

1994

Astronomy Bulletin - The Night Sky: July 5, 1994 to September 24, 1994

Patrick Steven Leiker

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

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The Night Sky
July 5, 1994 to September 24, 1994

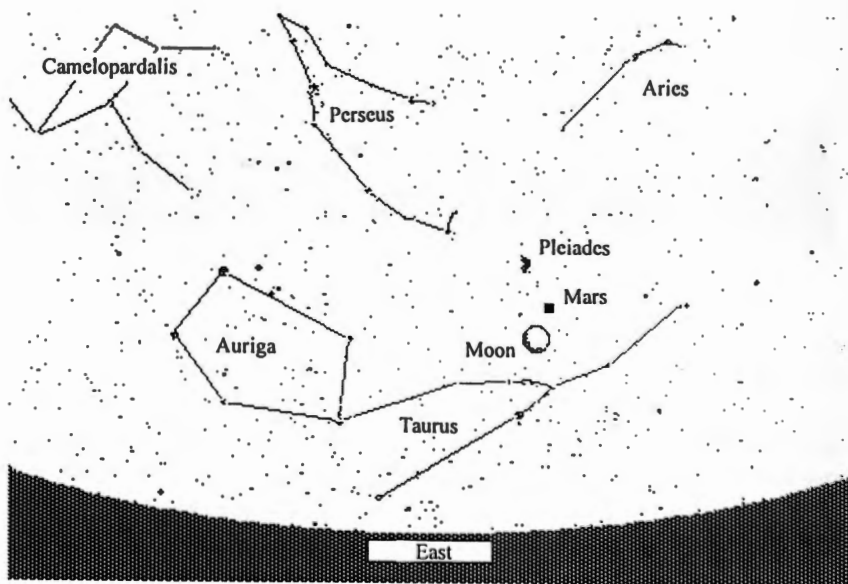


Figure 1
July 5, 1994
5:00 AM

Figure 1: Early in the morning of July 5, the Moon and *Mars* will be visible above the eastern horizon. The Moon is 18° above the horizon and is illuminated 12 percent. Mars is located about 3° to the upper right of the Moon. The Pleiades, or the Seven Sisters, are a small group of stars above Mars. The Sun will rise at 5:46 AM and set at 8:51 PM.

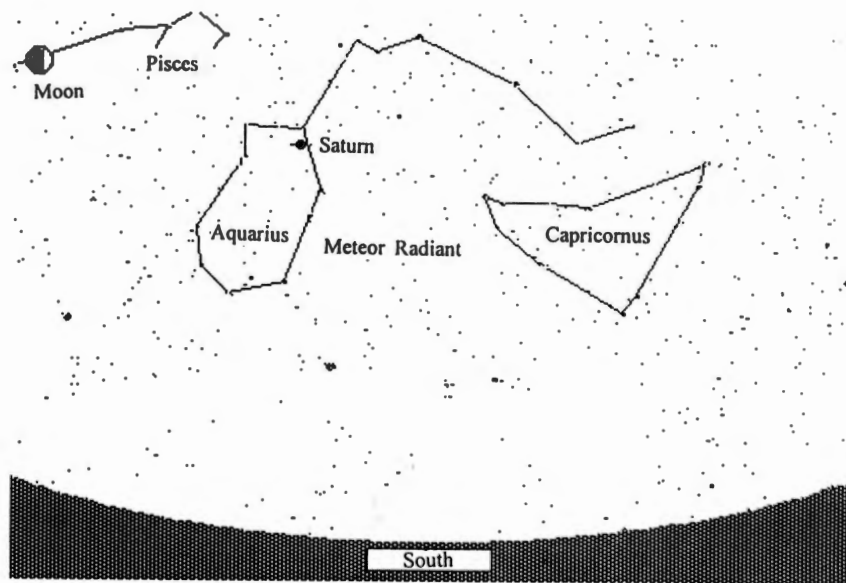


Figure 2
July 28, 1994
2:30 AM

Figure 2: Early in the morning of July 28, the Moon and *Saturn* will be visible in the south. The Moon is in the constellation Pisces and is illuminated approximately 71 percent. Saturn is about 30° to the right of the Moon in the constellation Aquarius. The Delta Aquarid meteor shower will occur on this night, but the bright moonlight will obscure all of the meteors.

Figure 3: The Moon and *Mars* will be visible above the eastern horizon early in the morning on August 3. The Moon is 23° above the horizon and is illuminated 16 percent. Mars is located about 5° above the Moon. On this date, the Sun will rise at 6:10 AM and set at 8:29 PM.

Figure 4: On the night of August 11, the most popular meteor shower of the year, the Perseids, will take place. The meteors will appear to radiate from the constellation Perseus. This meteor shower usually produces approximately 50 visual meteors per hour. Meteors are easiest to observe far from city lights. Meteors of the Peresid shower may also be visible on August 10 and August 12. The Moon sets at 10:29 PM and will not hinder observations after that time.

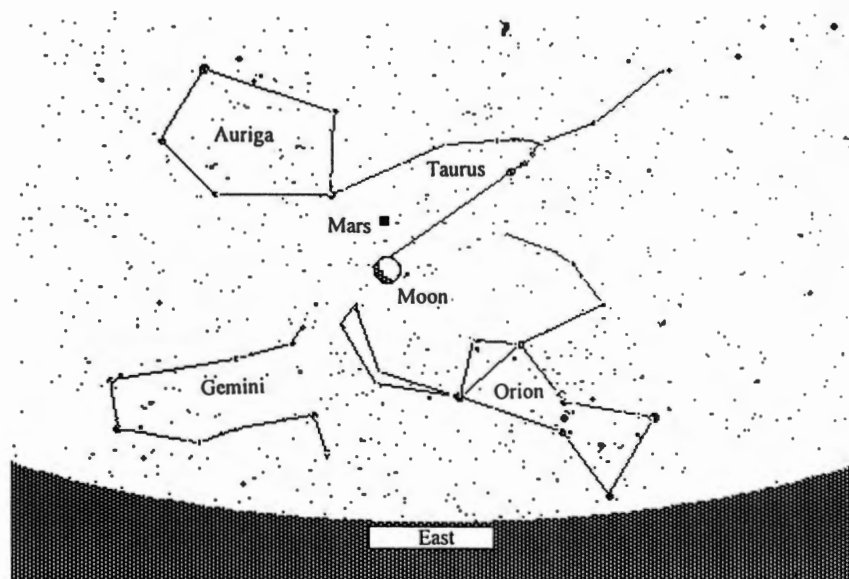


Figure 3
August 3, 1994
5:00 AM

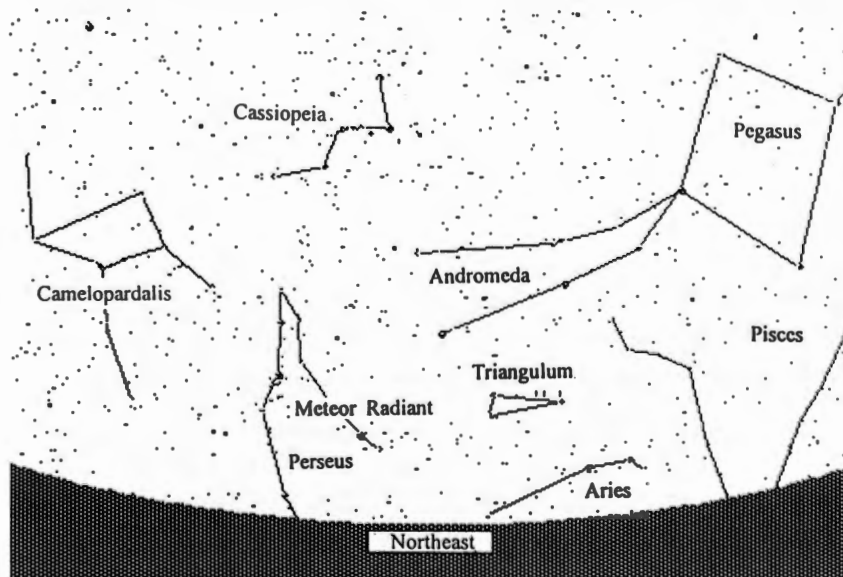


Figure 4
August 11, 1994
11:00 PM

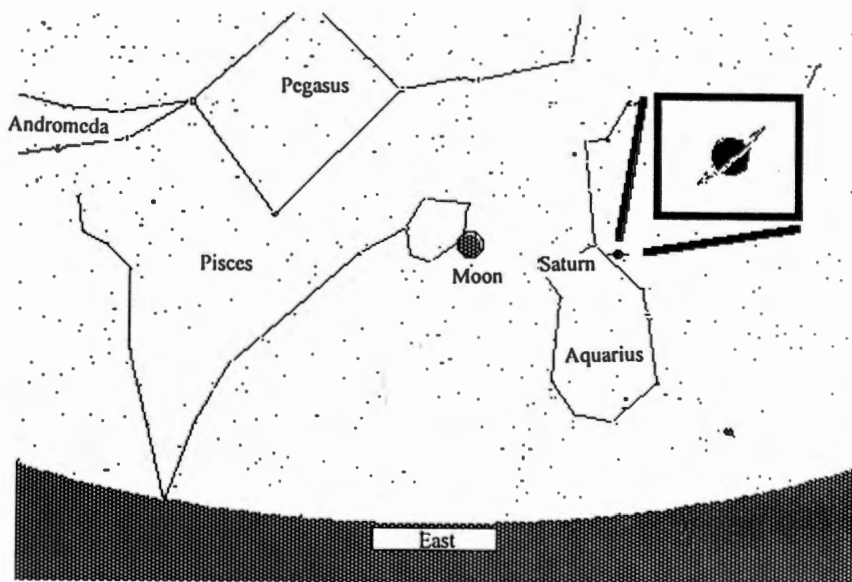


Figure 5
August 22, 1994
11:00 PM

Figure 5: During the night of August 22, the Moon and *Saturn* will be visible. The Moon will be illuminated 96 percent. Saturn is located about 14° to the right of the Moon in the constellation Aquarius. The insert shows Saturn's approximate orientation as seen through a small telescope.

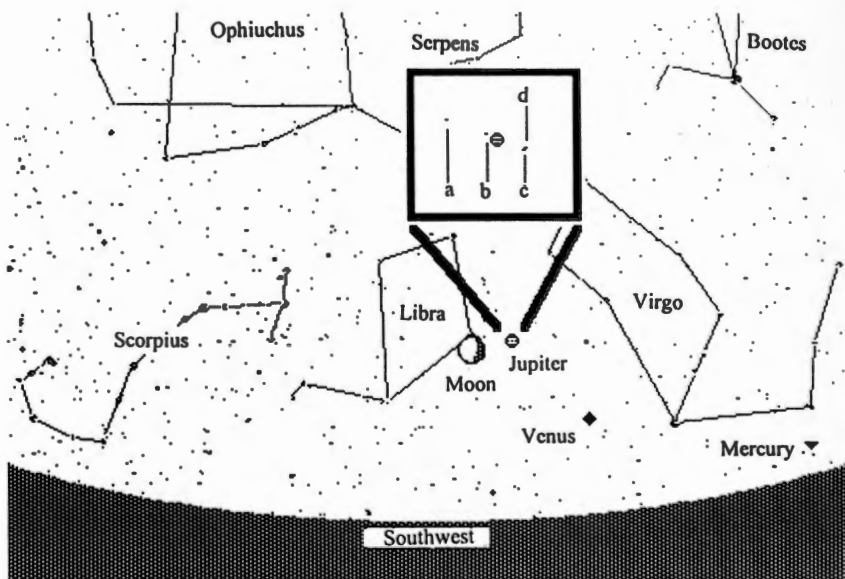


Figure 6
September 9, 1994
8:00 PM

Figure 6: Early in the evening on September 9, the Moon and three planets, *Jupiter*, *Venus* and *Mercury* will be visible. The Moon, located 16° above the horizon, is illuminated 23 percent. Jupiter is 4° to the right of the Moon.

The insert shows the orientation of Jupiter's four main satellites as they would appear if viewed through a small telescope. They are (a) Callisto, (b) Io, (c) Ganymede and (d) Europa. Note that Ganymede and Europa are very close together. It is easy to see these satellites' motion around the planet if they are observed over a period of time.

Venus is below the Moon and Jupiter, about 9° above the horizon. Mercury is very close to the horizon, about 23° to the right of Venus. Binoculars may be necessary in order to see Mercury low on the horizon at twilight.

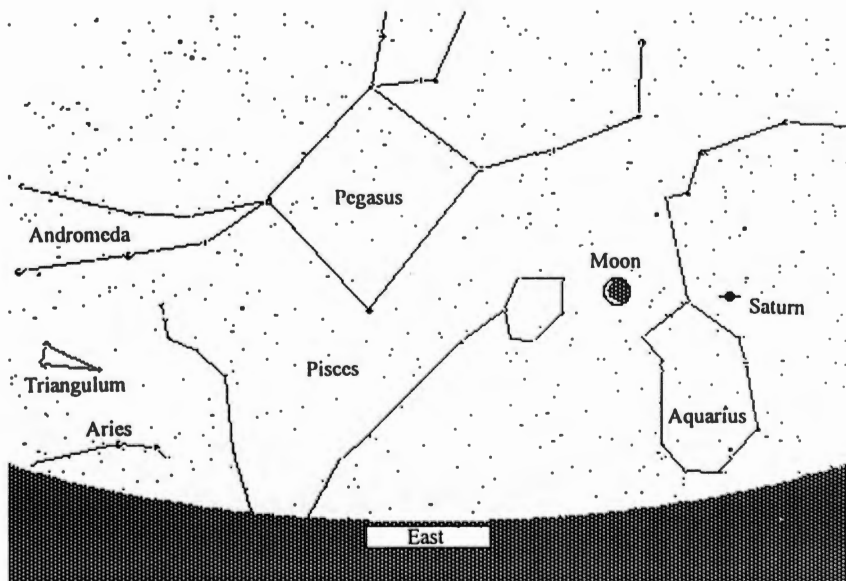


Figure 7
September 18, 1994
8:30 PM

Figure 7: On September 18, the Moon and *Saturn* will be visible in the east. The Moon, which is close to full, rises at 6:30 PM and sets at 5:51 AM. Saturn is just 11° to the right of the Moon. The Sun rises at 6:58 AM and sets at 7:18 PM.

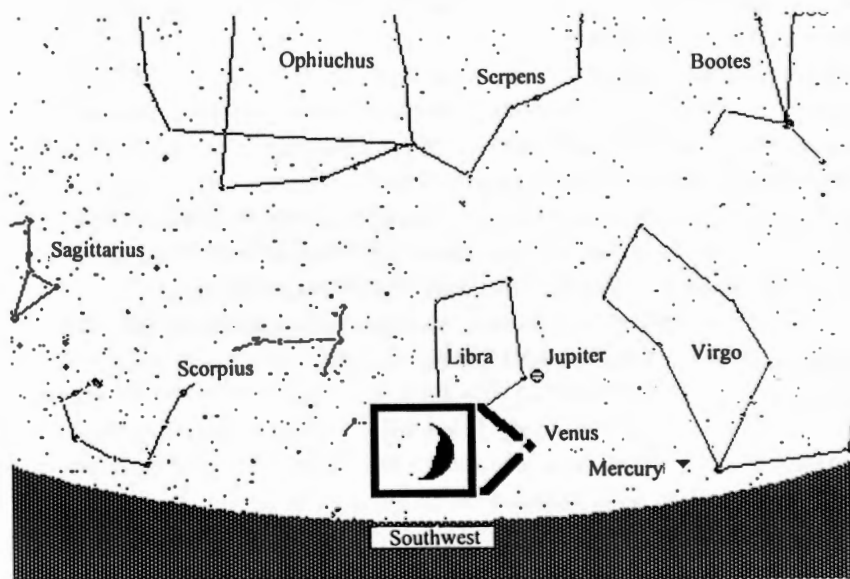


Figure 8
 September 24, 1994
 7:30 PM

Figure 8: Early in the evening of September 24, *Jupiter*, *Venus* and *Mercury* will be visible. Jupiter is about 13° above the horizon. Venus is directly below Jupiter. The insert shows how Venus would appear if viewed through a small telescope. Venus is illuminated only 29 percent. Mercury is only 4° from the horizon, so binoculars may be necessary in order to see it. The Sun rises at 7:04 AM and sets at 7:08 PM.

Patrick Steven Leiker
 Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics
 60 Garden Street
 Cambridge, MA 02138