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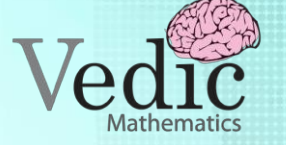
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Space & Astronomy:

Observational Astronomy & Planetary Events

Planetary Conjunction: The planets Jupiter and Venus are shining brightly in the pre-dawn sky, offering a great viewing opportunity for skywatchers. They appear to be in a close conjunction, a phenomenon where two celestial objects appear close to each other from a specific viewpoint.

Globular Cluster M13: The great globular cluster M13 in the constellation Hercules is a standout target for observation in the summer sky. Despite a brightening moon, it's a massive, dense ball of hundreds of thousands of stars that is easily visible through binoculars or a telescope.

Lunar Features: The moon is currently in its waxing gibbous phase, with 79% illumination. This makes deep-sky viewing more challenging but still allows for great views of bright objects like M13.

Space Exploration & Discoveries

New Class of Planetary Nebula: A new class of planetary nebula, dubbed Ghost Planetary Nebula (GPN), has been identified. This discovery was made by a collaboration of amateur and professional astronomers who studied faint blue arcs near the Andromeda Galaxy. The first recognized member of this new class is SDSO 1.

Webb Telescope: The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) has revisited the famous Hubble Ultra Deep Field, providing a more detailed view of thousands of distant galaxies some of which date back to the earliest periods of cosmic history.

Debunked Solar Eclipse Rumors

No Total Solar Eclipse: A viral rumor about a total solar eclipse causing "six minutes of darkness" on August 2, 2025, has been debunked by NASA and other astronomical experts. The next major total solar eclipse is actually scheduled for August 2, 2027.

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MCQS

1. Which two planets are currently in a close conjunction in the pre-dawn sky?

- a) Mars and Saturn
- b) Jupiter and Venus
- c) Mercury and Jupiter
- d) Venus and Mars

Answer: b) Jupiter and Venus

The news states, "The planets Jupiter and Venus are shining brightly in the pre-dawn sky, offering a great viewing opportunity for skywatchers."

2. What is the name of the great globular cluster in the constellation Hercules that is a standout target for observation?

- a) Andromeda Galaxy
- b) Orion Nebula
- c) Globular Cluster M13

d) Pleiades Cluster

Answer: c) Globular Cluster M13

The news highlights, "The great globular cluster M13 in the constellation Hercules is a standout target for observation in the summer sky."

3. What is the newly identified class of planetary nebula called?

- a) Andromeda Nebula
- b) Ghost Planetary Nebula (GPN)
- c) Hubble Nebula
- d) SDSO Nebula

Answer: b) Ghost Planetary Nebula (GPN)

The news reports, "A new class of planetary nebula, dubbed Ghost Planetary Nebula (GPN), has been identified."

4. What is the first recognized member of the new class of planetary nebula?

- a) Andromeda Galaxy
- b) M13
- c) SDSO 1
- d) Hubble Nebula

Answer: c) SDSO 1

The news states, "The first recognized member of this new class is SDSO 1."

5. What is the next major total solar eclipse scheduled for, as mentioned in the news?

- a) August 2, 2025
- b) August 2, 2026
- c) August 2, 2027
- d) August 2, 2028

Answer: c) August 2, 2027

The news debunks the rumor about a 2025 eclipse and clarifies that "The next major total solar eclipse is actually scheduled for August 2, 2027."





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