

# May Evening Skies

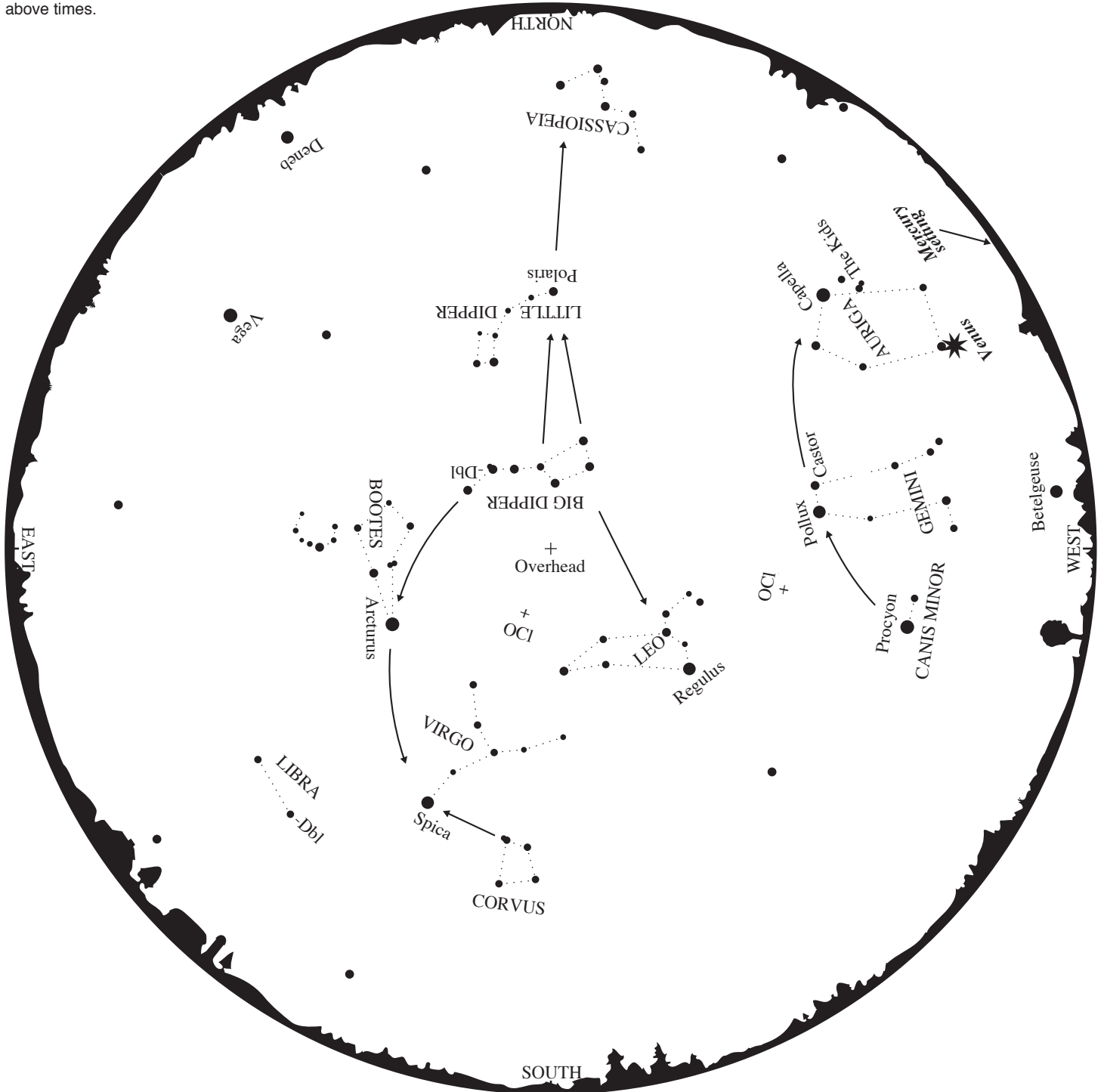
This chart is drawn for latitude 40° north, but should be useful to stargazers throughout the continental United States. It represents the sky at the following local daylight times:

Late April	11 p.m.
Early May	10 p.m.
Late May	9 p.m.

This map is applicable one hour either side of the above times.

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The planet Venus is plotted for mid-May 2020. Ten objects of first magnitude or brighter are visible. In order of brightness they are: Venus, Arcturus, Vega, Capella, Procyon, Betelgeuse, Spica, Pollux, Deneb, and Regulus. Mercury has just set. Look for it about half an hour after sunset. In addition to stars, other objects that should be visible to the unaided eye are labeled on the map. The double star (Db1) at the bend of the handle of the Big Dipper is

easily detected. The double in Libra is more challenging. The open or galactic star cluster (OC1) known as the "Beehive" can be located between the Gemini twins and Leo. Coma Berenices, "The Hair of Berenice," is another open cluster (OC2), between Leo and Bootes. Try to observe these objects with unaided eye and binoculars.

—D. David Batch