



# Actual News



**WEIRD BUT TRUE NEWS STORIES**

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## FBI Says Missing Teen Is Likely a Hooker By Now

Using the newest scientific profiling methods, agents with the FBI in Washington told police and family last month that a Galveston child missing for over ten years is most likely now working as a prostitute. The bureau also released a picture created by the bureau's age-progression technology department, showing what 19 year-old Tiffany Goatler might look like today.

It was ten years ago in April when police theorize that a carnival worker swiped the nine-year-old from a baby carriage at the May 1997 Angleton World's Fair & Hog Calling Championship. The child's parents (who have since divorced, remarried others, divorced again, and are now planning to remarry and divorce each other) left the stroller parked nearby while they rode the Ferris wheel. When the ride was over, the child was gone. The mother, 28 year-old Dedra Wampole, immediately notified a security guard. Through a misunderstanding, Dedra was briefly detained and strip-searched by several security guards. Meanwhile her then-husband, 44 year-old Chuck Wampole, had no idea where his wife and child had gone, and rushed home to print flyers on his MacIntosh computer.



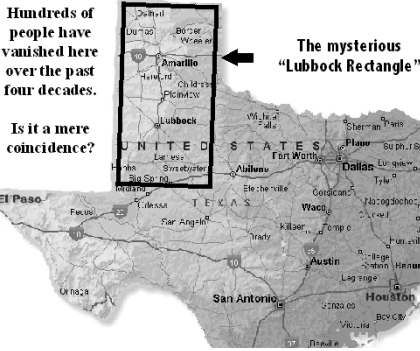
**Tiffany Goatler at age 10 (left) and an artists rendition of how she might look today (right). Based on scientific analysis, profilers at the FBI now believe Goatler is out there somewhere turning tricks. If you see her, do not try to detain her, and please contact the local fuzz...**

The next day, authorities in Angleton released Mrs. Wampole and the parents sprang into action. Tiffany was listed as a suspected runaway, and her room was rented out. Everyone expected the case would soon be solved. But investigators had few clues, and the case went cold.

The Angleton Police Department worked with FBI Forensic Proctologist Bernard Wiggins Jr., who last month announced his findings. Wiggins says that his scientific analysis indicates that Tiffany is probably still alive, employed in an urban setting as a prostitute, and likely addicted to crack or crystal meth. Police hope the sketch of how she might look today will generate leads that can help them solve the mysterious case.

## 30 Years Of Man's Life Disappear In Mysterious 'Lubbock Rectangle'

The so-called "Lubbock Rectangle," a desolate and featureless region covering 32,000 square miles in America's Great Plains, has been a source of speculation among paranormal investigators for decades. Though the questions surrounding its existence have never been answered, one thing is certain: The life of former local resident Dusty Carroll vanished into the eerie region 30 years ago this month, never to return.



According to his friends and family, Carroll, a bright young man of 18, was last seen driving into the Rectangle in a Plymouth Duster on the afternoon of May 8, 1978. Surveillance footage shows him stopping at a gas station near Midland, Texas to buy fuel and snacks at 4:15 p.m. Although his trip was only supposed to last a few days, he was never seen or heard from again.

The last known communication from Carroll was sent from somewhere within the Rectangle, and made reference to plans to marry a large blond woman and enroll in a local technical college. That was the last time he was heard from.

"Who knows if my brother will ever return to civilization," said Carroll's brother, Dennis, now 46. "Some have reported seeing a pale and worn out man who looks like him, driving a battered pickup truck in a small town named Levelland, but that's as far as it goes. We just don't know."

As haunting as his story may be, Dusty Carroll is only one of hundreds of people who, for unknown reasons, have had years or even decades of their lives utterly fade away in the mystifying region. Still, most cases lack any hard evidence: The few known photos from inside the Rectangle show only a flat, blank emptiness, stretching unremarkably to the horizon.

What happens in the lives of those who venture within remains a mystery.

Matthew Hume, a researcher at the University of Texas who studies the Rectangle, said the bizarre phenomena associated with the region might never be fully understood.

"As best we can tell, those who go beyond the area's borders for too long are knocked off course by the low external pressure to succeed," Hume said. "But after that, it's as if they fall off the face of the Earth. There are cases of an entire Greyhound bus full of people entering the Rectangle and vanishing into obscurity."

Experts estimate that several million tons of consumer goods disappear into the region per year. Yet, almost nothing, save for the odd Sunday morning church broadcast, is ever detected coming back out. Still, some travelers have returned to tell their tales. The most frequent occurrence reported by those who have survived the Lubbock Rectangle is extreme disorientation and an unsettling perception of time distortion.

Houston resident Fred Frome entered the Rectangle in 2005 while en route to California. "I had been driving for hours, but it was as though I hadn't moved at all," Frome said. "I had no idea which direction I was going in. No matter where I looked, everything was exactly the same and before long, normal navigation was almost impossible."

Kyle Manheim, a photocopier salesman from Pasadena who was once inside the Lubbock Rectangle for two weeks on business, said he could not clearly remember any events from the time period. "There isn't a single thing I can recall," Manheim said. "I know I was there, but that's about it. It's like those 14 days never happened."

Among those who have escaped, most won't even discuss their experiences.

While many strongly believe in the eerie, soul-destroying powers of the Lubbock Rectangle, the lack of concrete evidence has drawn its share of skeptics.

"If you look at statistics, there's nothing going on in that area that doesn't happen in the rest of the country," said Stephen Finney, a trucker familiar with the region. "What happened to Dusty Carroll could have easily happened in Oklahoma, Kansas, or even down in Mexico."

"It's just a myth," Finney added. "This whole 'Lubbock Rectangle' place people talk about simply does not exist."