Circular No. 8493

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SUPERNOVA 2005ar

Further to *IAUC* 8492, J. Graham and W. Li report the LOSS discovery of an apparent supernova on unfiltered KAIT images. The new object is located at $\alpha = 11^{h}15^{m}19^{s}.03$, $\delta = -3°46'18''.5$ (equinox 2000.0), which is $4''.6$ east and $5''.6$ north of the center of the apparent host galaxy. Available approximate magnitudes for SN 2005ar: Jan. 20.35 UT, [20.0; Feb. 10.35, [18.5; Mar. 10.37, 17.7; 11.36, 17.6.

M. Modjaz, R. Kirshner, and P. Challis, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics; and T. Matheson, National Optical Astronomy Observatory, report that a spectrum (range 350–740 nm) of SN 2005ar, obtained by J. Foster on Mar. 11.31 UT with the F. L. Whipple Observatory 1.5-m telescope (+ FAST), reveals it to be a type-Ib supernova. The spectrum is very similar to spectra of SN 1998dt (Matheson *et al.* 2001, *A.J.* **121**, 1648), around one week after maximum brightness, and exhibits He I (rest 587.6 nm) in absorption; however, the other He I lines (rest 667.8, 706.5 nm) are weak. Further spectroscopy is encouraged to check and monitor the evolution of the He I lines.

SUPERNOVA 2005as IN NGC 3450

Graham and Li also report the LOSS discovery of another supernova on unfiltered KAIT images. SN 2005as is located at $\alpha = 10^{h}48^{m}03^{s}.52$, $\delta = -20°50'56''.5$ (equinox 2000.0), which is only $0''.8$ north of the center of NGC 3450. Approximate magnitudes for the new object: 2004 Dec. 17.35 UT, [19.5; 2005 Jan. 14.34, [18.0; 21.35, 17.1; Feb. 2.36, 15.9; Mar. 7.31, 17.2. A. V. Filippenko and R. J. Foley, University of California, Berkeley, report that inspection of CCD spectra (range 320–930 nm), obtained on Mar. 11 with the Keck I 10-m telescope (+ LRIS), shows that this supernova is of type Ia, perhaps six weeks past maximum brightness (but severe contamination by host-galaxy light makes this estimate uncertain).

SUPERNOVA 2005aj IN UGC 2411

Filippenko and Foley add that inspection of CCD spectra, obtained as above, shows that SN 2005aj (cf. *IAUC* 8488) is of type Ic. The O I 777.4-nm and Ca II near-infrared triplet absorption troughs are very strong. Prominent Na I D absorption produced by Galactic gas (0.17-nm equivalent width) and host-galaxy gas (0.11-nm equivalent width) are qualitatively consistent with the observed red continuum.

2005 March 12 *Daniel W. E. Green*