## October is time to see planets, meteors

CTOBER will be a planet-watcher's delight.

Venus has a close grouping with the star Regulus.

Mercury is extenely well-placed for morning observing, and Uranus can be found by using Saturn as a guide.

The morning planets this month are Mercury and Venus. Mars, Jupiter and Saturo are visible after sunset.

The amount of sunlight we receive The amount of sunlight we receive in October decreases by one hour and 22 minutes. On Oct. 1 sunrise is at 7:29 a.m., and sunset is at 7:13 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Time), allowing for a possible 11 hours and 44 minutes of sunlight.

On the 31st these times are 7:04 a.m. and 5:26 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time), for 10 hours and 22 minutes of sunlight.

For the first week in October, all the activity is in the pre-dawn sky.

LOOK FOR THE moon, high in the southwest about 45 minutes before sunrise, on Oct. 1. Two bright "stars" and a star cluster are located below the moon.

The brightest is acqually the planet Jupiter, To the east (left) of Jupiter is Aldebara (al DEB a ran), the "eye" of Taurus the built. To the west

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skywatch Raymond E. Bullock

gulus during the rest of the month.

A BEAUTIFUL gathering between the moon, Yenus and Regulus cocurs on the morning of Oct. 6. Regulus is sandwiched in above) and Venus (which below). On the east norming the moon has moved and now it is Venus which is andwiched below Regulus and above the moon.

New moon occurs at 5:49 p.m. on Oct. 10. The moon is located between

Mercury is at inferior conjunction on the 11th. It is located between the earth and the sun and is not visible. Within a week, however, this fast-moving planet will be visible in the east, rating before the sun.

Let the property of the contract of the c

tares (an TAR ees), the "heart" of Scorpius. On Oct. 15 the moon is located be-tween Saturn and Antares. Saturn is the "star" above and to the south (left) of the moon.

HAVING LOCATED Saturn, use binoculars (or, better yet, a tele-scope) to try and spot the planet Uranus. Sky-gazers have an excel-

lent opportunity to see Uranus for themselves by using Saturn as a guide. Uranus will look like a faint star about one degree north of (about) Saturn

star about one degree north of (above) Saturn.

(Note: If you are using an astronomical telescope that Inverts the Image. Uranus will be below Saturn in the field of view.) You will be able to the field of view. You will be able to use the field of the property of the saturn as a guide to Uranus for quite some time. Saturn takes more than 29 years to complete an orbit around the sun, and Uranus takes 84 years. In the 29 years in the 29 years it takes Saturn to complete some time. Saturn takes more than 29 years to complete an orbit around the sun, and Uranus takes 84 years. In the 29 years it takes Saturn to complete its orbit, Uranus will have moved 35 percent of its way around the sun.

It will take Saturn another 15 years to catch up to Uranus, so these planets will not pass each other

again until 2032.

URANUS 15 too faint to be seen with the naked eye and wasn't discovered until 1781 by William Heratal.

covered until 1781 by William Her-schel.

He named it "Georgium Sidus" (George's Star) to honor his patron, George III of England, a name which was decidedly not popular in the United States.

May astronomers called the new planet. "Herschel" instead. A German astronomer suggested the name Uranus.

The moon is at first quarter phase at 8:01 a.m. on Oct. 18. It is one-quarter of its way around the earth. Raymond Bullock, former coordinator of the Cranbrook Institute of Science planetarium and observatory, is now with Image Enjacetarium for princering Corp. specializing in laser displays and effects.





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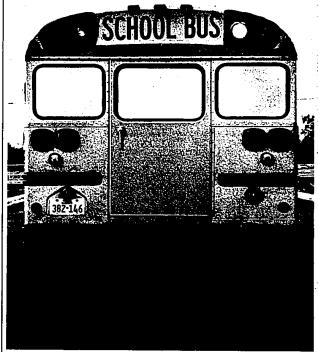
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