Clay Corbett Clouds 1 10/6/04

The purpose of this project was to photograph clouds and to capture some of the associated cloud phenomena. By photographing clouds in Colorado it is also possible to take images of cloud phenomena resulting from hills and mountains. The picture I have taken is one of clouds above mountains. The purpose of this picture was to try and capture some cloud phenomena resulting from the mountains. The mountains also provided a beautiful landscape against which to take cloud photographs.

The picture is from a flat area looking towards a mountain range. On the day the picture was taken there was a cold front moving through and also scattered storms. The temperature where the picture was taken was about 50 degrees and was colder in the mountains as elevation increased.

The field of view of the picture is very large, probably about 15 miles across. The mountain range in the bottom of the picture was about 10 miles from the camera. The lens had a 28mm focal length and was used on am Olympus OM-10 film camera. When the picture was taken the aperture was at 22 and the shutter speed was 1/250 sec. Kodak max 400 iso film was used. The only digital processing that the image went through was a slight increase in contrast, and a corresponding decrease in brightness. This adjustment made the clouds much easier to see.

In the foreground of the image there are some smoother clouds which look to be somewhat stable. The clouds seem to me much more dense and unstable in appearance over the mountains. The changing cloud type seems to indicate that the mountains are causing some instability, and therefore clouds are condensing more thickly above the mountains. The picture seems to be a good visualization of mountains causing increased atmospheric instability, which was the original intent of the image. This type of atmospheric instability is a topic which could always be explored further since the conditions are constantly changing and different phenomena are constantly occurring.