

The Astronomer

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MONTHLY

Please reply to: Editor.

Comet Wilson (19861)

After several earlier negative reports, this comet is now under regular observation by visual observers and precise positions have been obtained by A. Young and B. Manning.

Extended ephemeris:

Aug 28	21 ^h 37 ^m .90+21°37'.27(1950)	Earth 2.524	Sun 3.412	Elong 146.4	m1 10.8
Sept 2	21 27.17+20 20.69	2.475	3.359	145.9	10.7
7	21 16.46+18 54.21	2.436	3.306	143.9	10.6
12	21 05.96+17 19.12	2.410	3.253	140.5	10.5
17	20 55.86+15 37.10	2.395	3.200	136.1	10.4
22	20 46.29+13 50.06	2.390	3.146	131.0	10.3
27	20 37.38+12 00.00	2.396	3.093	125.4	10.3

Nova Cygni 1986

The object reported in EWC 83 and discovered by Wakuda has been confirmed as a nova. From observations so far received, the nova has faded very slowly to around mag 10 by late August from a maximum of around 9.0:.

As several observers have not yet noted the new arrangements whereby charts are now issued under section (7) for novae, after the preliminary announcement in Early Warning Circulars, I am on this occasion issuing a preliminary chart in section (1) but please confirm whether you wish to add section (7) for future nova charts.

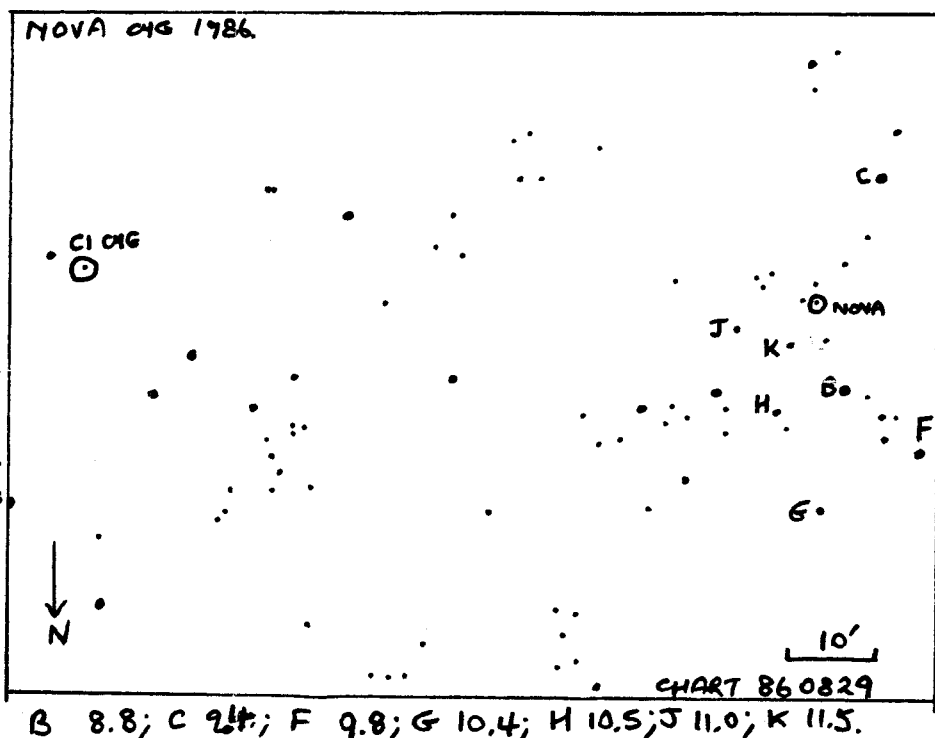
The chart opposite shows the nova and CI Cygni and is based on photography by Brian Manning.

The sequence is based on visual transfer estimates by Hurst and Taylor from the CI Cygni (BAAVSS) sequence. These values are approximate only but should serve to make estimates of the early decline of the nova. Please send in to the Editor the full estimate e.g. B(1)v(1)F etc plus the reduced magnitude and also quote the chart reference of TA 860829. This will permit re-reduction later if comparison stars are revised. Daily estimates are required whenever conditions permit.

Further sequence and other information will appear in section 7 shortly.

Possible supernova in NGC 891

Vangorkom et al have reported a possible supernova detected in the near-infrared located in the galaxy, NGC 891 at RA 2^h19^m22^s.6 DEC +42°06'19"(1950). No visual reports have been received via the IAU link or from UK Nova/Supernova Patrol members. Please check this galaxy for any new stellar object.



Guy M Hurst.