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DULUTH -- UMD's new Alworth Planetarium and the Darling Observatory will be open to the public during the remainder of the summer, according to professor Donald J. Jackson, director of both facilities.

The Planetarium program will be presented twice weekly; 4 p.m. Monday and 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. The Observatory program will be offered at 9:15 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday.

Any groups wishing to visit the Observatory on any other nights of the week should make arrangements through the UMD Division of Science and Mathematics.

The Planetarium is situated on the UMD campus and the Observatory is located at 901 West Third Street.

Assistant astronomers David Lindquist and Mark Debe, both of Duluth, will conduct the public showings at both facilities.

Planetarium visitors will view the stars, the five naked-eye planets, the sun, and the moon as they would appear from any point on earth at any time of any day in the past, present and future. The motions that the stars and other objects take during the course of a day or a year also will be shown.

Because seating is limited in the Planetarium, the public will be admitted without charge on a first come, first serve basis, said Jackson.

The Observatory program will include views of the moon, the planets Mars, Venus and Saturn, various nebulae, clusters and other deep sky objects.