

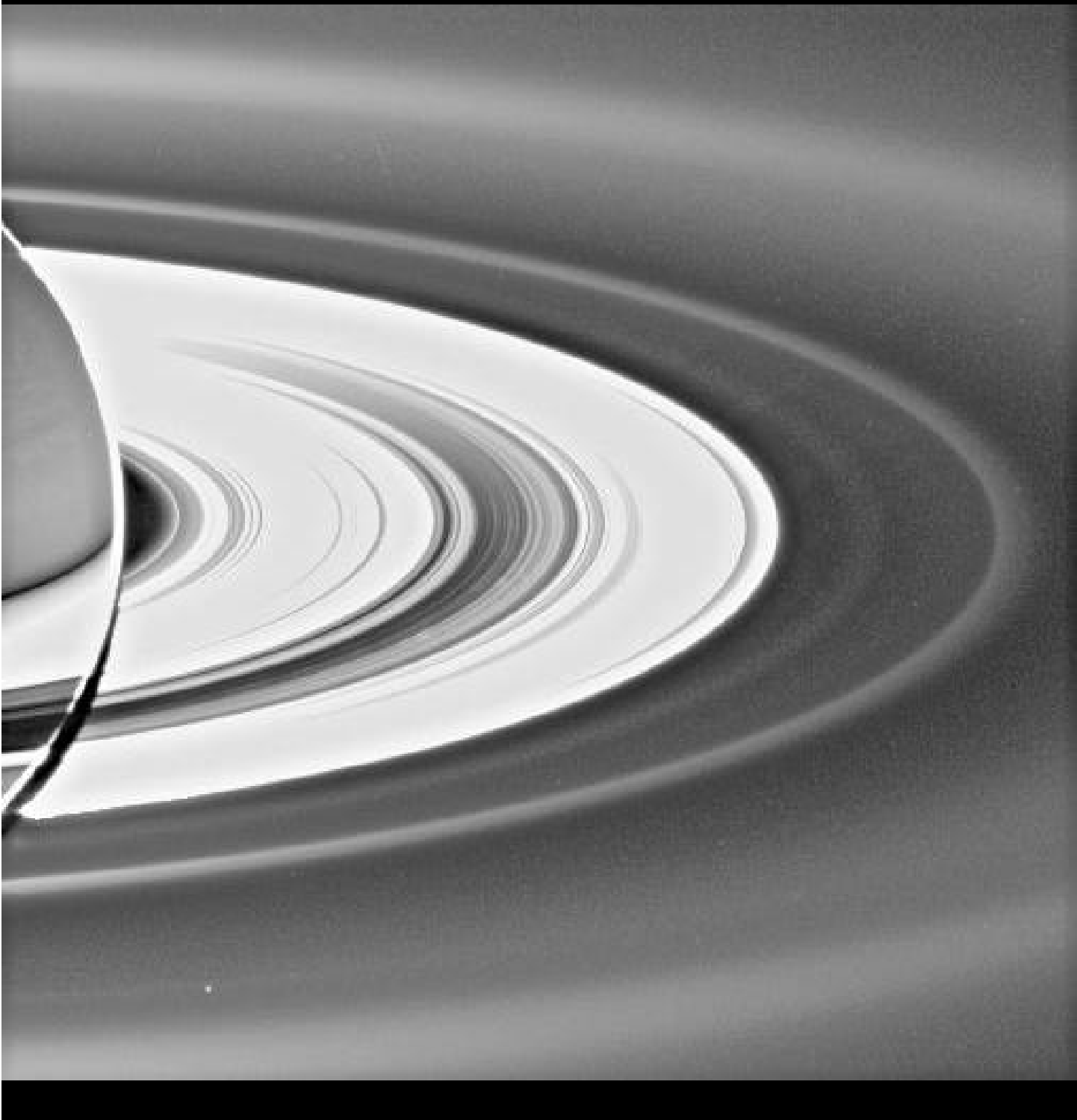
THE WRIGHT STUFF



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THE WRIGHT STUFF

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Publisher J.R. Fisher
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Wright Flyer from NASA/Ames PAO photo archive; *U.S.S. Kitty Hawk* (USN CV-63) from navicp.navy.mil; *Constitution* class cruiser from gwu.edu/~rljones/khawk.

IMAGE - Featured Front Page

Saturn as seen by Cassini; from NASA / JPL / Space Science Institute. See page 3 for details.

A View From the Catbird Seat

By J.R. Fisher



RED ALERT! RED ALERT! BATTLE STATIONS!

It has been brought to our attention that many of you have NOT renewed your STARFLEET membership and the ship's complement has fallen below the required 10 members and we are in danger of being decommissioned. If you are one of those who has not renewed, PLEASE do so immediately and request your assignment to *U.S.S. Kitty Hawk*.

Thanks to all of you who attended the book signing and meeting at Borders in October. Support for that sort of thing can come back to us in many positive ways. No one seemed interested in going to the State Fair as a group and no one volunteered to host a Halloween party, so neither event is scheduled.

November meeting is moved to the second Saturday instead of first as I have my annual train show at the fair grounds this year. Any of you

with an interest in trains should come on out as there will be five operating layouts.

We have made contact with Trinoc-Con and will be going to a meeting before our next meeting. We would like for you to think about how you would like to participate in this con for next year. Several years ago, a con came to town and we got very involved in the schedule. Not only did we do security for the con, but we came up with two days of programming for the attendees that was very well attended.

Most of you were not here at that time, but we had panels on: astronomy (Morehead Planetarium), model building, alien foods, collectibles, costuming, Klingon language classes (I and II), basic writing, and panels on STAR TREK and STARFLEET.

We could also do video rooms on sci-fi movies, TV series, and particularly STAR TREK. We are sure that you have attended conventions where there were other activities that were interesting and are

adaptable to our uses. Also, think about what you haven't seen at a con that you would like to see. We will discuss all of these at the November meeting, so please come prepared to contribute and volunteer.

Getting involved with this type of event is the type of thing we need to get interest back in sci-fi and STAR TREK and the *Kitty Hawk*. If you take on a panel project, we expect you to develop it fully and run through what you have for the crew at a future meeting. Everyone is considered available to assist anyone requesting help. The con is going to be the first weekend in August at the North Raleigh Hilton, so now is the time to get started on planning this.

When we did this before, it was a complete effort on the part of the crew, and a complete success! And guess what; everyone had fun! So put on you thinking caps, roll up your sleeves and mark you calendars.

Remember, we have the Wright Stuff! Let's show a new generation of fans what the *Kitty Hawk* can do!

Esse Quam Videri

Front Page Photo Credit

This view, acquired with the sun almost directly behind Saturn, reveals a previously unknown faint ring of material coincident with the orbit of the small moon Pallene.

Another new, diffuse ring seen here was previously announced, and is coincident with the orbits of Saturn's moons Janus and Epimetheus.

This viewing geometry makes microscopic, icy ring particles brighten substantially. Cassini spent nearly 12 hours in Saturn's shadow on Sept. 15, 2006, making observations like this one.

The new Pallene ring is a faint narrow band, about 2,500 kilometers (about 1,550 miles) across, between the E ring and the G ring. The Janus/Epimetheus ring is visible between the G ring and the bright main rings and is about 5,000 kilometer (3,100 miles) wide. A labeled version of this view is also available and shows the locations of these features.

Pallene, discovered by Cassini's imaging cameras earlier in the mission, is 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) across. Pallene orbits Saturn between the moons Mimas and Enceladus. The bright dot in the Pallene ring is not the tiny moon, but rather is a background star.

While it is not unexpected that impact events on Janus, Epimetheus, and Pallene might kick particles off the moons' surfaces and inject them into Saturn orbit, it is, however, surprising that these structures are so well-defined.

The view looks down from about 15 degrees above the dark side of the rings. Some faint spokes can also be spotted in the main rings, made visible by sunlight diffusing through the B ring.

The image was taken in visible light with the Cassini spacecraft wide-angle camera on Sept. 15, 2006, at a distance of approximately 2.2 million kilometers (1.3 million miles) from Saturn and at a Sun-Saturn-spacecraft angle of almost

179 degrees. Image scale is approximately 250 kilometers (155 miles) per pixel.

The Cassini-Huygens mission is a cooperative project of NASA, the European Space Agency and the Italian Space Agency. The Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a division of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, manages the mission for NASA's Science Mission Directorate, Washington, D.C. The Cassini orbiter and its two onboard cameras were designed, developed and assembled at JPL. The imaging operations center is based at the Space Science Institute in Boulder, Colo.

For more information about the Cassini-Huygens mission visit <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov/home/index.cfm>. The Cassini imaging team homepage is at <http://ciclops.org>.

Computer Operations Report

By John Troan

NASA Finds Saturn's Moons May Be Creating New Rings

Imaging scientists have noticed color variations across the diffuse rings that imply active processes sort the particles in the ring according to their sizes.

Cassini scientists are on the trail of the missing moons of Saturn. A recent observation by the spacecraft leads them to believe that they will find the moons near newly discovered rings around the planet.

During an unprecedented opportunity, with the sun poised behind Saturn, Cassini scientists discovered two new rings and confirmed the presence of two others. The new rings are associated with one or more small moons and share their orbits with the moons, while scientists suspect a moon is lurking near a third ring.

"Just like the old maxim that says where there's smoke, there's fire, at Saturn, where there's a new ring, there's bound to be a moon," said Dr. Jeff Cuzzi, Cassini interdisciplinary scientist at NASA's Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Calif.

Under the cover of Saturn's shadow in mid-September, the entire ring system became visible, and never-before-seen microscopic particles began to appear. A single, faint new ring at the orbits of two moonlets, Janus and Epimetheus, was discovered. A second ring was found a week later. It is narrow and overlies the orbit of the tiny moon Pallene, which Cassini discovered back in 2004. A third and fourth ring are visible in the Cassini Division, the big gap in Saturn's main ring system. Curiously, these rings were not seen in images from NASA's Voyager spacecraft.

"We are hot on the trail of these possible elusive moonlets," said Dr. Joe Burns, Cassini imaging scientist at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. "Finding the moons and learning about their interactions with the rings will help us understand how the

moons formed and perhaps how the Saturn system formed."

When viewed by Cassini's infrared instrument, one of the rings in the Cassini Division has unusual coloring and brightening, a trait it shares with fresh, faint rings like the F ring, or those in the Encke Gap in Saturn's outer A ring.

Saturn's smallest moons have weak gravity and cannot retain any loose material on their surfaces. When these moons are struck by rapidly moving interplanetary meteoroids, this loose material is blasted off their surfaces and into Saturn orbit, creating diffuse rings along the moons' orbital paths. Collisions among several moonlets, or clumps of boulder-sized rubble, might also lead to debris trails. For instance, Saturn's G ring seems not to have any single moon large enough to see; it might have formed from a recent breakup of a moon.

The unusual viewing geometry provided other insights into the changing nature of Saturn's rings. In addition to the dazzling images, data from Cassini's visual and infrared mapping spectrometer also show distinct color differences, indicating variations in composition and in microscopic particles in the Cassini Division, the diffuse E- and G-rings, lying outside the main rings, and the D ring, which is the ring closest to Saturn.

"These tiny grains are like spices -- even a little bit of material can alter the ring's character," said Dr. Matt Hedman, another Cassini scientist at Cornell. Color variation in the rings might imply particles are being sorted by size.

"We expected to see things we haven't seen before, but we are really, really puzzled by these new images of Saturn's main ring system," said Dr. Phil Nicholson, of Cornell, Cassini visual and infrared spectrometer team member. "The rings appear very different, with none of their usual calling card of water-ice features. There are hints that other

material besides ice might finally be detected within the rings."

"The main rings show a neutral color, while the C ring is reddish, and the D and E rings are quite blue," added Nicholson. "We don't quite understand if these variations are due to differences in particle size or composition, but it's nice to be surprised every once in a while."

The latest Cassini findings are being presented today at the Division for Planetary Sciences Meeting of the American Astronomical Society held in Pasadena, Calif. Images to support this release, including an infrared mosaic and visible light mosaic of Saturn, can be found at <http://www.nasa.gov/cassini>, <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov>, and <http://ciclops.org>.

The Cassini-Huygens mission is a cooperative project of NASA, the European Space Agency and the Italian Space Agency. The Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a division of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, manages the Cassini-Huygens mission for NASA's Science Mission Directorate, Washington. The Cassini orbiter and its two onboard cameras were designed, developed and assembled at JPL. The imaging team is based at the Space Science Institute, Boulder, Colo. The visual and infrared mapping spectrometer team is based at the University of Arizona, Tucson.

In other news, NASA is probably going to push back some of the 2007 shuttle missions by a month because of production delays with the external tanks. They've got a new foam design that's looking good in the wind tunnel so far.

The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter returned some nice images during its test period and is now a month into the mission. As mentioned before, MRO is expected to return more than ten times the data as all the other Mars missions combined.

DEEP SPACE NINE - "An Old Friend"

By Brad McDonald

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. DEEP SPACE NINE - MAIN PROMENADE

Odo is following Sarek at a safe distance. The abundance of refugees makes his job easier, he can watch without being seen. The camera follows as Odo winds through the myriad of people. Finally, Sarek meets with a terran male. They're speaking quietly, so Odo can't hear. Just as he's about to move closer, he notices another person is observing the pair. Odo studies the third person and takes a few notes on a data padd. Then using the padd, he activates one of the optical pick-ups. After a brief time, Sarek heads back to his quarters. The Maquis representative moves off as well. When the third man leaves, Odo follows him at a distance .

EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE - AURORA BOREALIS DOCKED (OPTICAL)

INT. DEEP SPACE NINE - SICKBAY - WIDE ANGLE

The area is still controlled confusion, but Bashir and Kidara are working efficiently, surrounded by medical technicians and nurses. Both doctors are examining patients and engaged in conversation.

KIDARA
(working)

What's our total on isolation candidates, so far?

BASHIR
(working; thinking)

Uh, seven. Not nearly as bad as we had originally estimated.

KIDARA
(looking about)

Still sure you don't want any more help from Bajor?

Bashir looks at the cramped facilities.

BASHIR

Where would we put them?

(beat, then:)

Besides, we're doing just fine.

KIDARA
(smiling; working)

I think you're a bit optimistic, but we'll get through it somehow.

ON BASHIR

BASHIR
(smiling; working)

No doubt, especially since Bajor sent me such distinguished help, their leading epidemiologist.

It is obvious that Bashir is taken with the Bajoran doctor. He tries to find out a little more about her while they work.

BASHIR
(working)

So why does someone specialize in epidemiology and immunology?

ON KIDARA

KIDARA
(working)

Practicality. When I grew up, just finding clean water was a difficult task. Medical care was nonexistent.

She concludes her examination and motions for a nurse.

KIDARA
(to patient)

You're okay...

Turning to the next refugee in line.

KIDARA
(continuing)

...and you're next!

The refugee sits on the exam table and Kidara begins her work while continuing her conversation with Bashir.

KIDARA
(working)

Anyway, after the Cardassians left, the biggest enemy was disease. That's when I decided to specialize in something that could make a real difference in Bajor's survival.

ON BASHIR

BASHIR
(admirably)

I understand completely.

He finishes his exam and indicates to a medical technician he's ready for another refugee.

BASHIR
(sighing)

Eighty-nine down, only one hundred and seventy-four to go !

Bashir then taps his comm badge.

BASHIR
Bashir to O'Brien; Chief?

A very tired voice answers the call.

O'BRIEN (V.O.)
O'Brien here. What is it, Doctor?

BASHIR
Is the isolation facility ready?

CARGO BAY - WIDE ANGLE

The bay has been modified for habitation. There are individual quarters visible, along with an eating area and social facilities. O'Brien is working with a small group of technicians.

O'BRIEN
(working)

Putting the finishing touches on it right now. You can begin transporting your patients in five minutes, okay?

BASHIR (V.O.)
Your timing is perfect. My post-op ward is getting crowded. Your next task is to get some much deserved rest, Doctor's orders.

O'BRIEN
Aye sir, no arguments. O'Brien out.
(to no one)
If I live that long.

AIRLOCK ENTRY

Kira is supervising the loading of refugees already inoculated and processed. There's a small group of refugees standing by as Sisko approaches Kira.

SISKO
How's it going, Major?

KIRA
(distracted)
All the refugees cleared by Bashir have been processed. We've begun to transport all those who've got a place to go to first. That will give the Bajoran authorities a chance to arrange accommodations for the others.

SISKO
Sounds good. Do you have enough help?

KIRA
(busy)

Just barely, but we'll manage.

TWO SHOT - SISKO AND KIRA

SISKO

Very well, anything I can do to help?

She consults her data padd and motions a few refugees through the airlock hatch, then turns back to face Sisko.

KIRA
(determined)

Just keep Bingham away from me until I'm finished!

SISKO
(smiling)

I think you're safe... at least as long as Quark doesn't run out of dabo girls.

Kira gives Sisko a hard stare, then resumes her work. Sisko then exits, grinning broadly.

ODO'S OFFICE

Odo is busy, seated at his duty desk, when Sisko arrives. He takes a seat opposite Odo and waits for the constable to finish before speaking.

SISKO

I got your message, what did you find out, Odo?

ODO

Sarek met with his Maquis contact today. It was Torbin Silsbee.

SISKO

Silsbee? He's not the most diplomatic person in the Maquis. Someone like him is more suited to arms deals.

ODO
(nodding)

I agree, there are far more moderate members to talk to.

SISKO

So what other good news do you have for me?

ON ODO

Odo hands Sisko a data padd, then speaks.

ODO

There was someone else present at the meeting. I don't think that either the ambassador or Silsbee knew he was there...

(indicating padd)
...that's his profile.

SISKO (V.O.)
(o.c.)

Maquis?

ODO

No. He's Torm Breeka. Does a little of everything, all of it illegal.

(beat, then:)

He entered the station under an assumed identity. I had a security sensor scan him and turned up this.

TWO SHOT

SISKO
(reading; sarcastic)

Not a nice person, is he?

ODO

Makes Silsbee look like a saint.

(beat, then:)

He's a Nausicaan, I never knew a nice Nausicaan, but this one is very nasty.

Sisko finishes with the data padd and puts it down on Odo's desk.

SISKO
(distant)

Now why would a Nausicaan mercenary care about Federation and Maquis relations?

ODO

No reason I can think of, but since Torm is a mercenary I he could be working for anybody.

ON SISKO

SISKO

I agree. See if you can turn up anything else. Meanwhile, have your people keep an eye on him.

Sisko stands up to leave and then adds one more thought.

SISKO
(moving)

And Odo?

TWO SHOT

ODO

Yes. Commander?

SISKO

Nice work.

PROMENADE CORRIDOR - OUTSIDE SAREK'S QUARTERS

Dax and Sisko are waiting outside the ambassador's quarters, after having sounded the chime. The door opens and

Sarek invites the pair of officers inside. The two enter quickly.

SAREK'S QUARTERS - THREE SHOT

Sarek takes the same chair he occupied during Sisko's prior visit. Dax and Sisko sit opposite the ambassador in separate chairs.

SISKO

(interested)

You wished to see me?

SAREK

Yes. My initial contact with the Maquis proved most enlightening.

Sarek nods towards Dax.

SAREK

(continuing)

Is this officer to be my pilot?

SISKO

(embarrassed)

Forgive me, Ambassador, yes. This is Jadzia Dax, my Science Officer and a friend of --

DAX

(interrupting)

...the Commander. That's why I got this assignment.

Sisko is confused as to why Dax has cut off his introduction, but goes along with it. Obviously, Dax is on to something.

SISKO

Uh, yes. She's my favorite, but also a good pilot.

ON SAREK

SAREK

I have agreed to meet with the Maquis leadership within the neutral zone. The exact coordinates are unknown. We will proceed on a course of one eight one, mark four. They will contact us once they feel 'comfortable'.

THREE SHOT

DAX

(sarcastic)

Not a trusting lot, are they?

SAREK

(shrugging)

Perhaps, but it is a delicate matter. Trust must be earned, then built upon, in stages.

DAX

When do we leave?

SAREK
Sixteen hundred hours.
tomorrow.

SISKO
Is there anything else we need to
do at this point?

SAREK
I regret that it is just a matter of
waiting. However, I have some
additional preparations to
make...

The statement is a polite dismissal, so
Sisko and Dax stand to leave while Sarek
remains seated.

ON SIKO

SISKO
(moving)
Then we will see you later. I'll
have a security detail escort you
to the appropriate ship, one half
hour before departure time.
agreeable?

SAREK'S QUARTERS - WIDE ANGLE

SAREK
(nodding)
Agreeable.

Dax and Sisko let themselves out and into
the corridor.

PROMENADE CORRIDOR - OUTSIDE
SAREK'S QUARTERS

Sisko takes a few steps, then stops. He
turns to face Dax and confronts her about
her behavior.

SISKO
(curious)
What was it you tried to tell me
in there?

DAX
(concerned)
Benjamin, that person is not
Ambassador Sarek!

SISKO
Are you sure?

DAX
Positive. He should have known
me without an introduction.

SISKO
Maybe he didn't recognize you.
After all, there have been several
hosts since Sarek knew --

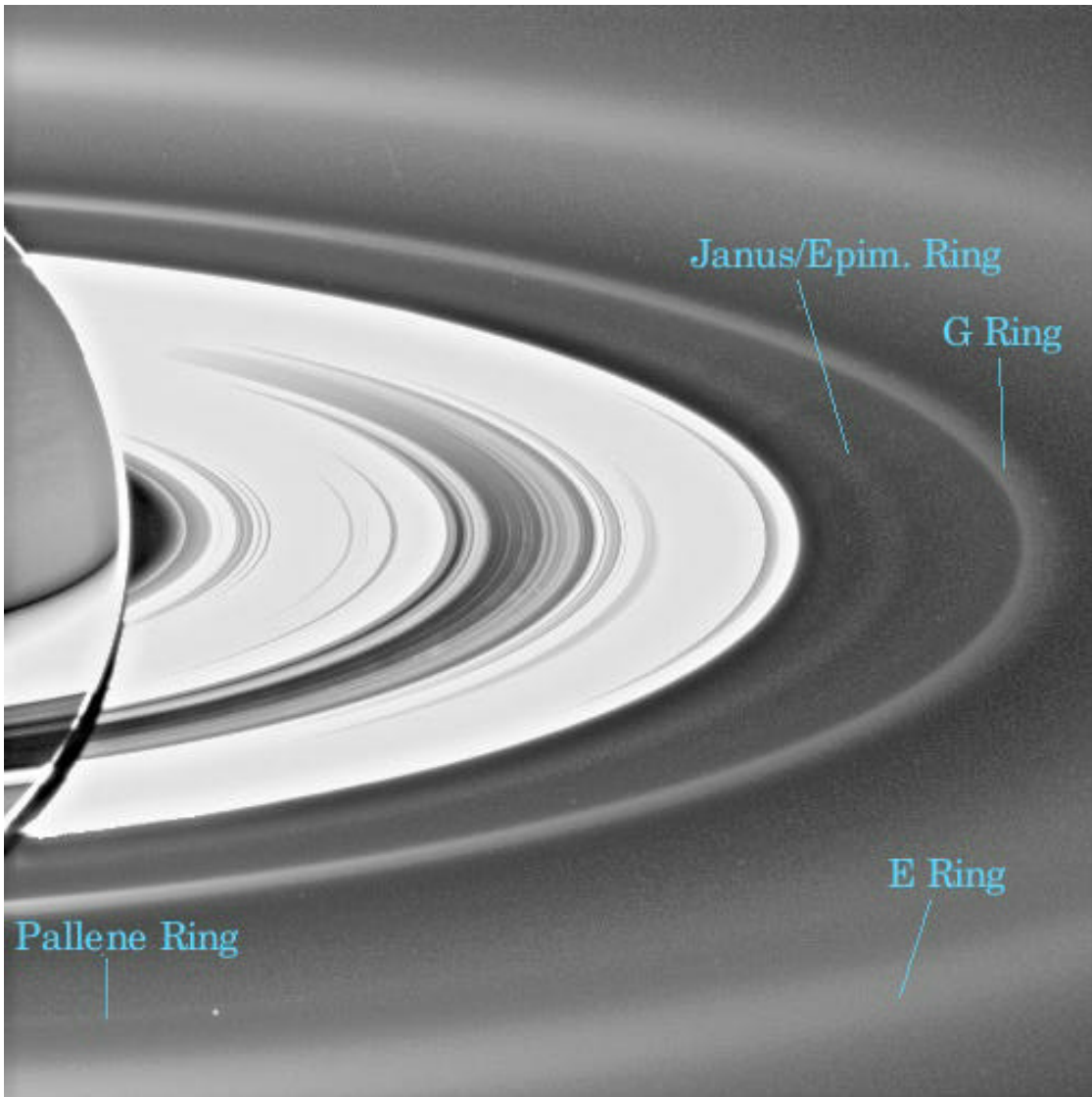
DAX
It doesn't matter. Vulcans can
sense a host. He should have
known who I was .

Sisko is stunned by Dax's revelation.

Off Sisko's reaction.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE



A NASA-annotated
version of the front
cover photo, showing
the two the
newly-discovered rings
around Pellene and
Janus & Epimetheus.

Upcoming Events

Nov 11 4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Fisher Home

Dec 2 4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Fisher Home

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR STARFLEET STATUS

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