Saturn shines

by James Stokley

Saturn is the only planet visible on November evenings at the time of our sky maps. During the month it is brighter than it has been earlier in the year largely because of its nearness to us. It is brighter than any star in the November sky as it shine in Aries.

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☆ ★ ○ Symbols for stars in order of brightness.

The planet Mars, still distant and faint, rises in the east about three hours before the sun, in Virgo. Venus will appear very low in the southeast, at month's end, just before sunrise.

The accompanying maps depict the sky as it looks about 10 p.m. local

standard time on Nov. 1. On the 15th the sky appears similarly at 9 and on the 30th at 8.

Below Saturn is the constellation Taurus with first-magnitude star Aldebaran. This star is about a third as bright as Saturn. Orion, with two bright stars, Rigel and Betelgeuse, rise in the southeast below Taurus.

Left of Taurus is Capella in Auriga. Low in the east is Gemini.

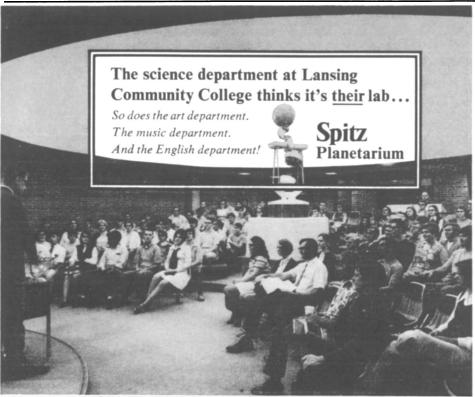
Three other bright stars appear in the west and northwest. The brightest is Vega in Lyra. Above is the firstmagnitude star Deneb, one of six stars forming the Northern Cross in the constellation Cygnus. Altair is in Aquila.

Another first-magnitude star, Fomalhaut, appears low in the south in Piscis Austrinus. It is so low, however, that absorption of its light by the earth's atmosphere dims it.

In the south are several constellations that are fairly prominent even though they contain no stars as bright as the first magnitude. Most conspicuous is Pegasus, of which the Great Square is a part. Alpheratz, the star in the upper left corner, is in Andromeda. Aquarius is still lower.

Below and to the left of the square is Pisces; Cetus appears a little lower. Between Cetus and Orion is the winding row of stars that form Eridanus.

High in the north, its principal stars forming a letter M, is Cassiopeia. Cepheus is to the left. Below Cepheus is Draco, which winds partly around Ursa Minor. Polaris is in this group.



President: Philip J. Gannon / Planetarium Director: Morton E. Mattson / Architect: Warren Holmes Company

The science department at Lansing Community College thinks of the Spitz planetarium as "their" lab. And indeed, the science department has priority. The planetarium is fully integrated with the Astronomy-Geology sections of required freshmen science. Each student works five hours in this controllable universe in miniature.

But the art department thinks of it as "their" lab, the music department as "theirs" and similarly through the other departments.

The facility was planned years in advance to be a true media center. The result? A room for exciting student and faculty imagination. A room with full range audial and visual control, with a hemispheric dome for 360 degree overhead projection.

It is a facility in which the Newman Club, for example, presents the Hallelujah Chorus dominating the sound but with pop music woven into the second stereo channel. With flashes of the crucifix interspersed with a play of dynamic colored lights on the dome.

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It is a room in which the literature department dramatically recreates the courtroom scene of Weiss' "The Investigation"—with flashes of background scenes projected throughout the hemispheric area.

Lansing Community College schedules their planetarium from 8:00 in the morning until 10:00 at night, 6 days a week. Student-hours in the planetarium totalled 13,016 hours. One semester.

Hundreds of these facilities are in current plans, and the reasons are not hard to find. We will be glad to tell you more about why Lansing Community College President, Mr. Philip J. Gannon, refers to his planetarium as "a room that allows the student's mind to roam as many ways as you can find."





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CELESTIAL TIMETABLE		
NO	OV. EST	
5	201	Taurid meteor showers
1 6	7:47 a.m.	Moon in first quarter
	7:00 p.m.	Mars passes north of Uranus
9	3:00 p.m.	Moon nearest, dis- tance 228,100 miles
13	2:28 a.m.	Full moon
	4:00 a.m.	Saturn passes south of moon
17		Leonid meteor showers
18	5:00 p.m.	Mercury passes north of Antares
20	6:13 p.m.	Moon in last quarter
1	9:00 p.m.	Moon passes south of Regulus
21	1:00 p.m.	Moon farthest, dis- tance 251,200 miles
26	7:00 p.m.	Venus north of moon
28	4:14 p.m.	New moon
30	3:00 a.m.	Mercury north of moon

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