

Date: 2006 November 14

Time: ~17.30 -> 23.30

Location: Linköping, Sweden

Temperature: 5°C.

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Observation report #18

I had high expectations for this night, as it was supposed to be good weather all night without any disturbing moon! I would of course have to go to work the day after, so I had no possibility to be up all night. I would try the “new” autostar envisage update 4, and just take sub-exposures without actually stacking them in real-time, but I wanted to do that offline later on.

After a couple of minutes I noticed that it was blowing. It was not little, but the wind was blowing big time! A quick look at Internet showed that it was blowing almost 10 meters/sec. It was very disappointing but I've decided to get a try on photography any way. As it turned out it was almost impossible to take any longer exposures than a couple of seconds, but at some certain (very short) points it did not blow. So I did take 15 and 21 sec subexposures and just took out all the best. The results for this night became M1, M42, M103 and NGC891. **All** of these targets were the first time I visited with a CCD-camera, so I was very curious of how easy or hard it really was to capture them. M1 was too low in the horizon at that time, so it did not turn out too well. M42 was very funny to image as it immediately was visible in the live-view of the camera. NGC891 was not visible in the eyepiece, nor visible in the live-view. When I took a 15 sec preview-exposure it popped out on the screen! Had no idea it was this hard to capture this very nice looking galaxy! M103 was just above my head, and was therefore perfect for imaging.

Even despite I had not the perfect conditions for imaging, I'm very pleased with the results. What's most important is that I now feel that I'm getting somewhere, and that I'm finally starting to get results that are not just small smudges of light. I just hope my girlfriend doesn't get mad at me being out with the telescope instead of being with her at night... ☺



M42

Captured with a DSI and a Meade LXD-75 6" newt. 5 minutes exposure consisting of 21 sec subs.



NGC891

Captured with a DSI and a Meade LXD-75 6" newt. 25 minutes exposure consisting of 21 sec subs.