Chris Fauble
11/17/2004

Second Cloud Assignment

This photo was taken for the second cloud assignment. It was taken on October 14, 2004 around sunset while looking over the University of Colorado at Boulder campus. The purpose of this assignment is to continue to view the natural fluid flow of our atmosphere and to better understand the different type of clouds and their development.

The primary focus of this image is the honeycomb effect that the setting sun had on the altocumulus or stratocumulus clouds. The lighting shows some peculiar textures and shows a lumpy bottom to this sheet of clouds as they break up from the lenticular wave clouds coming over the mountain. The edge of a wave cloud can be seen in the lower right corner of the image as a solid, stable cloud.

Clouds are a great way to visualize the flow of air in the atmosphere. They also act as useful indicators for other properties such as the amount of moisture in the air and temperature gradients. The only lighting for these clouds was the colorful light created by the setting sun.

The camera used here was a Canon PowerShot A85. It was taken using the Landscape mode on the camera with manual focus set to almost infinity. The focal length was 5.4mm out of a 5.4-16.2mm range for the lens. The shutter speed was at 1/40 of a second. No motion blur is evident so the clouds were not moving quickly. The aperture value was 5.6. No alterations to the image were made and the final size was 2272x1704 and 709KB.

The cloud formations formed by the break up of the lenticularis from the mountain is quite unique to anything I have seen before. It seemed as though someone had sponge painted the sky. The image also captures some depth and helps to show the extent of this weird phenomenon. The lines in this image resemble those in a fan and make the eye arc back and forth across as well as up and down while following these lines. I feel this helps make it an interesting image. It would be cool to find out better details about what caused these clouds and a more definite classification of their type. Overall, I feel this image was a success.