

October 17, 2003.

Deep Sky Binocular Object

NGC 129      11:52P      The stars of this cluster are easily seen. All blue-white and approx same magnitude. The bright field star was just to the north of this cluster as seen on a finder chart. It was easy to spot from my backyard. The seeing was good.

Finding Caldwell Object IC 5146.

Used the Little Thompson Observatory, 18" f/14.2 telescope at 162X.

10/20/03      8:38 P      Seeing was poor. Could see the cluster with the two brighter stars showing a bit of nebulosity around them.



10/21/03      8:40P      Better than last night. Seeing was fair to good. This is a very, very dim object. Can see a "glow" around 6 of the stars. There is a hint of a circular shape, but even with AV, was almost not there. Could tell that the contrast increased around the stars and that the area was not uniformly lit, but more mottled in appearance. Nicely fills the center of the FOV of this 40 mm EP.



10/22/03      8:20P      Best view of this object of the 3 nights. Nebulosity around the 3 triangular stars very prominent. W/UHC filter, see a faint glow around all all of the stars with a hint of an arc on the left side of the cluster.

