

# Scope Swap

Read this column first.

Photos by B.J. Harper

Read this column second.

The Swap Team removes the Harnifegger-Crow Telescope from its mount in the dome...



and prepares it for transport to Andy Butler's garage with Bob Crider's truck.



The new scope is removed from Phil Huson's office in two sections and loaded into Gene Stringer's van.



Removed from the van...



The team installs the Pier Tech mount onto the concrete pad in the dome.



... and installed on the equatorial wedge in the dome. Rough polar alignment and minor adjustments were made before performing a quick check of the telescope's operation.



B.J. Harper tests the telescoping action of the Pier Tech Mount.



The equatorial wedge is installed on the pier, ready to accept the new telescope.

**Many thanks to the team for accomplishing this swap in one day.**



The team members included (left-to-right) Andy Butler, Gene Stringer, Ron Kerr, Chris Highlen, B.J. Harper, Bob Crider, Dave Atkinson, Rob Hood, Tom Krapf and Phil Hudson (not shown).

# Scope Setup



Chris Highlen, Phil Hudson and Dave Wilkins do fine tuning to increase scope stability, adjust setting circles and improve polar alignment.



# Scope Tour for Richard Johnston



# Fox Island Solfest



FWAS support for Solfest included tours

of the dome with some daylight viewing of Venus through the new telescope. Chris Highlen and several other members offered views of solar prominences through their H-alpha Personal Solar Telescopes (PST).

FWAS officers and Board members gave a hearty welcome and a dome & telescope tour to member Richard Johnston, whose generous donation made possible the purchase of our new telescope and pier. Star\*Quest Project Manager Gene Stringer and President Bob Crider gave assurances that this telescope will be a major step in improving our presentation of the wonders of the night sky to the Fort Wayne community.

Mr. Johnston will be publicly recognized at the formal dedication of the new telescope on Thursday, 28 May, at Fox Island Park.



Members in attendance were (L-R) Gene Stringer, Chris Highlen, Larry Clifford, Richard Johnston, Bob Crider, Gregg Jacobs, Ron Kerr and Phil Hudson.