oregon.

Robert Michael Pyle, an author who lives in Grays River on the way to the coast, spent several years investigating the facts and myths surrounding Bigfoot, resulting in "Where Bigfoot Walks," published in 1995.

Pyle, who has a Ph.D. in ecology, didn't set out to prove or disprove the critter's existence, but had several hair-raising experiences in the wilds. One dark night, as he was driving alone

over an isolated pass east of Mount St. Helens, he heard an odd sound, and something hit his car. He later found tracks 16 inches long. Maybe it was an owl — they've been known to swoop at

cars. But what about the track he found later?

Pyle noted that Native Americans traditionally have had Bigfoot legends, though the border between natural

and spiritual worlds was "permeable" for them.

One of the foremost Bigfoot researchers was Grover Krantz, an anthropology professor at Washington State University who died in 2003.

In his 1993 book, "Big Footprints," Krantz said that adult male Sasquatches stand 7-feet-8-inches tall and weigh around 800 pounds. They're nocturnal, which explains the infrequent sightings. And they're pretty smart, Krantz wrote — smart enough to avoid us.

The scientist said he has studied footprint casts which only an expert on primate anatomy would be able to fake.

Then there's the infamous 1967 film shot in Northern California, offered as proof of Bigfoot. Krantz says the gait of the creature in the film couldn't have been done by a human, considering our bone structure.

However, every few years someone announces that he was wearing a monkey suit in the film. The debate goes on.

There's a tasty conspiracy theory revolving around Bigfoot too. Sasquatch searchers claim that people in the timber industry and Forest Service know more than they're willing to share, because they fear logging would be shut down if the most endangered of endangered species, Bigfoot, were certified as living in the woods.

How about this writer? Like a lot of other skeptics, I think if Bigfoot existed, someone would have gotten a good picture of one or found a skeleton, considering how many people like me venture into the woods. (If you get a photo, please give the scoop to this newspaper.)

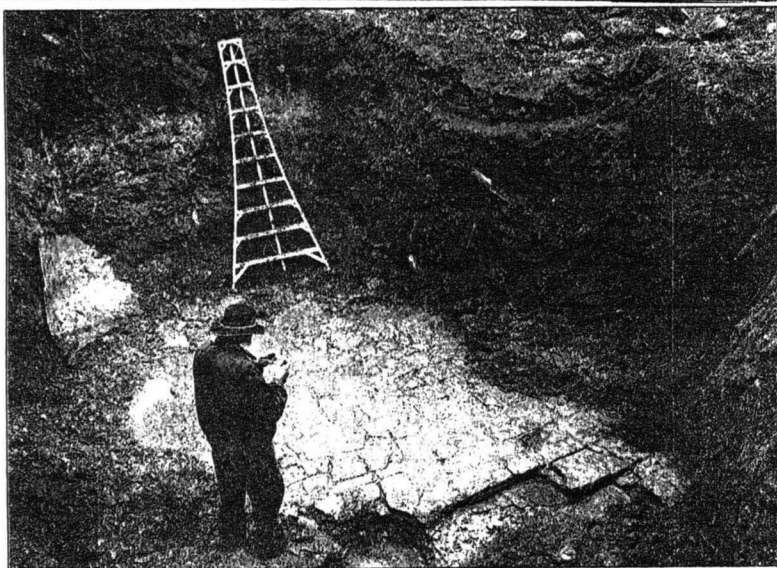
But a few years ago, I stood on a ridge in the Dark Divide that Pyle wrote about and stared down into a valley more than 5 miles long that has never been logged. There's a rough trail, which no human would ever use at night.

All that space is enough for Bigfoot. For a moment, at least, I was a believer.



Bigfoot greets tourists at a shop in Kid Valley on Spirit Lake Memorial Highway. Stop by on your way up to Mount St. Helens visitor centers.

Daily News file photo



Zebulon Miracle | Special to The Denver Post

Joe Wiczorek, a member of the scientific team that recently dug up the "floor," photographs it this month. A rancher discovered the mysterious stone structure 68 years ago while digging a trench for an outhouse. Opinions differ on what or who built the floor.

Ancient "tile" a work of nature, experts say

By Nancy Lofholm
Denver Post Staff Writer

Grand Junction — Mary Lou Ridenour still remembers the day 68 years ago when her father was digging a trench for an outhouse and found something that could have changed

Western history.

About 8 feet into the soft dirt, Tom Kenney's shovel struck rock, and as he cleared away more earth, he found a flat, precise mosaic of evenly spaced rectangular and square sandstone pieces that appeared to be grouted with a putty-like substance. Intrigued, Kenney continued to widen the hole and found that the rock floor covered more than 12 square feet.

Archaeologists and historians

came to the remote ranch from all across the country to study the amazing rock "floor." Some declared it undisputable evidence of an advanced civilization that had created this intricate stone work 25,000 to 80,000 years ago. Others, including an Egyptologist who traveled from the Nile, countered that it was the work of nature.

The floor was eventually reburied after Ridenour's family sold the ranch, but the mystery and contro-

versy couldn't be covered up entirely. A team of 20 scientists, archaeologists, geologists and an anthropologist recently dug up the floor again to solve the lingering puzzle of its origins. And they concluded — with some reservations — that Mother Nature can fool us.

"It looks like tile ... but it's not," said Larry Luebke, a retired geologist who worked in the petroleum industry for three decades and said he has seen similar geological phenomena around the world.

He said what appeared to be 4-inch-thick tiles carefully cut, leveled, grouted and laid on a hillside with an expansive view of a valley below by some Aztec-era humans, actually were pieces of bedrock that had been evenly cracked and naturally grouted by bentonite clay some 40 million years ago during the Eocene epoch. The rocks would have gained their polished appearance, Luebke said, when they were exposed to the elements on the surface for tens of thousands of years.

Luebke and the other members of the Western Investigations Team based their conclusions on a number of factors: They dug down another several feet and found a similar "floor." What appeared to be a burnt spot on the floor was iron and not carbon, which would have been left from a fire. The "grout" was a clay common to the area. No cut marks could be distinguished on the rocks, and no artifacts were found in the area.

"We're left with what could have been. This would have turned West-

ern history on its head," said Dave Bailey, curator at the Museum of Western Colorado, who admits, despite the scientific conclusions, to still having some doubts about the floor's origin.

The museum teamed up to solve the mystery with Mesa State College in a partnership that will go on to tackle other historical riddles. The museum also will use the mystery-floor expedition to create an interactive display this winter. Part of the floor will be reassembled in the museum, and visitors will be able to weigh in on whether they think it is man-made or natural.

Ridenour, 76, and her sister, Ida McKelvie, 74, already know how they'll vote.

"I've never felt it was natural, and they haven't convinced me," Ridenour said. "I think in time it will be proven otherwise."

McKelvie called those people who don't think the floor was made by ancient humans "just Doubting Thomases."

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