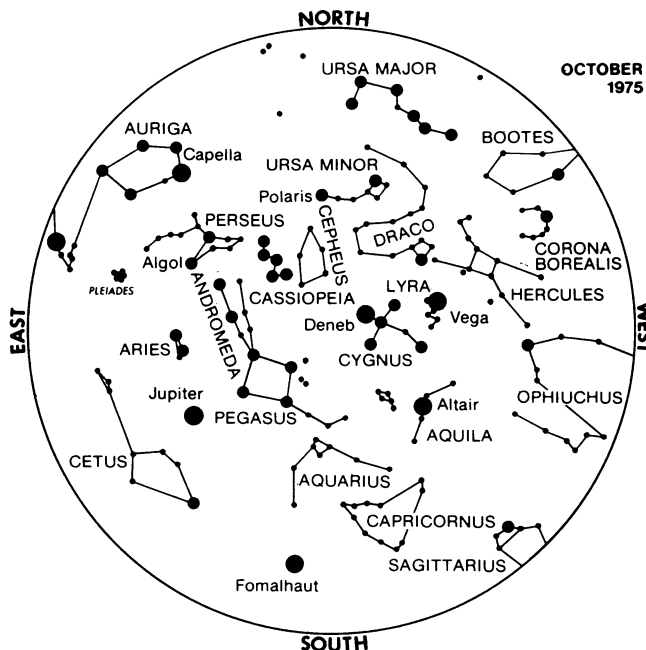


STARS OF OCTOBER

CELESTIAL TIME TABLE

October	2	5: am EDT	Moon passes south of Venus
	3	1:00 pm	Venus at greatest brilliancy
	4	11:00 am	Moon nearest earth, distance 222,100 miles
		11:23 pm	New Moon
	9	7:00 am	Mercury behind sun
	11	9:15 pm	Moon in first quarter
	13	11:00 am	Jupiter opposite sun
	17	7:00 am	Moon farthest from earth, distance 252,300 miles
	19	2:00 pm	Moon passes north of Jupiter
	20	1:06 am	Full moon
	24	9:00 pm	Mercury farthest west of sun
	25	8:00 am	Moon passes south of Mars
	27	5:00 pm EST	Moon passes south of Saturn
		5:07 pm	Moon in last quarter
	31	3:00 am	Moon passes south of Venus



BY JAMES STOKLEY

October nights will bring an unusual display of the five naked-eye planets. Jupiter will be visible early in the evening, shining brilliantly in the south in the constellation Pisces. Red Mars will follow later, and soon after midnight Saturn will rise in the east. By 4 a.m. the appearance of Venus will make it a foursome.

During the last week of the month Mercury will appear low in the east, with the coming of dawn. Then, if it's clear, you'll see all five planets lined up in a procession across the sky.

Jupiter, in the west, will lead the parade. Then will come Mars, a conspicuous red object in Gemini. That's fol-

lowed by Saturn, less than half as bright. Venus, next in line and brightest of all, will be of dazzling brilliance in the east.

Mercury will be about as bright as Mars on the morning of Oct. 24, when it's farthest west of the sun and rises earliest. In the next few days it will become even brighter. At the same time, however, it will move back toward the sun, thus rising later each morning. By the month's end it will be gone.

Jupiter, on Oct. 13, will be at opposition, when it's directly opposite the sun (and nearest earth). Thus, it will rise in the east as the sun sets in the west, remaining visible until it sets at sunrise. In

brightness (-2.5 on the astronomer's magnitude scale) it will be second only to Venus and far brighter than any star you'll see nearby. Jupiter is prominent whenever it's at opposition, although its brilliance varies with changes in its distance from the sun.

On Aug. 12 it was closest to the sun in its 12-year circuit around that body—only 460 million miles away. At opposition, on Oct. 13, it will be very close to earth, at a distance of 368 million miles. At the other extreme was the opposition of 1969 when it was some 50 million miles farther from the sun and about two thirds as bright as it is now. □

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