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SUPERNOVA 2004gy

Further to *IAUC* 8454, R. Quimby, C. Gerardy, P. Hoeflich, and J. C. Wheeler report the discovery of an apparent supernova in unfiltered CCD images taken on 2004 Dec. 28.45 (at mag ~ 17.0) and 31.38 UT (mag ~ 17.1). SN 2004gy is located at $\alpha = 13^{h}03^{m}58^{s}.42$, $\delta = +26^{\circ}14'03''.7$ (equinox 2000.0; note that α was given incorrectly on *CBET* 104), which is $5''.4$ west of the apparent host galaxy. ROTSE-IIIb images taken on Dec. 20.46 (limiting mag ~ 18.0) showed nothing at this position.

SUPERNOVA 2004gz IN MCG +10-23-45

Further to *IAUC* 8459, T. Puckett and L. Cox report the discovery of an apparent supernova (mag 16.4) on an unfiltered CCD frame taken with the 0.35-m automated supernova patrol telescope on 2004 Dec. 28.43 UT; the new object was confirmed at mag 16.5 on frames taken by M. Rice and L. Rice (Mayhill, NM, 0.35-m reflector) on 2005 Jan. 8.47 and at mag 16.3 on a CCD image taken by O. Trondal (Oslo, Norway, 0.25-m reflector) on Jan. 9.2. SN 2004gz is located at $\alpha = 16^{h}13^{m}45^{s}.71$, $\delta = +61^{\circ}01'25''.9$ (equinox 2000.0), which is $1''.2$ east and $2''.5$ north of the center of MCG +10-23-45. The object is not present on images taken by Puckett on 2004 Aug. 19, Sept. 6, or 23 (limiting mag ~ 20.0).

V1118 ORIONIS

P. Williams, Heathcote, N.S.W., reports that this eruptive variable (cf. *IAUC* 4676, 4966), usually near mag 18, appears to be undergoing an outburst and is near maximum brightness for the first time since 1997, as indicated by his visual magnitude estimates: 2004 Nov. 14.493 UT, [13.5; Dec. 18.497, [13.5; 2005 Jan. 5.509, 14.0; 5.518, 14.0. CCD images obtained by C. Bembrick (Mt. Tarana, N.S.W.; mag $V = 14.0$) on Jan. 6.5 and by S. Lee (Coonabarabran, N.S.W.) on Jan. 6.6 confirm the current bright state.

COMET C/2004 Q2 (MACHHOLZ)

Total-magnitude and coma-diameter estimates: 2004 Dec. 4.28 UT, 5.3, $16'$ (C. S. Morris, Fillmore, CA, 10×50 binoculars); 9.25, 4.7, – (S. J. O'Meara, Volcano, HI, naked eye); 18.33, 4.3, $18'$ (Morris; $5^{\circ}.5$ tail in p.a. 28° and $0^{\circ}.5$ fan in p.a. 260°); 25.63, 3.9, $16'$ (S. Yoshida, Kanagawa, Japan, 7-mm refractor); 30.86, 3.7, $30'$ (T. Karhula, Virsbo, Sweden, naked eye); 2005 Jan. 6.81, 3.5, $22'$ (M. Meyer, Kelkheim, Germany, naked eye).

2005 January 10 *Daniel W. E. Green*