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NOVA SAGITTARII 2005

Further to *IAUC* 8500, S. Nakano forwards the following precise position from K. Kadota (Ageo, Japan, 0.25-m *f*/5.0 reflector) from an unfiltered CCD image taken on Mar. 29.737 UT, with the nova at mag 8.2: $\alpha = 18^{h}16^{m}58^{s}.96$, $\delta = -25^{\circ}56'38''.9$ (equinox 2000.0). Nakano also forwards the following position end figures from an unfiltered image taken by S. Wakuda (Yuto-cho, Hamana-gun, Shizuoka-ken, Japan, 0.25-m *f*/5.0 Schmidt-Cassegrain reflector) on Mar. 29.755, with the nova at mag 7.8: $58^{s}.97$, $39''.1$.

L. Kiss, University of Sydney; and A. Derekas, University of New South Wales, write that an optical spectrum (0.05 nm/pixel; range 580–675 nm), taken with the Australian National University 2.3-m telescope (+ Double-Beam Spectrograph) at Siding Spring Observatory on Mar. 29.81 UT, shows that the new object announced on *IAUC* 8500 is indeed a nova. The prominent Hα emission line shows a strong P-Cyg profile, with the main absorption component at -1300 km/s; there might also be a weak second component at -2100 km/s. The FWZI of the Hα line exceeds 5000 km/s. In addition to Hα, a few broad features are visible between 618 and 640 nm, also with P-Cyg-like profiles. The Na D doublet is saturated, indicating high interstellar reddening.

K. Ayani and Y. Kawabata, Bisei Astronomical Observatory (BAO), report that their low-dispersion spectra (range 453–680 nm; resolution 0.6 nm at Hα) of this new object (*IAUC* 8500), obtained on Mar. 29.8 UT at the BAO 1.01-m telescope, also show it to be a nova, with Hα, Hβ, and Fe II (multiplet 42) lines having P-Cyg profiles. Preliminary analysis of the Hα emission (without decomposition of the absorption component) yields FWHM = 1300 km/s, the minimum of the Hα P-Cyg absorption being blueshifted by 1400 km/s with respect to the emission peak.

SUPERNOVA 2005av IN NGC 6943

M. Salvo and B. Schmidt, Australian National University (ANU); L. Kiss, University of Sydney; and A. Derekas, University of New South Wales, report that a spectrum (range 580–675 nm) of SN 2005av (cf. *IAUC* 8499), taken with the ANU 2.3-m telescope (+ Double-Beam Spectrograph) at Siding Spring Observatory on Mar. 27.76 UT, is similar to that of the type-IIn supernova 2001ir (cf. *IAUC* 7784).

2005 March 29 *Daniel W. E. Green*