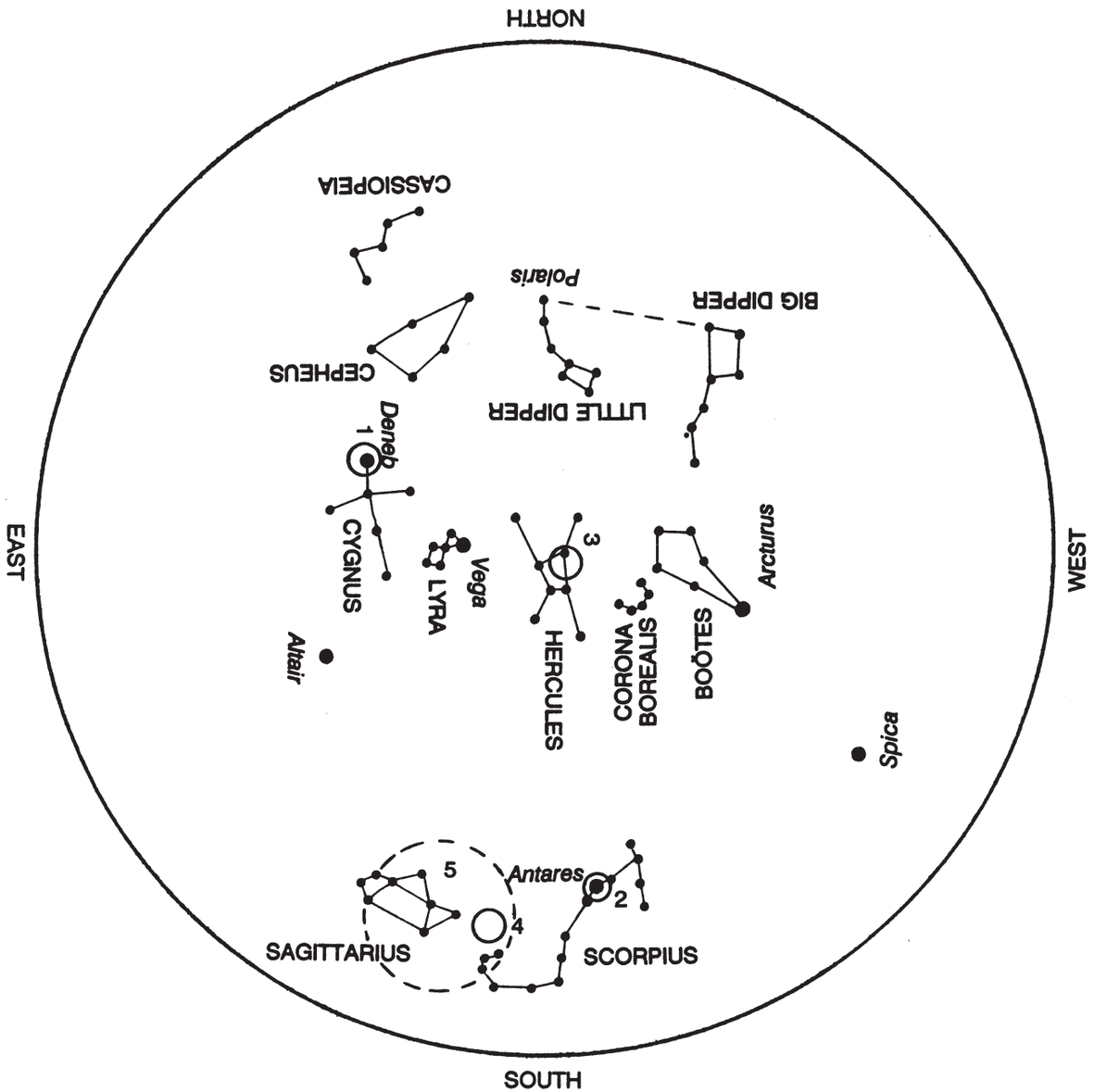
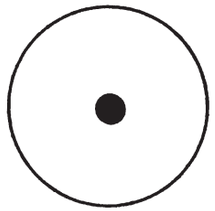
July (Approximately 10:00 p.m.)

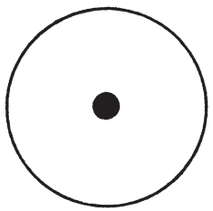


1. Deneb



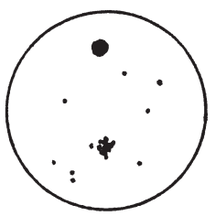
Supergiant star in Cygnus R.A. $20^h39.7^m$ Dec. 45°06'
Other name: α Cygnus
Deneb marks the tail of Cygnus the Swan. This star is 60 times larger than our sun and is about 60,000 times brighter. Deneb lies at a distance of 1600 ly and is the 19th brightest star in the sky. It is the faintest of the 3 stars in the summer triangle *(see Vega and Altair)*

2. Antares



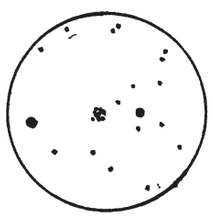
Red Supergiant in Scorpius R.A. $16^h26.4^m$ Dec. -26°19'
Other name: α Scorpius
Antares shows up as a bright red star in the heart of the scorpion. This is another huge star with a diameter of 600 million miles. If placed at the position of our Sun, Antares' surface would reach beyond the orbit of Mars. Antares is 9000 times brighter than our Sun and is the 15th brightest star in the sky. This red supergiant is 520 ly distance.

3. M13



Globular Cluster in Hercules R.A. $16^h39.9^m$ Dec. 36°33'
Other name: NGC 6205
This cluster found in the keystone of Hercules is approximately 30,000 ly distant and 160 ly in diameter. Stars along the outer edges of the cluster can be resolved but the stars in the central egion are so compact that only a bright glow can be seen. M13 contains over a million stars.

4. M6



Open Cluster in Scorpius R.A. $17^h36.8^m$ Dec. -32°11'
Other name: NGC 6405
Near the tail of the Scorpion, M6 and its close companion M7 (see June sky map) can be see with the naked eye on dark clear nights. Through binoculars or a telescope some people can see a butterfly shape among the 80 stars in the cluster. This cluster lies between 1400 and 1600 ly from us and is 20 ly in diameter. The central region is about 9 ly across.

5. Galactic Center

The center of our Milky Way galaxy lies in the constellation of Sagittarius. Clouds of interstellar gas and dust lie between our solar system and the actual center and obscure it, but an increase in brightness can still be seen in the Sagittarius region. Through binoculars, what appears as a milky haze becomes thousands of stars. Our galaxy is thought to be 100,000 ly across and about 4000 ly thick with a huge ball of stars in the center. It is believed to contain 100-200 billion stars.