Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams
INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION
Mailstop 18, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, MA 02138, U.S.A.
IAUSUBS@CFA.HARVARD.EDU or FAX 617-495-7231 (subscriptions)
CBAT@CFA.HARVARD.EDU (science)
URL `http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/iau/cbat.html` ISSN 0081-0304
Phone 617-495-7440/7244/7444 (for emergency use only)

SUPERNOVAE 2005ab AND 2005ad

Further to *IAUC* 8478, S. Nakano reports the discovry by K. Itagaki of an apparent supernova (red mag 17.4) on numerous unfiltered CCD frames taken around Feb. 6.402 UT; Itagaki reports the new object at mag 16.6 on a CCD image taken on Feb. 7.434. SN 2005ad is located at $\alpha = 2^h28^m29^s.45$, $\delta = -1^\circ08'20''.0$ (equinox 2000.0), which is 23″ east and 45″ north of the center of NGC 941. Nothing is visible at this location on CCD frames taken by Itagaki on Jan. 8 (limiting mag 19) and on 2003 Sept. 28 and earlier (limiting mag 19.5); it is also absent from an unspecified Digitized Sky Survey image.

Further to *IAUC* 8478, Nakano reports that Itagaki found SN 2005ab at mag 16.8 on a CCD image taken on Feb. 6.644 UT.

SUPERNOVA 2005W IN NGC 691

N. Elias-Rosa, H. Navasardyan, A. Harutunyan, S. Benetti, and M. Turatto, Osservatorio Astronomico di Padova; A. Pastorello, Max-Planck-Institut; and F. Patat, European Southern Observatory, on behalf of the European RTN (*IAUC* 7987), report that a spectrogram of SN 2005W (cf. *IAUC* 8475), obtained on Feb. 2.7 UT with the Asiago 1.8-m telescope (+ AFOSC; range 355–780 nm, resolution 2.4 nm), shows it to be a type-Ia supernova about a week before maximum. The spectrum closely resembles that of SN 2002bo (Benetti *et al.* 2004, *MNRAS* **348**, 261) at comparable phase. The expansion velocity deduced from the Si II 635.5-nm minimum is $\sim$ 11600 km/s (adopting the NED recession velocity of 2665 km/s for NGC 691).

COMET C/1995 O1 (HALE-BOPP)

A. Rivkin and R. Binzel, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, report that images of C/1995 O1 obtained on Jan. 8 with the Magellan Observatory's Clay 6.5-m telescope (+ SDSS g', r', and i' filters) show a tail at least $8''.5$ long (through g' and r' filters) and the following coma magnitudes in a $4''.2$ aperture: $g' = 20.73$, $r' = 20.33$, $i' = 20.06$.

NOVA IN M31

Additional R-band magnitudes by K. Hornoch of the nova announced on *IAUC* 8461: Jan. 11.719 UT, 15.16; 13.905, 15.04; 15.702, 15.27; 16.900, 15.34; 19.827, 15.50; 23.734, 15.80; 27.774, 16.61; 30.712, 17.17.

2005 February 7 *Daniel W. E. Green*