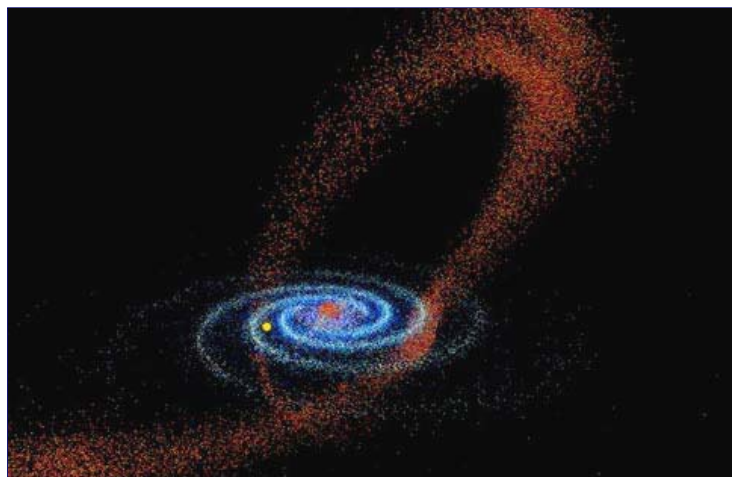


The Milky Way Is Devouring the Alien Sagittarius Dwarf Galaxy

© 2007 by Linda Moulton Howe

“After slow, continuous gnawing by the Milky Way, the Sagittarius Dwarf galaxy has been whittled down to the point that it cannot hold itself together much longer. We are seeing Sagittarius at the very end of its life as an intact system.” - Martin Weinberg, Ph.D., Univ. of Massachusetts



Red denotes the stars of the Sagittarius Dwarf Galaxy being devoured by our much more massive blue Milky Way galaxy, based on models that match the map of 2MASS M-giant stars. Yellow dot denotes the position of our sun and solar system. Sagittarius debris extends from the denser "core" in upper right, wrapping around the Milky Way and descends through our sun's position. Illustration by David Law, Univ. of Virginia.

Earthfiles, news category.

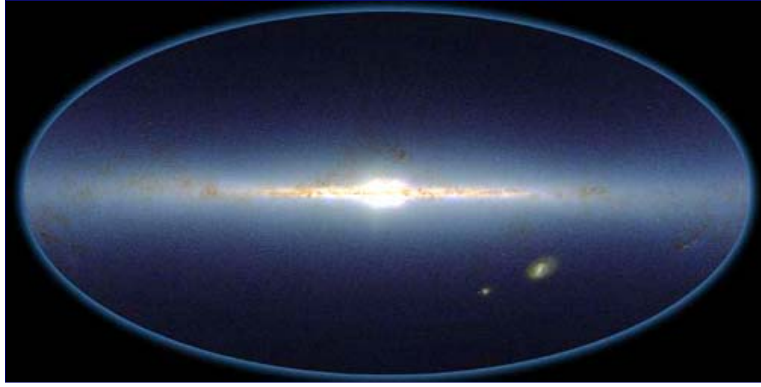
August 3, 2007 Charlottesville, Virginia - More and more people are depending on the internet for their daily news updates. But there is no overall Web Editor to do a reality check on content. So, finding out what is factual is an ever-increasing challenge.

One headline that has been circulating on the web since June 2007 is false, according to astronomers. It states: "Scientists Prove We Are Not From Here!" The author is listed as Dan Eden of Viewzone.com. Mr. Eden begins:

"Imagine the shock of growing up in a loving family with people you call 'Mum' and 'Dad' and then, suddenly, learning that you are actually adopted!

"This same sense of shock came as scientists announced that the Sun, Moon, our planet and its siblings, were not born into the familiar band of stars known as the Milky Way galaxy, but we actually belong to a strange formation with the unfamiliar name of the Sagittarius Dwarf galaxy."

The article references astrophysicists at the University of Virginia who used the Two-Micron All Sky Survey (2MASS) to survey the sky in infrared light.



2MASS view of the entire sky, dominated by our Milky Way.
The faint extension below the Milky Way center is the core of the Sagittarius Dwarf galaxy.
The objects in the lower right quadrant are the Large and Small Magellanic Clouds, which are more intact satellite galaxies of the Milky Way than the Sagittarius Dwarf that is being torn apart and absorbed by the Milky Way. Photo credit: John Carpenter and Robert Hurt, 2MASS.

According to Dan Eden, the University of Virginia astrophysicists confirmed:

“The fact that the Milky Way is seen in the sky at an angle has always puzzled astronomers. If we originated from the Milky Way, we ought to be oriented to the galaxy’s ecliptic, with the planets aligned around our Sun in much the same angle as our Sun aligns with the Milky Way. Instead, the angle suggests that our Sun is influenced by some other system. Now we know what it is. We actually belong to the Sagittarius Dwarf galaxy.”

University of Virginia Astrophysicists Never Said Our Solar System from Sagittarius Dwarf

I called the University of Virginia Astronomy Department and talked with Prof. Steven Majewski, lead author of a paper published in the *Astrophysical Journal* entitled: “New Map of the Milky Way Shows Our Galaxy to Be A Cannibal.” The date of that paper? December 20, **2003** – four years ago!

The *Astrophysical Journal* article was about how the Sagittarius Dwarf galaxy is 10,000 times smaller than the mass of our Milky Way and is being *absorbed* by the Milky Way – a common process in this universe where larger galaxies “eat” smaller ones and grow bigger.

Prof. Majewski and his colleague, Prof. Michael Skrutskie, explained that our solar system and Milky Way only briefly and periodically pass through Sagittarius debris. And one of those times happens to be now. “Remarkably, stars from Sagittarius are now raining down onto our present position in the Milky Way. Stars from an alien galaxy are relatively near us.”

In the *Astrophysical Journal* article, the scientists do not say our solar system is from the Sagittarius Dwarf galaxy. Further, astrophysicists know that our solar system and others have evolved at many different angles to the Milky Way galactic plane.

Bottom line: a 2003 science journal article gets resurrected four years later in 2007 with the sensational claim that our solar system is not really from the Milky Way – while in fact, the original science was about how the Milky Way, that includes our solar system, is big enough to eat other smaller galaxies.

More Information:

For further information about our solar system and the cosmos, please see reports below in **Earthfiles Archive**:

- 07/12/2007 — First Water Confirmed in Extrasolar Planet’s Atmosphere
- 06/20/2007 — Update: What Is the Moving Light in Saturn’s Rings? Answer: Opposition Effect
- 05/15/2007 — Hubble Finds Dark Matter Ring
- 05/08/2007 — Exploded Star 5 Times Brighter Than Any Supernova Seen Before
- 03/30/2007 — Fastest Orbiting Object in Our Solar System is One of Strangest
- 01/07/2007 — Universe’s Mysterious Dark Matter - First 3-D Map
- 12/19/2006 — First Stars - Or First Black Holes - in Universe?
- 12/01/2006 — Deep Impact and Stardust: Are Comets Made of the Same Stuff?
- 11/27/2006 — Namibia Telescopes Find First “Gamma Clock” in Milky Way Galaxy

- 11/09/2006 — Outer Space Sunshade to Cool Earth in Global Warming?
- 10/23/2006 — One, Maybe Two, More Mysterious Radio Bursts from Galactic Center
- 08/19/2006 — Red Rain Cells of Kerala, India - Still No Definite DNA
- 06/15/2006 — "Extraterrestrial Life" in Red Rain of Kerala, India?
- 05/19/2006 — Simple "Binocular" Telescope Finds Another Planet Beyond Solar System
- 04/22/2006 — Cassiopeia A Is Not Dying Peacefully. Is It A Rare Magnetar?
- 03/17/2006 — Planet Earth's Ice Melt
- 12/23/2005 — Hubble Telescope Discovers More Moons and Rings Around Uranus
- 12/16/2005 — MARSIS Radar Looking Below Surface of Mars
- 12/07/2005 — Zeta Reticuli I and II - Binary Home of Extraterrestrial Biological Entities?
- 12/04/2005 — Central Black Hole Affects Massive Perseus Galaxy Cluster
- 11/09/2005 — Dust Storm On Mars, Cosmic First Light and Black Hole At Our Galaxy's Center
- 10/27/2005 — Updated: Five "Satellites" That Merged As One Star
- 09/16/2005 — "Planet X" and the Kuiper Belt's Oddballs, "Santa" and "Easterbunny"
- 08/12/2005 — Deep Impact Spectra: Carbonate, PAHs and Some Amino Precursors in Comet Tempel I
- 07/30/2005 — Astronomers Report 10th Planet Far Beyond Pluto
- 07/10/2005 — First Data from Deep Impact Crash Into Comet Tempel I
- 05/07/2005 — Did Milky Way Gas and Dust Turn Earth Into Icy Snowball Four Times?
- 05/06/2005 — What Are The Straight Lines on Saturn's Titan Moon?
- 03/03/2005 — What Made Five Strong Radio Bursts At the Center of Our Galaxy?
- 02/11/2005 — Story Behind "Inflation-Theory Implications for Extraterrestrial Visitation"
- 10/07/2004 — Exploding Stars: Investigating the 1604 and 1987 Supernovas
- 06/25/2004 — Wild 2, An Amazing Comet
- 03/15/2004 — Most Distant "Icy Planetoid" in Our Solar System Has A Most Baffling Orbit
- 03/03/2004 — Part 1 - Mars: Meridiani Planum Was Once "Drenched With Water and Habitable"
- 02/21/2004 — Update On Mars with Cornell Astronomer Steve Squyers, P.I., Mars Rover Missions
- 10/25/2003 — Science Data Reinforces Invisible "Dark" Matter and Energy Make Up 96% of Our Universe
- 08/26/2003 — Mars At Its Closest August 27, 2003, At 2:51 a.m. PDT / 5:51 a.m. EDT.
- 11/02/2002 — Update on 6,500-Year-Old Astronomical Stone Circle and Megaliths in Nabta, Egypt
- 10/22/2002 — U. S. DOD Satellites Detected Explosion of Siberian Bolide
- 10/07/2002 — Large Kuiper Belt Planetoid Found Beyond Pluto
- 09/07/2002 — Does Gravity Travel the Same Speed as Light?
- 07/11/2002 — Hubble Telescope Photographs Seven Objects Traveling In Pairs Beyond Pluto
- 06/01/2002 — Scientists Surprised by Abundance of Water On Mars
- 02/24/2002 — Mysterious Slowing of Pioneer Spacecraft 7 Billion Miles from Earth
- 01/26/2002 — Something Is Perturbing Comet Orbits in the Oort Cloud Surrounding Our Solar System
- 11/10/2001 — The Orion Constellation and the Pyramids of Giza
- 11/01/2001 — Astronomy News
- 06/16/2001 — Beyond Stonehenge with Astronomer Gerald Hawkins
- 02/12/2001 — NEAR Shoemaker Spacecraft's Historic First Landing On Eros Asteroid
- 12/14/2000 — A Pleiadian Star Tears Apart Black Interstellar Cloud
- 12/03/2000 — Bacteria from Outer Space?
- 10/09/2000 — Astronomy Updates
- 03/11/2000 — Is 433 Eros Asteroid Younger Than Expected?
- 01/17/2000 — Chandra Telescope Helps Solve X-Ray Mystery
- 08/28/1999 — Oddball Quasar and Salt Water Inside Meteorite
- 06/11/1999 — Eta Carinae - A Puzzling Star On Its Way To Hypernova
- 02/01/1999 — Astronomy Updates with Brian Marsden and John Huchra, Harvard
- 01/10/1999 — Updates: Astronomy and Rufus Baughn, Nevada Test Site

Websites:

Univ. of Virginia/Sagittarius Dwarf: <http://astsun.astro.virginia.edu/~mfs4n/sgr/>

Univ. of Virginia Astronomy: <http://www.astro.virginia.edu/>

2MASS: <http://www.ipac.caltech.edu/2mass/>

Univ. of Michigan: http://www.windows.ucar.edu/tour/link=/the_universe/Milkyway.html&edu=mid

Sagittarius Dwarf Galaxy: <http://seds.org/messier/more/sagdeg.html>

Fate of Sagittarius Dwarf Galaxy: <http://www.astro.wesleyan.edu/~kvj/sgr.html>

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sagittarius_Dwarf_Elliptical_Galaxy

Credits

**Copyright © 1999 - 2010 by Linda Moulton Howe.
All Rights Reserved.
www.earthfiles.com
earthfiles@earthfiles.com**

Republication and dissemination of the contents of this screen or any part of this website are expressly prohibited without prior Earthfiles.com written consent.

[Refund Policy](#)

Copyright © 1999 - 2010, [Earthfiles.com](#) / [DigitalEyeCandy.ca](#)
All rights reserved.