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OBSERVATIONS OF AB COMAE

At the Maria Mitchell Observatory about 50 plates on a region in Coma Berenices have been obtained since 1964. The star AB Com was rediscovered and examined relative to nearby arbitrarily selected comparison stars by Janice White. The star had originally been discovered by Hoffmeister (S8491, 15^m - 17^m, A.N., 288, 49, 1964) who suspected it of being a U Gem star, or possibly an RW Aur type. Miss White's observations indicate maxima on JD 2438886 and 39256. The star was not seen at a plate limit of about 16^m on JD 38552, 40002-3, and 40348-382. These observations, combined with the published date of Hoffmeister's maximum, JD 38501, and its intermediate brightness on the Lick Atlas chart on JD 35163 would not be inconsistent with a Mira type period of 360 days. Further observations are needed.

This note stems from part of the work carried out by students at the Maria Mitchell Observatory under a grant from the U.S. National Science Foundation.

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BD +18°4586

This star is lettered K in the sequence for HR (Nova) Delphini issued by the British Astronomical Association. The B.A.A. magnitude is given as 8.30; the B.D. magnitude is 8.2; the spectrum is late-type, and the orange colour is noticeable in a small telescope.

Having used the star as a comparison for HR Delphini, I am now convinced that it is itself variable. The range appears to be from 7.8 to 8.3, and the period may be semi-regular (a few weeks?). I would however stress that these results depend entirely upon visual observations with the 12½ in. reflector in my observatory at Selsey, and will certainly need to be confirmed by more accurate methods before the variability of the star can be regarded as established.

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NOTE ON RU CAM

During several months in spring and summer of 1968 the star was of irregular character. The star recovered its periodic light variation in September, 1968 with an amplitude of 0^m1 in V. Later the amplitude decreased to 0^m02 in V, having reached its minimum value in April and May, 1969. Since then the amplitude was increasing and after three cycles it reached the values 0^m3 in V and 0^m4 in B.

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