

What's Up?

by Thomas Milley
Collegian Staff Writer

Late September brings many changes to the skies. The outer planets begin to set earlier and earlier each night until they are lost in the sunset. Saturn is already in the low southwestern sky at sunset, and from the observatory floor, it is quickly lost in the trees.

Straggling along behind Saturn are Uranus, Mars, Neptune, and Jupiter, all of which were seen after the Sept. 17 meeting of the Astronomy Club. I had seen Uranus only once before, and this was the first time I ever tried to look at Neptune. I found this rather exciting. Still, Neptune seemed almost indiscernably starlike, until viewed at high power, and even then it was just a

triangle), Aries, Taurus the bull and Orion the hunter with his hunting dogs Canis Major and Canis Minor - the big and little dogs, respectively.

Fall is one of the best times for viewing the deep sky wonders, because there are so many exemplary objects to view. Before Hercules sets, you can view M13, the great northern globular. It is the largest and brightest globular cluster visible from the northern hemisphere.

Next we can view the Ring Nebula, M57 in Lyra, the Harp. This nebula is a classical example of a planetary nebula, so called because it is among the brightest nebulae, and through early telescopes appeared to be a poorly blue, blurry disc.

Another change is the setting of the Summer Triangle, which begins at dusk, as bright Vega almost directly overhead crosses the meridian and begins her descent. The other corners of the triangle are formed by Deneb, in Cygnus the Swan (or Northern Cross), and by Altair, in Aquila the Eagle.

With their setting comes the rising of the winged horse Pegasus, and Andromeda, the lady in chains and her protector Perseus, who rises in the northeast.

Followed by these fall constellations are Triangulum (as you might have guessed, it means resolved planet.

Actually, the nebula was formed by a star that went through an explosion, and instead of going

nova, the star merely blew off a tremendous bubble of glowing gas, and rejuvenated itself.

Moving farther eastward, we come to the Dumbell Nebula, M27, also named for its shape. This nebula, (also planetary) is the result of an explosion about three times more severe than the explosion that formed the Ring Nebula. The result is a twisted, fibrous, filamentary object shaped like a dumbell, with a glowing gassy area surrounding the entire "handle."

Next we come to the primary example of a galaxy, the Andromeda Spiral, M31 and neighboring galaxies, M32 and NGC205. The Andromeda Spiral is so large and so bright that it can be seen with the naked eye on the

darkest nights, and is visible in binoculars on any night (provided there are no clouds in the way, of course).

In fact, the galaxy is so large that we can not view the entire length of it through the telescope, even with our lowest power and widest field eyepieces. And this galaxy is no stones throw away. It is some 2,200,000 light-years distant.

What that means is we are seeing that galaxy not as it is, but rather as it was some two million years ago. In effect, the light that left Andromeda when the dinosaurs roamed the Earth, is just reaching us now.

So you can consider a telescope a time machine. And you thought time travel was impossible ...

Book Store Steals Books

by Phyllis O'Hara
Collegian Staff Writer

When considering the purchase of books each semester, most students look to the less expensive used books available in the book store. Students also consider the fact that they will be able to sell their books back to the store.

This process of buying and selling used books is supervised by Mr. Robert MacDonald. There are basically three factors which MacDonald considers before the store will buy a used book. The first factor is the shape of the book; it must still be usable and readable. MacDonald then con-

siders his need for the book. If there are already more new books in stock than will be used in a given semester, the used book will not be needed and therefore will not be bought back. Related to this is the third factor - whether or not the book is current and will be used here again.

If a student has a book that is in good condition and MacDonald cannot use it, he or she has another alternative. There is a used book company which will buy used books from our store and sell them to other book stores. This company, however, also considers how current the book is.

The pricing of used books is also the job of Mr. MacDonald. If the book meets all three of the requirements, MacDonald says he will pay half of the original price. This may even apply if the book was purchased used.

If a student must resort to sell-

ing books to the used book company, they will receive a lower price. "The best they can expect from the company is about one-third," MacDonald says "at most." The book company has a price list which contains only current editions of texts.

There are cases where none of these alternatives are possible for a student. MacDonald pointed out a book which sold for \$35.45 this semester. When those students are finished with it, "I won't be able to give them a penny for it," MacDonald said.

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Blowout Bash

by Paula Penco
Collegian Staff Writer

"Hey, I just got my name placed on the guest list for the party!"

"What's that? Did I hear you say party?"

"That's right. P-A-R-T-Y!"

"Where did you say?"

"The name in hair care."

"HAIRCUTTERS SALON - America's Salon."

Haircutters Salon will hold "The Blowout Bash" at the end of the spring semester. Yes, that's right. Greg and his staff members at Haircutters want you to celebrate with them.

What do you have to do to get invited? It's really very

simple. Just visit the salon five times over the school year and your name will automatically be placed on the guest list, allowing you to attend "The Blowout Bash."

Haircutters is open seven days a week. Their hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesdays and Wednesdays are student days at Haircutters. On these days Behrend students pay \$6 for a style cut. Consultation is always free.

So remember five visits to Haircutters will place your name on the "Blowout Bash" guest list. For further details just call Greg at Haircutters Salon.