

Navigators Offered A Look at Future; They Hope It Works

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Special to The New York Times

MYSTIC, Conn., June 6—
"Star light, star bright,
first star I see tonight; I wish
I may, I wish I might . . ."
For the navigators in the
Newport, R. I., to Bermuda
yacht race on June 22, the
Seaport Planetarium here
has eliminated star-wishing.
Where will you be on the

Pleasure
Boat
News

night of June 24?
"The moon, being
new, will not be
available," said
Donald L. Tre-
worgy, supervi-

sor of the planetarium,
"only the stars and the
planets."

If you plan to be aboard a
racing yacht en route to Ber-
muda at that time, the plane-
tarium will project your fu-
ture. The sky of that night—
4:30 A.M. and 8:30 P.M.—
will be previewed in special
programs this Saturday and
Sunday, June 16, at 6 P.M.

For the navigators in the
race, these showings should
prove to be of great help,
since the rules of the race do
not permit using electronic
devices, other than a radio
and a direction finder. And
unless skies are cloudy and
the sun is out of sight, the
stars and planets will lead
the way.

Treworgy said the heavenly
bodies listed were those that
would appear in the evening
and morning twilight from
the midpoint of the Newport-
to-Bermuda rhumb line. Mid-
position given was 37 degrees
north latitude, 68 degrees
west longitude, at 0430 East-
ern Daylight Time.

Following the 35-minute
program, the planetarium di-
rector said, there will be an-
other projection of the sky
for those interested in the
trans-Atlantic race (Newport
to Cork, Ireland), which is

scheduled to start in mid-
June.

The major navigational
stars and their positions:

Morning Star	Alli- tude	Azi- muth	Magni- tude
Capella	16°	044°	+0.2
Alpheratz	64	099	2.2
Saturn (planet)	35	110	0.8
Fomalhaut	22	169	1.3
Allair	48	237	0.9
Vega	49	289	0.1
Deneb	72	303	1.3
Ellanin	44	309	2.4
Kochab	31	343	2.2
Evening Star	Alli- tude	Azi- muth	Magni- tude
Kochab	54°	005°	+2.2
Deneb	21	046	1.3
Vega	39	066	0.1
Rasalhague	39	105	2.1
Alphecca	70	115	2.3
Antares	19	148	1.2
Arcturus	72	177	0.2
Spica	41	195	1.2
Denebola	31	245	2.2
Regulus	30	262	1.3
Jupiter (planet)	32	262	-1.4
Dubhe	52	326	+2.0

Azimuth, computed on a
compass, is the arc of the
horizon measured clockwise,
beginning with the northern
point. Magnitude means
brightness, with the lower
the figure, the brighter the
object.

"The turnouts last year,
the first time we held such
previews of the skies, were
rather small," Treworgy said.
"But that is understandable,
since most experienced navi-
gators are able to compute
their routes by chart and can
use such aids as the Rude
star finder.

"About 14 crews were rep-
resented last year at the
planetarium showings, out of
150 boats entered in the race.
Nevertheless, proper celestial
navigation is important when
you realize that even a one-
second mistake is equal to a
quarter of a mile."

Compared with the Hayden
Planetarium projector in New
York, Mystic's is tiny. It can
portray about 700 stars at
a time, compared with Hay-
den's 8,000. The cost is in-
dicative: The Mystic projector
is valued at \$8,000, the Hay-
den's over \$250,000.