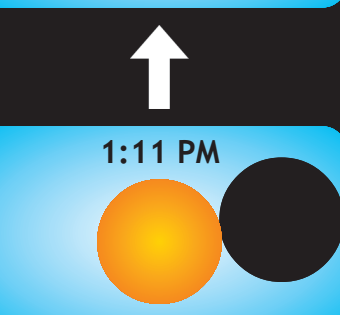
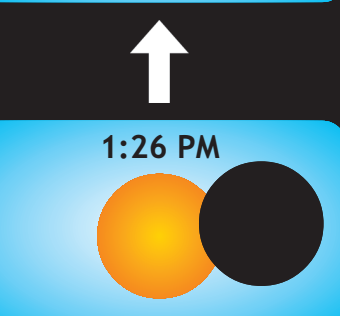
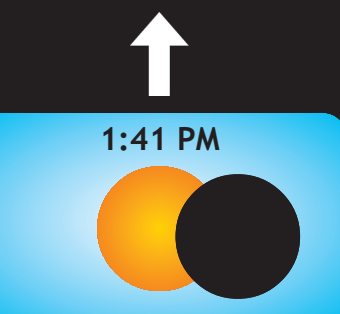
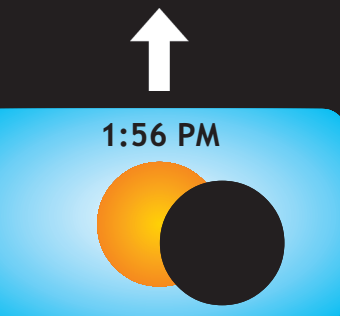
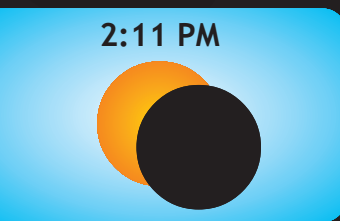
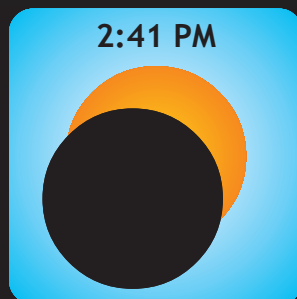
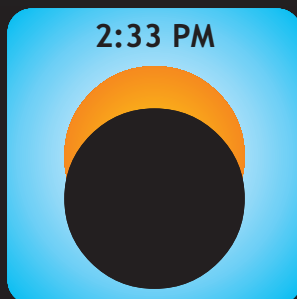
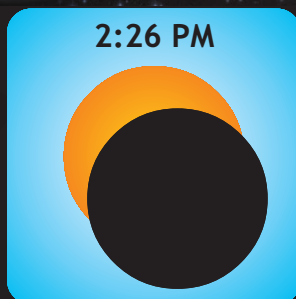


TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

MONDAY,
AUGUST 21, 2017

WHAT WILL OUR VIEW BE?



THE GREAT TOTAL ECLIPSE OF 2017

Time is ticking down till the first total solar eclipse to be seen on the continental US since February 26, 1979. On August 21st, the Moon's shadow will take a path which will enter from the Pacific Ocean and come on shore in central Oregon. The shadow will then move across the country, exiting into the Atlantic Ocean in South Carolina. From the Martz-Kohl Observatory, the closest the path of totality will come is about 500 miles to the SSW. So, if you want complete coverage you need to drive around 9 hours to get in the shadow's path. For those of you who have never seen a total eclipse, all I can say is you are missing one of the greatest experiences you could ever have. I have seen three totals two annular and one hybrid. Each eclipse has its own unique character! I will be giving a talk in the future on the local eclipse circumstances and of solar eclipses past and future.

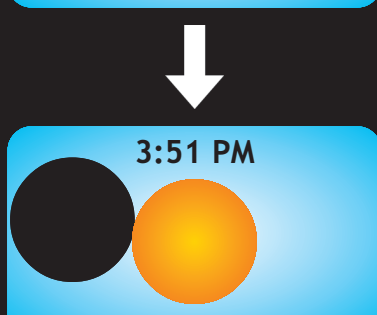
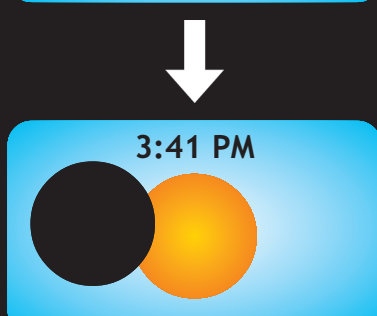
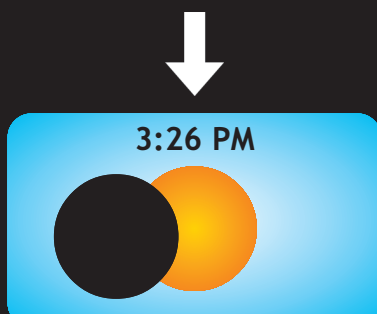
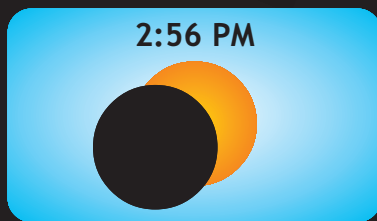
The observatory is planning on being open to the members and public throughout the full event. We will have equipment available to safely look at the sun along with projected images so one can take a picture of the eclipse with their cell phone.

This eclipse is the 22nd of 77 eclipses in Saros cycle #145. The last eclipse from this Saros occurred on

August 11, 1999. That eclipse was seen over Africa and Europe. In this eclipse the moon is 2.923% larger than the Sun as seen from Earth's surface, resulting in a maximum of 2 minutes 40.6 seconds of total coverage of the Sun's visible surface. Based on weather satellite imagery taken over the last 6 years on the day of the eclipse we should expect an average of 60% cloud coverage at the time of maximum eclipse. Three of those years were completely clear of clouds.

The start of the partial phase will begin at 1:11:50 P.M. with the Sun at an altitude of 59.8 degrees above the horizon and just east of due south. Maximum coverage will occur at 2:34:50 PM with the Sun's altitude at 55.6 degrees and azimuth 214.2 (SW). The moon will cover 74.86% of the sun's visible surface. This will not be enough to see lighting effects but the shadows and pinholes will have weird shapes and patterns. The last of the partial phase will occur at 3:53:01 PM with the Sun at 45.0 degrees altitude and azimuth of 239.4 degrees (WSW). Total time the moon covers the sun from the observatory is 2 hours 41 minutes 10 seconds. The wait then begins for something more spectacular!

Credit: Tom Traub, Martz/Kohl Observatory member



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