

# CCD Views

## Special Edition

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### CCD VIEWS

Special Issue: March 7, 2002

1. GK Per - Monitoring Campaign With Multiple Satellites
2. SN 2002ap Update

This is our second special issue of CCD Views. The April issue of CCD Views will be out soon. However, because of the timeliness of the GK Per campaign we are issuing this special issue immediately.

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#### 1. GK PER - MONITORING CAMPAIGN WITH MULTIPLE SATELLITES - FROM JAM

The 1901 nova GK Per, currently in outburst, will be observed with three satellites - NASA's Rossi X-ray Timing Explorer (RXTE), ESA's X-ray Multi-Mirror Telescope (XMM) and NASA's Chandra X-ray satellites in the coming weeks. Astronomers from Lawrence Livermore National Observatory and NASA Goddard Space Flight Center with whom we are collaborating informed us that:

1. RXTE will be observing it every 3.5 to 5.5 days throughout the outburst, which generally lasts two months;
2. XMM will observe it once sometime between March 7 and 11. The exact date is uncertain.
3. Chandra will observe it twice, one in the week of March 25th, the second 2 to 3 weeks later. The exact date is not yet established.

The purpose for these intensive x-ray observations is to find answers to the many questions that were raised from earlier spectroscopic satellite observations. The x-ray observations obtained with the Japanese satellite ASCA during outburst and quiescent of GK Per showed dramatic differences which could not be explained and raised many questions. High resolution spectroscopic observations from satellites such as Chandra are needed to help find the answers.

Please observe GK Per very closely with CCD V filter, several times a night - every night if possible - from now until the end of the outburst so that we can provide excellent optical coverage to be used in the correlations of the x-ray data.

For more information on GK Per please see AAVSO [Alert Notice 293 and 294](#), and [News Flash 890 and 924](#).

A brand new AAVSO F-scale chart with .001 CCD and B-V values has been posted at this URL:

[http://www.aavso.org/charts/catalog/PER/GK\\_PER/](http://www.aavso.org/charts/catalog/PER/GK_PER/)

Good observing!

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## 2. SN 2002ap UPDATE

The light curve of SN 2002ap is starting to look *very* good. Recent observations by Lew Cook (COO), Chuck Pullen (PCH), Bruce Gary (GBL), Robert James (JM), Chris Jones (JCN), John Barentine (BVJ), Stephen Brewster (SBS), Dan Kaiser (KDA), and James Williams (WJL) have produced a beautiful light curve. We have updated the SN 2002ap light curve at this URL so you can see it:

<http://www.aavso.org/ccdviews/sn2002ap.shtml>

Please keep observing this as long as possible. Professional observatories will begin losing the ability to observe it now so this is the chance to fill in the gaps of their data. Remember this supernova is our test case, we want to push our observing skills to the limit and get the best data possible.

For an interesting look at the spectra, visit this URL for an animated spectra of SN 2002ap from Dunlop Observatory:

<http://umi.astro.utoronto.ca/~detector/sn2002ap.gif>

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CCD Views is published bimonthly and when circumstances warrant via e-mail. An archive is available at <http://www.aavso.org/ccdviews/> . Please send comments and suggestions to [aaronp@aavso.org](mailto:aaronp@aavso.org).

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Good observing!

Aaron Price, AAVSO Technical Assistant (PAH)  
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