

Near full moon to light the way to viewing of Mars and Saturn

NEEL ROBERTS

SKY'S THE LIMIT

SKY WATCH

On Friday, Sept. 13, look southeast-east at 8:11 p.m. to see a spectacular harvest moon.

On Monday, Sept. 23, at 1:50 a.m., summer is officially over.

The zodiacal light is a faint, roughly triangular whitish glow seen in the night sky

extended up from the vicinity of the sun along the ecliptic or zodiac, is difficult to find. The best time is from Thursday, Sept. 26 for two weeks in the morning twilight.

On Saturday, Sept. 28, look southwest-west at around 7:30 p.m. to catch a Mercury, Venus and new moon sunset before they set at 7:50 p.m. If you have good binoculars, you can actually see the moon!

PUBLIC EVENTS

Mark down Friday, Sept. 20, from 7:30-10:30 p.m. for “Beakerhead” at the University of Calgary’s Rothney Observatory (RAO), located near Priddis. There will be an array of telescopes available, and astronomers will be on hand to answer questions. There’s a near full moon that night, lighting the way to view Mars and Saturn. The entrance fee \$30 per car. For further information, contact Jennifer Howse at jhowse@phas.ucalgary.ca or 403-931-2366, or visit the website www.ucalgary.ca/rao. Directions to the RAO can be found on the website.

Neel Roberts is a member of the Calgary chapter of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. He welcomes your questions and comments at 403-560-6574.