

Para

Continued from Page 6

observations or events and an attempt to obtain the best possible data and information about those events.

"A long history of scientific investigation over the last 80 years has in general failed to substantiate these kinds of claims," Jensen said.

"The pattern is that mysteries ordinarily evaporate with full scientific investigation. A ghost in the attic turns out to be a raccoon or special powers the result of chicanery."

When claims of unexplained phenomena are made, Jensen points to a need for investigation by those with knowledge in the appropriate subject area, such as a physicist or an expert in visual perception, rather than those who are merely interested in the phenomena.

"If there are real abilities we

want to know about them, but only through careful scientific investigation, not accepting claims which are investigated partially or unsystematically," said Jensen.

Jensen himself has investigated claims of unexplained phenomena and supernatural abilities. He described one such investigation concerning a student who believed he could control the weather.

"We set up a randomized series of heatings and coolings for him to change the weather a few degrees above or below normal," he said. "After a week without success, he decided he did not have time for the experiment."

Jensen said the problem with many claims of the paranormal is that there is no mechanism for them to occur. Most scientific phenomena have mechanisms which are in principle understood, but that is not the case for many claimed paranormal phenomena, he said.

"Skepticism is especially great

for such events that appear to be impossible," Jensen said. "I don't

— 6 6 —
If there are real abilities, we want to know about them, but only through careful scientific investigation, not accepting claims which are investigated partially or unsystematically.

Jensen
 psychology professor

— 9 9 —
 mean to offend people who believe, but it is terribly easy to mis-

perceive or misevaluate the evidence of our senses."

Jensen said the skeptical approach has a long history of recognizing characteristics of the "lay mind," or an unsophisticated approach to knowledge, which encourages acceptance of these ideas.

"Some of these events involve abnormal physiological and psychological phenomena — not supernatural," he said. "There are experiences which can be misinterpreted as being 'out there,' which are really occurring inside the brain."

Jensen teaches a summer reading course whose purpose is to "introduce students to the modern skeptical point-of-view described in such publications as paranormal."

"Parapsychology: A Skeptical Perspective (Psychology 298x)" uses texts by James Randi, Terence Hines and Andrew Neher to explore modern psychological perspectives on the paranormal.

Jensen also has recently contributed an article, "Pathologies of Science, Precognition and Modern Psychophysics," to The Skeptical Inquirer, the official journal of The Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal.

The committee is described by Jensen as "an organization made up of prominent scientists, writers, and philosophers dedicated to rational and scientific study of claims and reports of the sort," which was found in last week's Diversions.

Such publications provide a balance to claims of paranormal phenomena found in the popular press, according to Jensen, who sees a need for "careful, scientific analysis of events and their rational explanation."

"There is not a single, simple explanation but there are multiple, natural explanations for the bulk of what is represented as supernatural," Jensen said. **D**

Stereo West

**STEREO WEST'S
 LINCOLN STORE
 WILL BECOME
 50% BIGGER!**

THE NEW STEREO WEST

**COMING SOON!
 THE ULTIMATE AUDIO/
 VIDEO CAR STEREO
 EXPERIENCE!**

Coming Soon!

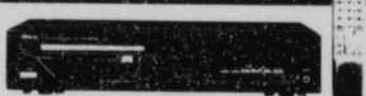
NEW
 SOUND
 ROOMS!

NEW
 HOME
 THEATER!

NEW CAR
 ROOMS!

MUCH,
 MUCH
 MORE!

HOME CD PLAYERS



From Sony — starting at under \$150
 From Denon — starting at under \$230
 From Yamaha — starting at under \$250
 From Technics — 5-disc changer with remote control under \$250
 From Mitsubishi — up to 50% off
 From Sony ES — under \$300

HOME SPEAKERS

The finest selection in the State!

Save on Bose, Klipsch, Phase Technology, Palk Audio, Technics, Yamaha, KEF and more. Floor standing, bookshelf, in-wall, 3 piece and more.



HOME RECEIVERS, AMPS AND TUNERS



Carver — separate amps starting under \$300!
 All Sony Receivers specially priced
 All Sony ES Receivers specially priced
 Yamaha Receivers save up to 40%!
 All Yamaha Surround Decoders, digital sound processing on sale!

CASSETTE DECKS



Single well, double well, auto reverse, 3-head, Dolby B, Dolby C, Hx Pro. A great selection from Sony, Technics, Yamaha, Sony ES, Denon and Mitsubishi all at our best prices ever!

CAR STEREO



You won't find a better selection of Car Stereo anywhere in the Mid-West!

Car CD's? Check this out!
 From Sony, the CDXR77 AM/FM CD Player. List \$599.95
 Sale Price \$399.99

From Pioneer, the DEH55 AM/FM CD with 4 channels of amplification List \$720.00
 Sale Price \$429.99

From Alpine, our #1 selling car CD and probably #1 in the whole country. \$499.99

Plus, we have a great selection of portable CD's from Sony and Technics that work great in the car. Starting at under \$170.

AM/FM In Dash Cassettes

For example, Coastic RX503 — Auto reverse, separate bass and treble, 4-way fade List \$139.99
 Sale \$69.99

Coastic RX504 same as the RX503 plus Dolby and high power List \$174.99
 Sale \$89.99

Great buys on Alpine Stereo

All Yamaha Car AM/FM Cassettes and Car Speakers are clearance priced at prices too low to print!

Most Pioneer car stereo is clearance priced.

Lots of great buys on Sony Car as well.

If you are looking for any car stereo do not miss this sale!

Sony Video Tape \$2.99

*Remodeling Sale
 Going on NOW!*

\$250,000
 INVENTORY
 REDUCTION!

DISPLAY
 MODEL
 CLOSE OUT!

90 DAYS
 SAME AS
 CASH!
 OR
 NO
 PAYMENTS
 UNTIL
 MAY, 1990!



7425 Dodge, Omaha, 393-2100
 4011 "O" St., Lincoln, 483-7738
 2457 S. 132nd St., Omaha, 334-0707

Stereo West
 Audio/Visual Systems and Design

HOURS
 Mon-Thurs 10-8
 Fri & Sat 10-6
 Closed Sun

Payment based on Stereo West charge card
 terms — 21% APR to \$500; 18% APR over \$500
Stereo West Easy Financing
 Stereo West Revolving Charge

