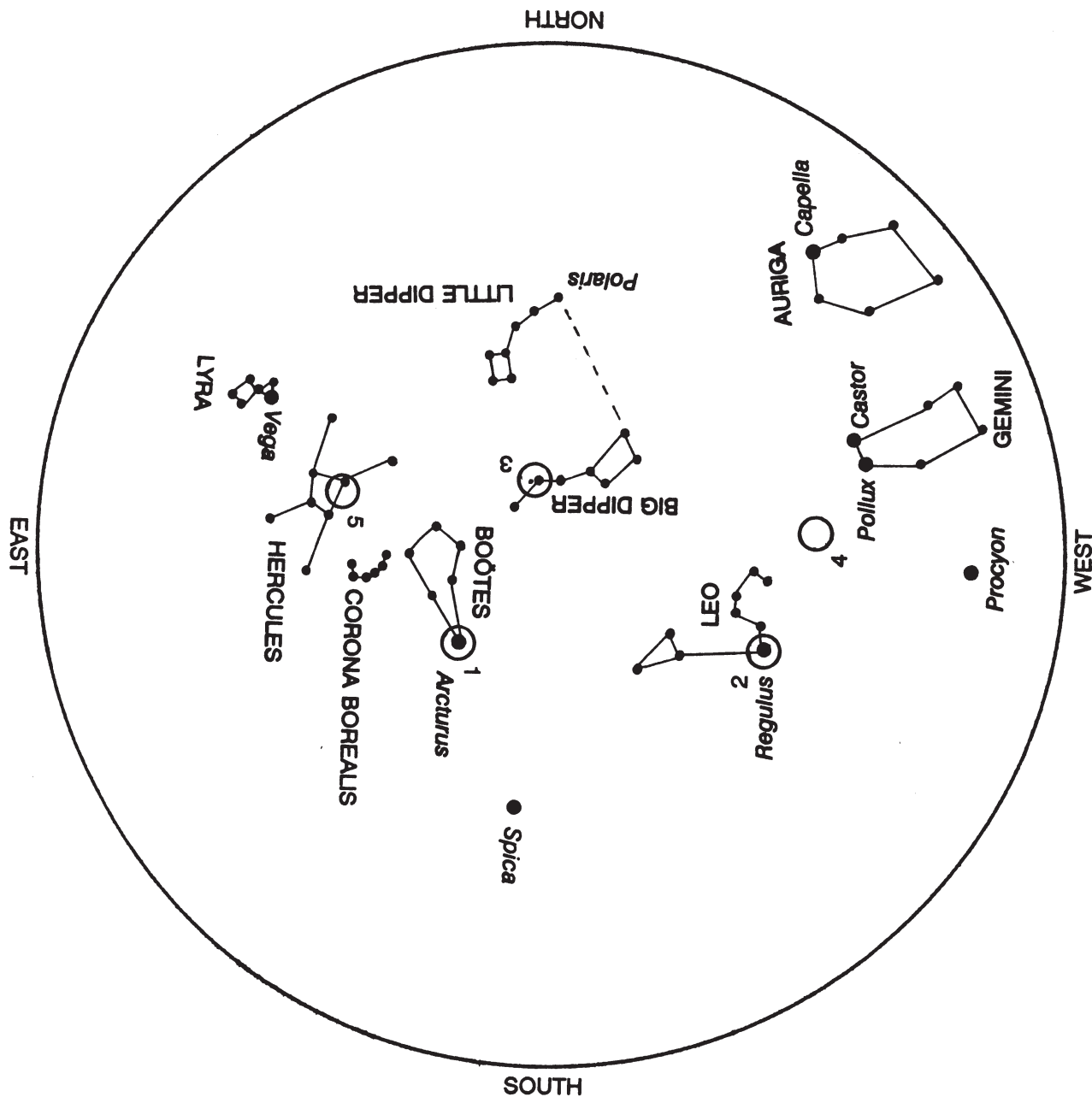
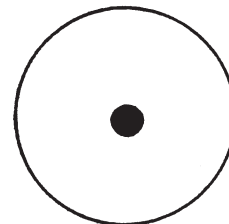


May (Approximately 9:30 p.m.)



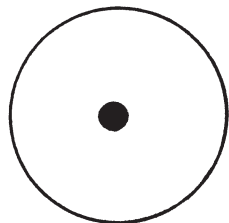
1. Arcturus

Red Giant Star in Boötes R.A. 14^h13.4^m Dec. 19°27'
 Other name: α Boötes
 The fourth brightest star in the night sky, Arcturus is about 37 ly away and 25 times larger than our Sun. Arcturus may appear to be a reddish-orange color. From the color of a star, astronomers can determine its temperature. Arcturus is about 7000°F, or about 3000° cooler than our Sun.



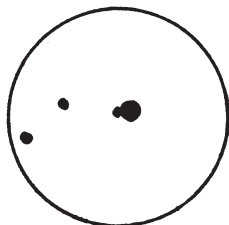
2. Regulus

Blue giant star in Leo R.A. 10^h05.7^m Dec. 12°13'
 Other name: α Leo
 Regulus represents the "." of the backwards "?" in the constellation of Leo. This super hot star (21,000°F) lies about 85 ly from us. In size, it's only about 5 times larger than our sun but is approximately 160 times more luminous than the sun. Regulus is the 21st brightest star in the sky.



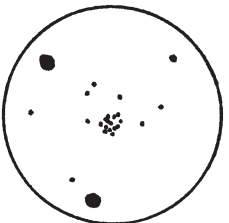
3. Mizar/Alcor

Double Star in Ursa Major R.A. 13^h21.9^m Dec. 55°11'
 Mizar, the brighter of the two stars, is the second star in the handle of the Big Dipper. Alcor lies very close to Mizar and is sometimes accused of riding piggy-back on Mizar. These two stars are considered an optical double star. They look as if they belong to the same system, but they do not. Both Mizar and Alcor have actual companion stars, but each companion is too faint to be seen with binoculars.



4. M44

Open Cluster in Cancer R.A. 08^h37.5^m Dec. 19°52'
 Other names: NGC 2632, the Praesepe, the Beehive cluster
 M44 is one of the largest and brightest open cluster that can be seen from Earth. It lies 525 ly away and most of its 200 stars lie within a space of 13 ly. M44 can easily be seen with the naked eye on a dark, clear night. The cluster will appear as a faint cloud.



5. 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 region are so compact that only a bright glow can be seen. M13 contains over a million stars.

