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NGC 4603. A late Hubble-type (Sc) galaxy in the Centaurus cluster of galaxies. The bright, blue spiral arms outline the sites where star formation has been triggered recently in the disk of this galaxy. The bright nuclear bulge is an aggregate of stars believed to have formed more than 10 billion years in the past during the earliest evolutionary stages in the development of NGC 4603. See page 571 [Photograph was derived from images taken at the 4-meter telescope of the Cerro Tololo Interamerican Observatory and processed at the Kitt Peak National Observatory; © Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc., The Cerro Tololo Interamerican Observatory]
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