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Astronomy Bulletin - The 1990 Summer Sky

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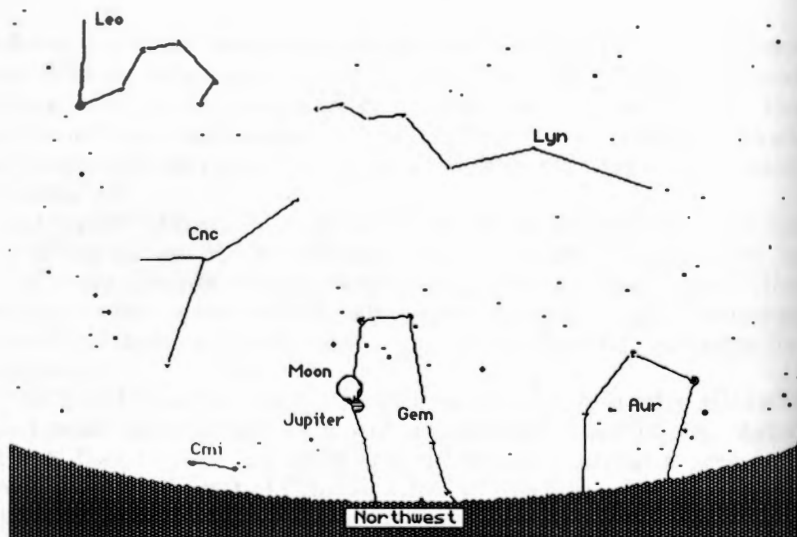
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ASTRONOMY BULLETIN

THE 1990 SUMMER SKY June through October 1990

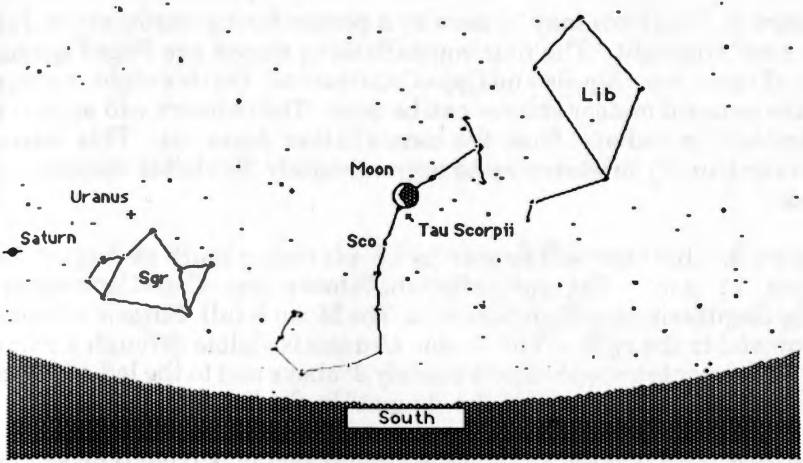
Figure 1: This is the view of the sky shortly after sunset, at about 8:50 p.m., on June 23. In the diagram, the horizon is depicted by the edge of the crosshatching. Six constellations are drawn in: Aur=Auriga, Gem=Gemini, Lyn=Lynx, Cnc=Cancer, Cmi=Canis Minor and Leo. The Moon on this date is a thin crescent and may be difficult to see. It is about 2 percent illuminated. The bright object that is about 2° below the Moon is *Jupiter*, the largest planet of the solar system.

Figure 2: This is the view of the sky seen by a person facing south at 10:30 p.m. on July 4. Three constellations are drawn in: Sgr=Sagittarius, Sco=Scorpius and Lib=Libra. The phase of the Moon is gibbous and is 92 percent illuminated. The Moon is about 1.5° above Tau Scorpii. *Saturn* is visible to the left of Sagittarius. *Uranus* is visible through a pair of binoculars or telescope approximately 2° above and to the left of the top star (Lambda Sagittarii) of the "teapot" in Sagittarius.

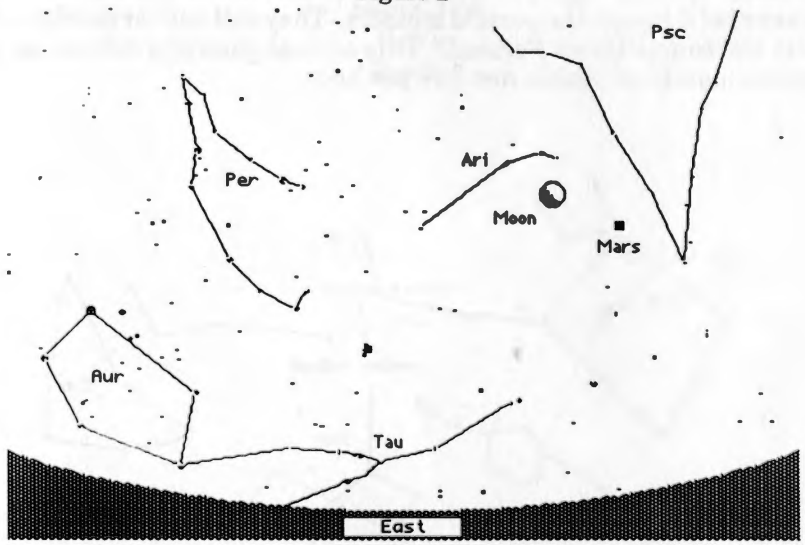


June 23, 1990
8:50 pm

Figure 1



July 4, 1990
 10:30 pm
 Figure 2



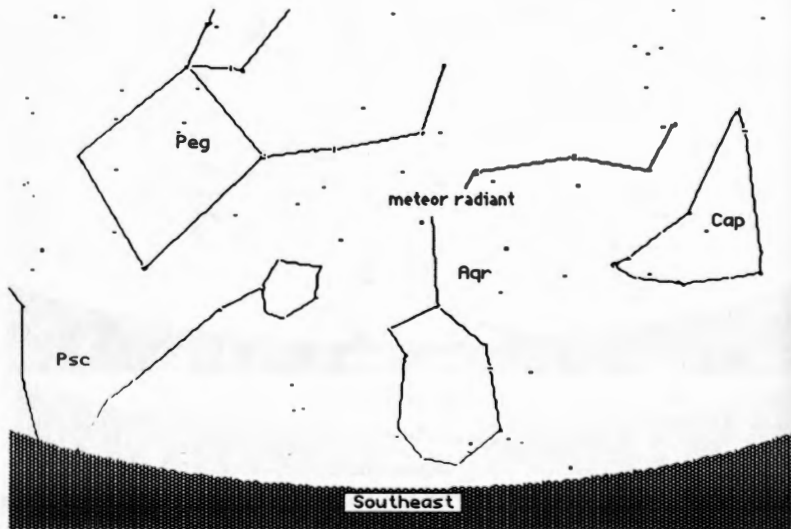
July 16, 1990
 3:30 am
 Figure 3

Figure 3: This view of the sky can be seen by a person facing east on July 16 at about 3:30 a.m. The five constellations shown are Aur=Auriga, Tau=Taurus, Per=Perseus, Ari=Aries and Psc=Pisces. The Moon at this time is 40 percent illuminated and Mars is 7° to the lower right.

Figure 4: This view may be seen by a person facing southeast on July 28 near midnight. The four constellations shown are Peg=Pegasus, Psc=Pisces, Aqr=Aquila and Cap=Capricornus. On this night, meteors of the aquarid meteor shower can be seen. The meteors will appear to originate (or radiate) from the constellation Aquarius. This meteor shower usually produces up to approximately 20 visible meteors per hour.

Figure 5: This view will be seen by people facing south on August 4 at about 11 p.m. The constellations shown are Cap=Capricornus, Sag=Sagittarius and Sco=Scorpius. The Moon is full. *Saturn* is located 5" up and to the right of the Moon. *Uranus* is visible through a pair of binoculars or telescope approximately 2° above and to the left of the top star (Lambda Sagittarii) of the "teapot" in Sagittarius.

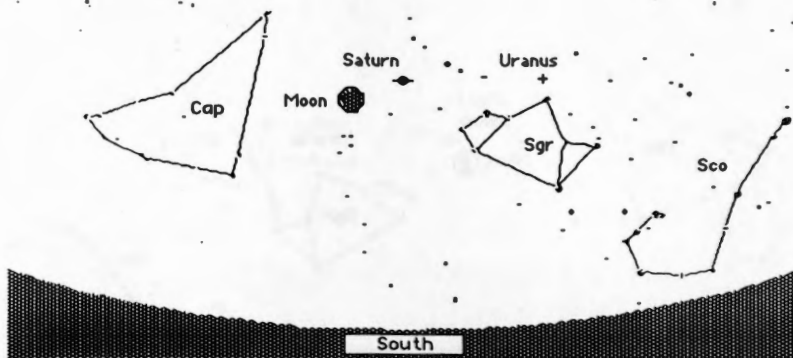
Figure 6: This is the sky seen by observers facing northeast on August 12 at about 2 a.m. The constellations shown are Aur=Auriga, Tau=Taurus, Per=Perseus and Ari=Aries. The Moon is illuminated 66 percent. On this night, it is possible to see one of the best meteor showers of the year, the perseid meteors. They will appear to originate from the constellation Perseus. This annual shower produces up to approximately 50 visible meteors per hour.



July 28, 1990

12:00 am

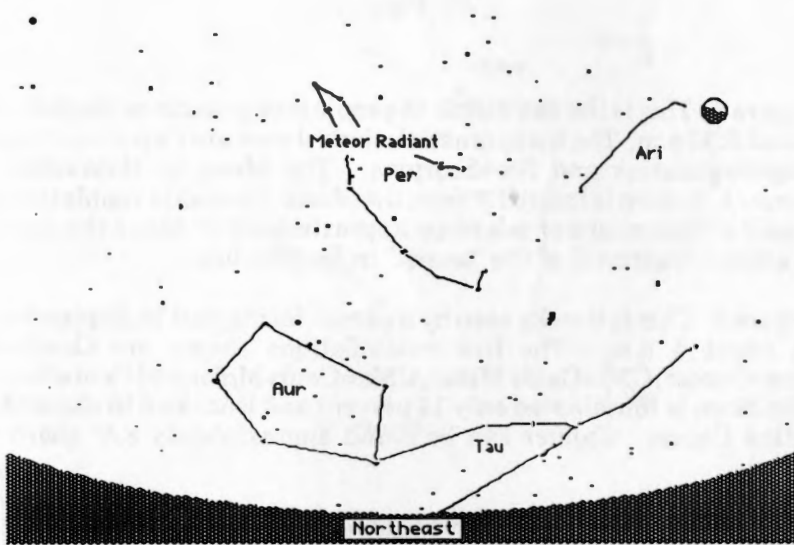
Figure 4



August 4, 1990

11:00 pm

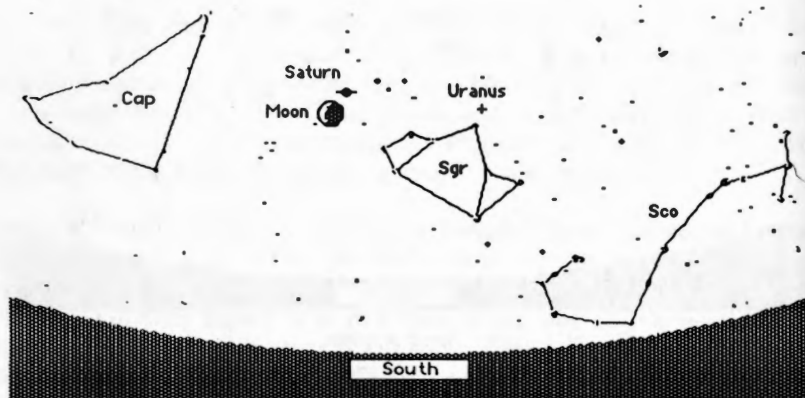
Figure 5



August 12, 1990

2:00 am

Figure 6



August 31, 1990

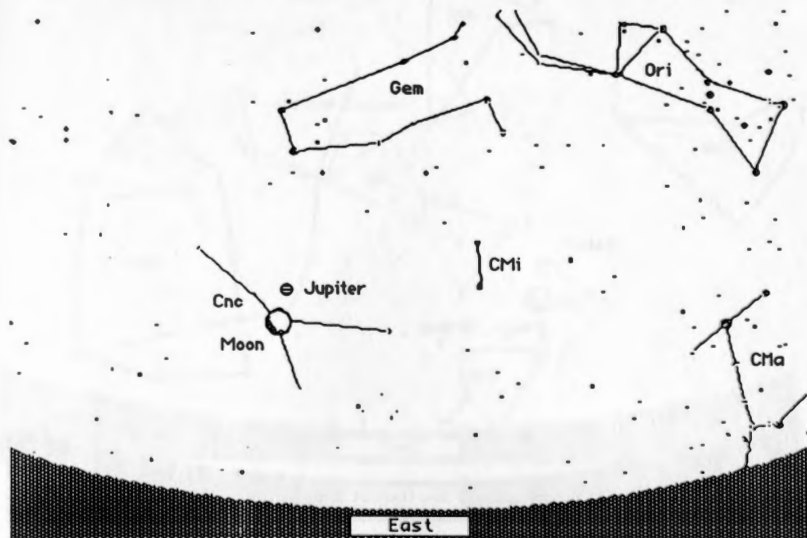
9:30 pm

Figure 7

Figure 7: This is the sky visible to people facing south on August 31 at about 9:30 p.m. The three constellations shown are Cap=Capricornus, Sag=Sagittarius and Sco=Scorpius. The Moon is illuminated 83 percent. *Saturn* is located 3° from the Moon. *Uranus* is visible through a pair of binoculars or telescope approximately 2° above the top star (Lambda Sagittarii) of the "teapot" in Sagittarius.

Figure 8: This is the sky seen by a person facing east on September 15 at about 5 a.m. The five constellations shown are Ori=Orion, Cnc=Cancer, CMi=Canis Minor, CMA=Canis Major and Gem=Gemini. The Moon is illuminated only 14 percent and is located in the constellation Cancer. *Jupiter* can be found approximately 3.5° above the Moon.

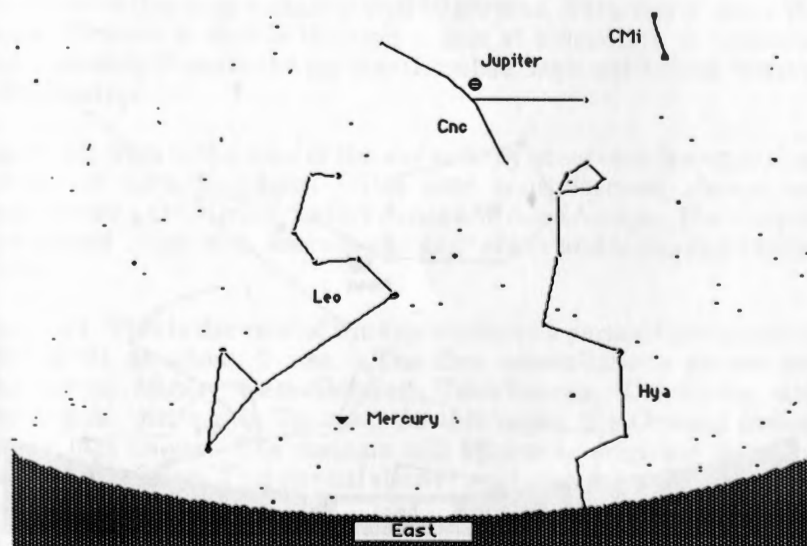
Figure 9: This is the sky visible to observers facing east on September 24 at about 6:30 a.m., shortly before sunrise. Four constellations are shown: Cnc=Cancer, CMi=Canis Minor, Hya=Hydra and Leo. *Jupiter* can be seen in Cancer. It may be possible to spot *Mercury* low in the east (to the right of Leo).



September 15, 1990

5:00 am

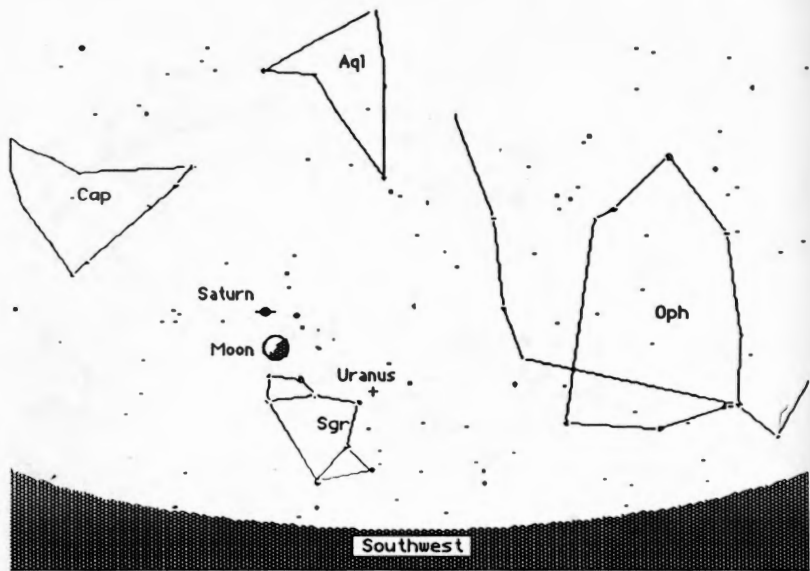
Figure 8



September 24, 1990

6:30 am

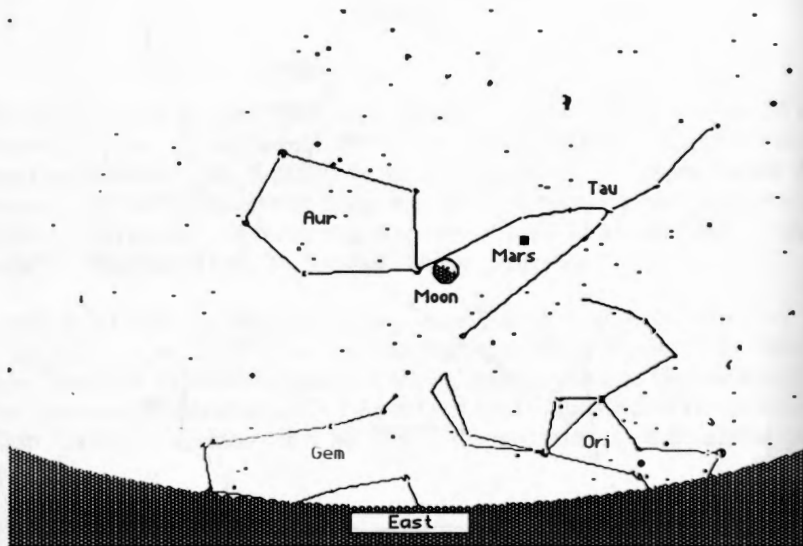
Figure 9



September 27, 1990

10:00 pm

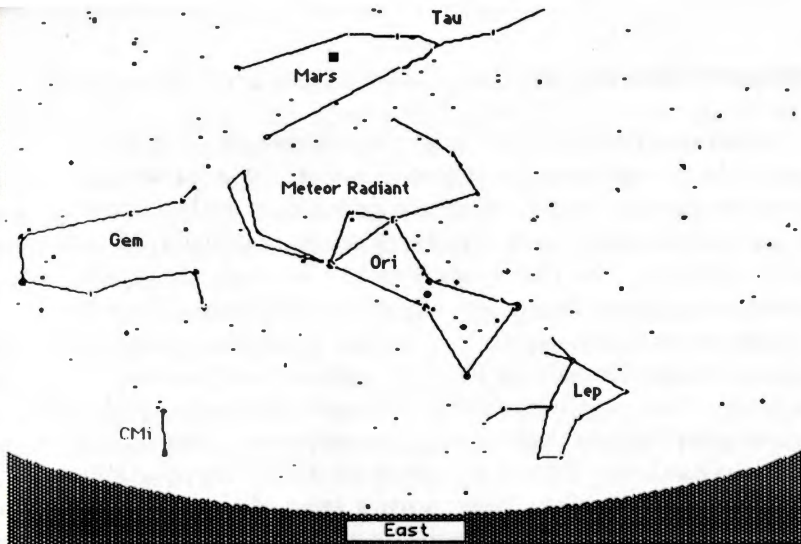
Figure 10



October 9, 1990

12:00 am

Figure 11



October 21, 1990

1:00 am

Figure 12

Figure 10: This is the view of the sky seen by people facing southwest at about 10 p.m. on September 27. The four constellations shown are Cap=Capricornus, Sgr=Sagittarius, Aql=Aquila and Oph=Ophiuchus. The Moon on this date is illuminated 60 percent. *Saturn* is 4° above the Moon. *Uranus* is visible through a pair of binoculars or telescope approximately 2° above the top star (Lambda Sagittarii) of the "teapot" in Sagittarius.

Figure 11: This is the view of the sky seen by observers facing east on October 9 near midnight. The four constellations shown are Gem=Gemini, Ori=Orion, Tau=Taurus and Aur=Auriga. The Moon is illuminated 72 percent. *Mars* is visible 8° above and to the right of the Moon.

Figure 12: This is the view of the sky visible to a person facing east on October 21 at about 1 a.m. The five constellations shown are CMi=Canis Minor, Gem=Gemini, Tau=Taurus, Ori=Orion and Lep=Lepus. *Mars* is in Taurus. On this night, the Orionid meteor shower may be seen. The meteors will appear to originate from the constellation Orion. This annual shower produces up to approximately 25 visible meteors per hour.

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