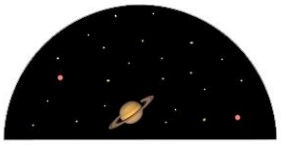
Acadiana Sky



Rules for Buying Telescopes

1. Buying a telescope that works is harder than you think.
2. Using a telescope is harder than you think.
3. Avoid telescopes that advertise their “high magnification.”
4. Avoid *most* telescopes whose names actually imply they will be useful to beginners or children.
5. Avoid *most* telescopes whose names include celestial objects (for instance, CometTracker 600, Moongazer 50, etc.)
6. Avoid *most* computerized “go to” telescopes under $1000; avoid *most* computerized “push to” telescopes under $400.
7. If you are about to buy the type of telescope most beginners and children buy, you are about to be disappointed.
8. If you are about to buy the type of telescope most beginners and children buy, you are probably better off with a good pair of binoculars.