

**The Sky- Yours to Discover**

McDonald Observatory Regional Contest

Constellations

**Team Captain**

Heather Brown age 37

[hebrown@bentonville.k12.ar.us](mailto:hebrown@bentonville.k12.ar.us)

Spring Hill Middle School  
3400 Hwy 72 West  
Bentonville AR, 72712

**Spring Hill Middle School Team Members**

Aaron Gibson Age 12

Audrey Schmutz Age 12

Monica Gates Age 12

Jeff Stout Age 12

Wyatt Phillips Age 11

### **The Awareness Ribbon**

The awareness ribbon has many meaning and here are just a few. Cancer, disease, peace, innocence, disabilities, patriotism, and remembrance. Most the people that wear them are survivors or family of the listed. But many of these ribbons represent disease awareness. There are many stories about people that survived their disease, but not all cancer and disease can be treated, so the ribbon is for hope.

There once was a woman named Nancy that had an unknown form of cancer. It could not be treated because not enough was known about the disease. The doctor said, "You will live approximately two months more. You should spend a lot of time with family and friends." So Nancy's daughter and grandchild came to the visit Nancy. Everybody said goodbye to each other and about one year later Nancy perished. Nancy's husband, James, called to his daughter and grandchild. They wanted to make something for Nancy so that they could remember her. They came up with the idea of a ribbon. As they were making the ribbons, the grandchild snuck one ribbon out and wore it in her hair. When she went outside to mourn about her grandmother, a gust of wind blew the ribbon up into the air. The Night Keeper saw the ribbon come into the sky and liked the ribbon, therefore keeping it in the sky for awareness and hope in the stars.

### **Gaza the Amazing Savior**

Halo was the oldest son of the supreme God of all Gods. Halo had a talent to beat all video games within the first day that they came out. He was able to feel or see what the next move should be. He always beat his younger brother, Theodore at video games. Theodore was very jealous of his older brother. When it was time for the supreme God to announce each of his children's jobs, they all meet in their father's chamber. Halo was to be the God of Video Games and Theodore was to be the God of Trees.

Theodore was very mad because he wanted to be the God of Video Games. He began to plot a plan to trap his brother in a game and then keep him there. Theodore knew that if he could get his brother trapped in a game he would not have his powers to help him escape. Theodore got a friend to build a game that when Halo got almost to the end it would transport him into the game. Halo had not had a challenging game in a long time and was excited about playing it. Halo always had his best friend Gaza with him. Gaza was his pet cat. They were both transported in right before the game ended. Once Halo realized that he and Gaza were in the game and he had lost his powers to see the future he began to panic. His brother Theodore started to play the game from the outside against his brother. Halo figured it out that it was his brother behind the plan because Halo knew his brother's player ID. Halo figured out that if he could get to the same place that he got transported in, they could get transported out. Halo also figured out that his brother was using the trees to tell him where Halo was going in the game.

When Halo reached the transport portal his brother was shooting arrows at him and Gaza. One arrow was about to hit Halo when his trusted cat, Gaza, jumped up in front of him and got shot and died in the game. Halo made it to the portal with Gaza in his arms. Halo thought that Gaza would be fine once he was in the God world but that was not the case. As soon as he got

back to the God world he went to his father the Supreme God. His father was so mad at Theodore that he sent him to the World called Earth, took away his powers and made him mortal. Halo's Father was so impressed with Gaza that he wanted him to always have a reminder of him through a constellation. Now whenever Halo is feeling lonely he can look to the stars and remember his friend that saved him.

### **The Blackhawk**

The constellation *Blackhawk* was named for the attack helicopter used in the U.S. army. The soldiers in Iraq named this helicopter shaped constellation. The helicopter shaped constellation was supposedly put there by a pilot who was shot down and killed in Iraq. He put it there because he wanted to let the people of the world see the helicopter that he was killed in. Another reason is because he wanted everyone to remember what the soldiers in Iraq are doing. That is protecting our freedom. So every time you see it, you remember the soldiers. The Greek god of war, Ares is said to have helped the pilot put the helicopter there.

If you're wondering why this helicopter was put in the sky, this is why. It was put there because this was no ordinary pilot that flew this helicopter. This was a special pilot who gave his life for all of the rest of the people on board by directing the helicopter into the some sand dunes. In the process the helicopter broke in half and the pilot died. So Ares decided this was heroic enough to have a memorial erected. Ares put the helicopter in the sky, and there it stayed. There are certainly many good pilots in the world, but none are as good as or as heroic as the pilot who flew the Blackhawk.