

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT COLLOQUIUM

" What I Did on My Summer Vacation"

(or How to Discover a New Source of
Astrophysical Gamma Rays)

BY

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In this talk I'll describe the efforts by the VERITAS gamma ray astronomy group at the University of Utah to discover new sources of astrophysical gamma rays. In spring 2004, using statistical analysis of all-sky surveys, we identified one or more unidentified new sources of TeV ($1 \text{ TeV} = 10^{12}$ electron Volt) gamma rays. We describe this discovery and the physics involved in gamma-ray emission from these potential new sources. We then detail ongoing follow up observations of these source regions with the Whipple 10 m telescope, and then describe what members of the University of Utah gamma ray group did on their summer vacation.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2004

4:00 PM IN 102 JFB

REFRESHMENTS AT 3:30 PM IN 219 JFB