

INFORMATION:
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The Astronomer

Founded 1964

1978 DA (Object Schuster)

Marsden telexes the following data of another fast moving object discovered by Schuster. T=1978 Apr. 6.033; w= $32^{\circ}41'$; $\Omega=169^{\circ}86'$; i= $15^{\circ}62'$; q=1.0247AU; e=0.5854.

The following ephemeris is by Birtwhistle:

Mar. 5	12 ^h 04. ^m 6	-11 ^o 14'	Mag 13.6	Mar. 12	13 ^h 32. ^m 7	+01 ^o 40'	Mag
6	12 14.8	-09 53		13	13 48.4	+04 05	13.2
7	12 25.7	-08 22	13.4	14	14 04.6	+06 33	
8	12 37.5	-06 41		15	14 21.3	+09 03	13.3
9	12 50.0	-04 50	13.3	16	14 38.2	+11 30	
10	13 03.5	-02 49					
11	13 17.7	-00 39	13.2				

Both this object and the 1978CA present an excellent opportunity for photography and visual work. Light estimates, (comp. star data is not essential) against labelled stars in a drawing of the field, should be made at 15 minute intervals for as long as possible. Times and estimates together with drawings should be submitted to the Editor for analysis into positional data and possible light variation due to rotation.

AX PERSEI

J Bortle, Brooks Observatory, and S'Connor, Montreal, Quebec, have independently reported that this Z And variable is having an outburst. Bortle reports the star as bright as mag 9.2 on Jan 17 whereas AAVSO observations show the magnitude to have varied only between 11.4 and 12.9 since 1969. Observations are urgently required together with any photographs taken early January and the following chart should assist observers:

