

# UFO sightings and stories will long linger in the minds of area residents

By MAXINE NELSON

Colby Free Press

Northwest Kansas has had at least three official sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs). Sightings have been recorded on April 29, 1952; March 6, 1967, and August 19, 1972. The 1952 and 1967 sightings were discussed in a previous article. Both the 1967 and 1972 sightings were observed by Colby police officers. Below is their description of the 1972 sighting.

1972

Another sighting took place on Aug. 19, 1972. The following information is from *The Science Of UFOs — Fact Versus Skepticism*, By Richard Hall, *The Colby Free Press-Tribune*, and the *Prairie Drummer*.

A series of sightings was reported to

Maxine Nelson

## • A Peek At The Past

police, the first call at 2 a.m. from John L. Calkins of Gem.

Awakened by barking dogs, he went to his front door and saw three objects hovering nearby, making shrill, high whistling sounds. The larger object had six flashing red and green body lights. He also heard beeping sounds. The sightings continued until about 6:20 a.m.

According to the *Colby Free Press-Tribune*, Colby Police Officers Paul Carter and Dennis Brown were headed east, separately, on Fourth Street near

the Rusty Bucket (now the Jaycees Building) and saw a UFO moving in a westerly direction with flashing red and green lights. Carter reported he was about a half mile from the object which was about 30 feet across and 20 feet high. They followed the object and estimated it to be traveling about 50 miles per hour. The UFO stopped by I-70 in a pasture about a fourth mile east of Country Club Drive, changed to a very bright white light, and hovered motionless about 10 feet about the ground.

"Suddenly the object emitted intense, blinding white light ('too intense to look at') that illuminated the terrain as bright as daylight. He could even see jackrabbits in the field by the glare of the light. The brilliant luminosity tended to conceal the shape of the ob-

ject, but twice Carter could see that it was 'like a cereal bowl turned upside down.'

The object then made a 'whooshing noise similar to a vacuum cleaner' and shot straight up into the sky and out of sight in about three seconds. Officer Brown, approaching Carter's position, saw the glow of the object and saw it rocket up into the sky." (*Flying Saucer Review*, November-December 1972, pp. 30-31; *MUFON UFO Journal*, August 1987, p. 20)

Later the object was seen heading southeast toward Oakley where police observed it through binoculars. Officer Earl Wood, Jr., and his partner, Duane Nelson, could see six body lights on the object, and saw that it was circular in shape. Three lights on the front were white, and those on the back flashed

from red to green.

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Asked if he knows of any more recent UFO sightings, Thomas County Sheriff Tom Jones replied none had been documented, however, "Within recent times, the last year or two, I've been called to the northeast part of the county several different times and the most recent one was probably during the early, early spring. It was not just one person, but several people in several families."

He said they described the object as a flashing, zigzagging light, which would blaze across the sky, back up abruptly, make an abrupt 90 degree turn, flash, then just vanish.

"I've gone out and looked. One night with a particular individual, I did observe something I don't know what it

was. I'm reluctant to call it alien to this world. It could have been a modern military mechanism that I could not personally identify, not little green men from Mars.

Several of us were standing there watching and talking about what we had seen. None of us could explain it as an everyday airplane as you and I would know it.

"The people who saw it are common, everyday, rational citizens. You would recognize them if I were to divulge their names, which I won't. God created this world, I think he created other life in the universe."

*The is part two of a two part series about UFOs.*

*Part one appeared in the Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2002 issue of the Colby Free Press*

# Oakley gears up for 31st annual Cornhusking Contest to be held this weekend

Its tradition to "think corn" the second weekend of October in Oakley. The day is a step back in time, when farmers picked the husks of corn off the stalk one by one — before mechanized corn pickers replaced hand-huskers in 1941.

The contest sat dormant for 30 years, until the contest was revived in 1971 with Oakley hosting the National Contest. Nine Midwestern states including Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Ohio, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and Kansas now host their own state cornhusking contest each fall, keeping closely with the rules and styles of the events held in the 20s, 30s and up until World War II, with the

exception of husking times (which have been reduced from 80 minutes to 10, 20 or 30 minutes.)

Teams of horses pulling wagons run along-side the huskers for them to toss the husked ears of corn into as they race the clock. It truly gives you a glimpse of agriculture before the invention of high production farm implements, when the back breaking work was done by hand, one husk at a time.

Activities begin on Friday, Oct. 11, with the Chamber of Commerce sponsored "Corn Cook-Off." The contest will begin at 11:30 a.m. Guidelines and information on the "Corn Cook-Off" are available at the Chamber of Commerce office from Margie

Broeckleman.

A registration reception hosted by Logan County Extension will be held at Swart Park Motors on Friday afternoon, from 3 to 5 p.m. Organizers encourage everyone who plans to husk bright and early the next morning to beat the registration rush, and enjoy coffee, tea and cookies.

The Oakley Schools Art Department will have the students "Corn Art" competition on display at Swart Park as well, with the judging done Friday afternoon at the registration reception.

The actual cornhusking contest will take place on Saturday, Oct. 12 at the Logan County Fairgrounds with registration beginning at 8 a.m. in the Dick

Farmer Arena. Husking will begin at 9 a.m. in the Gary and Raelene Keller cornfield, directly east of the Community Church, on East Second Street.

Duration of each competing husking class range from 10 to 30 minutes, depending on the class. There will be eleven husking classes, including:

Novice: individuals who have husked two years or less;

Girls and Boys Youth: those younger than 20.

Young Women and Men: ages 21-49

Senior Women and Men: ages 50 and over.

Men's Golden Agers: ages 75 and over.

Women and Men's State Open: ex-

perienced huskers Team Competition: 3 individuals per team

The "Heritage FCE Arts and Crafts Show" will showcase handmade crafts in the Logan County 4-H Building on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Concessions, including homemade pie, will be available at the north end of the 4-H building throughout the day.

The "Corn Ear Throwing Contest", sponsored by the Cornhusking committee, will commence at 1 p.m., and the ever popular "The Bank" of Oakley sponsored "Kid's Corn Pile Money Hunt" will begin at 2:30 p.m. on the Fair Grounds.

The weekend will end with the annual "Awards Banquet" at 7 p.m. in the

Oakley County Club, where winners from the day's classes will be recognized and honored.

Communities around Oakley are encouraged to attend and participate in this annual state-wide event. You need not be experienced to try it for the first time! There is a \$15 fee, which allows huskers to participate in the team competition, one regular husking class and a ticket to the banquet. Additional banquet tickets may be purchased throughout the day or at the door that night for \$5.

For more information, contact Cornhusking Committee Chair, Warren Park at 785-672-3221 or Logan County Extension at 785-672-3245.

## Student News

Jeff Donelan

Jeff Donelan of Colby is a member of the 2002-2003 Kansas Statue University marching Band, The Pride of Wildcat Land.

Donelan plays percussion in the band. He is the son of John and Becky Donelan of Colby.

More than 275 K-State students are part of the band, which includes musicians, the Classy Cats dance squad, color guard, twirlers and student staff members. The band is conducted by Frank Tracz, director of bands at K-State; Scott Lubaroff, associate director of bands; and Kurt Gartner, percussion instructor.

The 2002-2003 K-State Marching band performs at all home football games and other special events.

# Consumers have options when mechanics don't repair cars correctly

Dear Attorney General Stovall:

Recently the transmission on my vehicle needed to be repaired. I knew this type of repair would be expensive so I shopped around for the best price. When I chose a mechanic to do the work, I was told that the repair would take about three days.

However, the shop had my car for about a month, and when I finally got my car back the transmission still was not fixed. I called the shop and was told to bring my car back in under warranty. Since this shop took so long to do a repair that is not right, I do not trust it anymore and I just want my money back.

Attorney General Stovall, what can I do?

Carla J. Stovall

## • Consumer Corner

Dear Kansas Consumer:

Under Kansas law, suppliers must provide certain implied warranties for the goods and/or services they sell which apply in addition to the express warranties they may provide. These implied warranties include the workmanlike performance of work or skill, services sold, the merchantability of products sold and the fitness for a particular purpose of products sold. The repair shop had given you a 12-

month/12,000 mile express warranty on the parts and labor of the repair. Under both express or implied warranties, if the goods and/or services develop a problem, the consumer must give the supplier notice of the problem and the opportunity to correct it. In an auto repair situation, this usually means taking the vehicle back to the original repair shop.

If, after a reasonable number of attempts, the supplier cannot make the goods and/or services conform, the consumer can request a refund. If the supplier is unwilling to give a refund, the consumer can file a civil lawsuit against the supplier. If the repairs cost \$1,800 or less, the consumer can sue in small claims court.

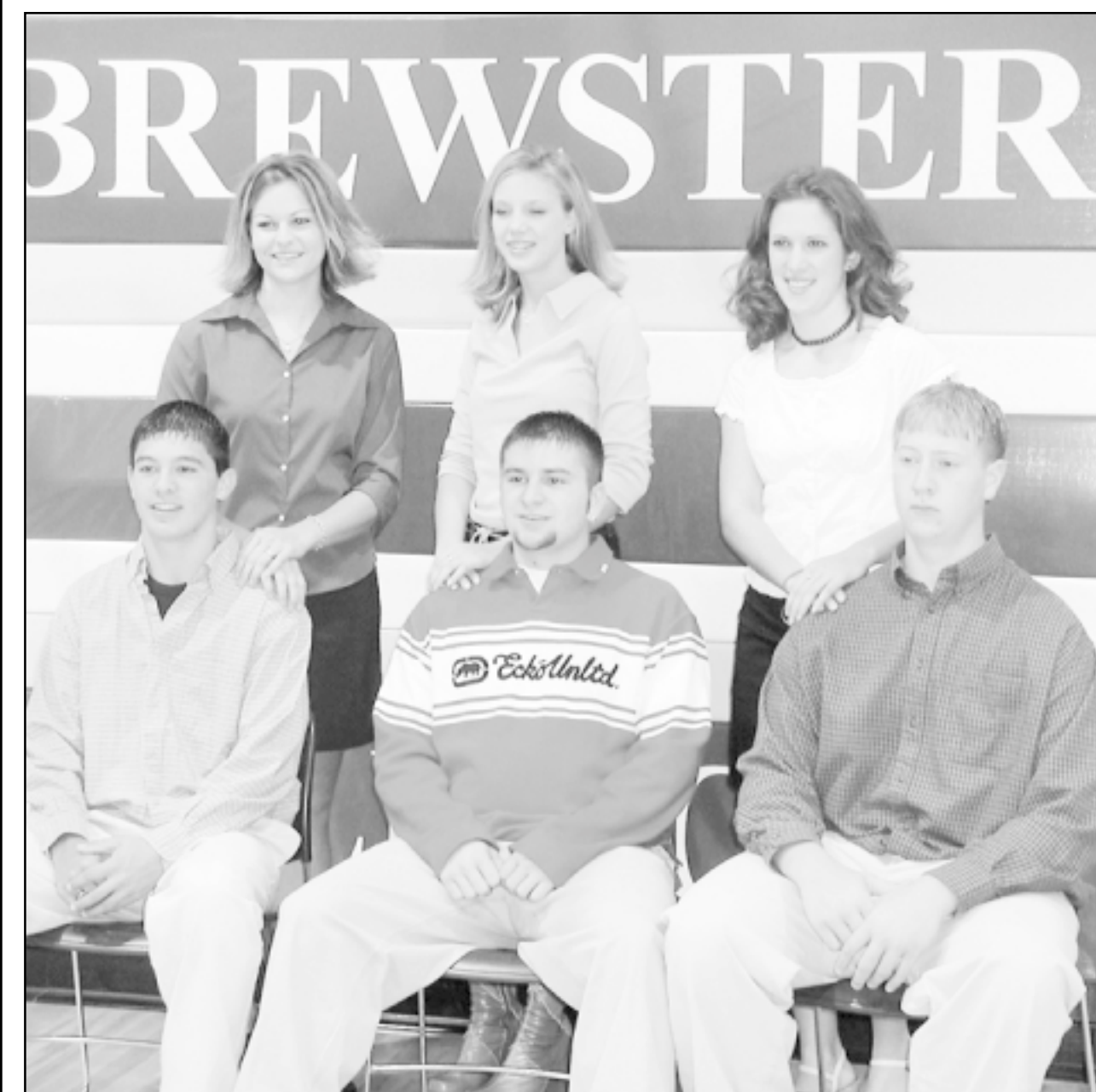
Although the Kansas Consumer Protection Act does not give my Consumer Protection Division jurisdiction to take enforcement action in cases of shoddy workmanship in the performance of services, we will mediate these types of complaints in an effort to help prevent the parties from going to court.

In this instance, you had already taken your car to another transmission repair facility prior to contacting my office.

We contacted the original mechanic, who in turn agreed to pay the second shop to do the repair as a good-will gesture. Keep in mind, though, that this is not typical as most shops will not agree to pay another shop for a repair.

*Attorney General Carla J. Stovall offers this public service to help you avoid becoming a victim of consumer fraud. Although some of the details have been changed, the cases appearing in this column are based on actual complaints.*

*For further information or to file a complaint, please write Attorney General Carla J. Stovall, Consumer Protection Division, 120 SW 10th, Second Floor, Topeka, Kansas 66612, or call the toll-free Consumer Hotline at 1-800-432-2310.*



## BREWSTER HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING

### Highlights for the week

**Monday, October 7**  
Pajama Day

**Tuesday, October 8**  
Crazy Day

**Wednesday, October 9**  
Movie Star Day

**Thursday, October 10**  
Color War Day  
Bonfire & Pep Rally at 7:00 p.m.

**Friday, October 11**  
Spirit Day  
Game - 7:30 p.m. vs. Healy

**Saturday, October 12**  
Dance - 8:00 p.m. - Midnight

**2002**

**Brewster Homecoming Royalty Candidates** Pictured back row L-R: Sara Luckert, Chelsey Cranston and Kristy Jamison. Front row L-R: Jacob Falcon, Tyson Dixon and Aaron Smith.

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