

Planets between science and pseudoscience

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Abstract

As the aim of the EPSC 2009 is to cover an area of science topics related to planetary science and planetary missions, we are taking into account the science of planets and the impact on larger audiences. The intrusions of horoscopes that can be found daily in almost any newspaper are influencing the public perception on science. It is like a sign of aggression of mass media but they are offering what the audience wants to read, listen and watch. As not any addition is mathematics, dealing with planets is no astronomy. Are we facing a situation with no exit to have all the things sorted out? What should we do for separating science from pseudoscience? In 2009 we are celebrating 40 years of the very first moon landing and there are people who still do not believe that man set foot on the moon. Who are to blame: scientists or journalists? How the situation can be solved as both have to correctly inform people? The astronomical information is in danger and that might have as a result on science itself.