Circular No. 8574

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NOVA SCORPII 2005

G. Pojmanski, Warsaw University Astronomical Observatory, reports the ASAS discovery (cf. *IAUC* 8402, 8495) of a possible nova on CCD images obtained with a 180-mm-focal-length (65-mm-aperture) telephoto lens, giving the new object's position as $\alpha = 17^{h}44^{m}22^{s}$, $\delta = -34^{o}16'.5$ (equinox 2000.0 presumed), which is noted as being in an area crowded with nearby stars; V magnitudes for the new object: July 23.287 UT, [14; 25.284, 9.11; 26.296, 8.98; 26.311, 8.98. S. Nakano, Sumoto, Japan, reports the independent discovery of this new object at mag 8.7 by Hideo Nishimura (Kakegawa, Shizuoka-ken, Japan) on two 30-s Kodak T-Max films taken on July 26.565 with a Pentax 6×7 camera (+ 200-mm *f*/4.0 lens), with position end figures given as 22^{s}, $15'59''$ (equinox 2000.0); nothing was visible at this location on Nishimura's survey films taken on July 20 (limiting mag 11). Nakano also forwards the following precise position from four unfiltered 20-s CCD frames taken by N. Hashimoto and T. Urata, Bisei Spaceguard Center, around July 26.596 using the 0.50-m *f*/2.0 reflector: $\alpha = 17^{h}44^{m}21^{s}.59$, $\delta = -34^{o}16'35''.7$ (magnitude 8.6). Nothing is visible at this location on Digitized Sky Survey images (no limiting magnitude provided); the nearest USNO-A2.0 star (red mag 17.4) has position end figures $21^{s}.987$, $35''.85$.

VARIABLE STARS NEAR GALAXIES

Further to *IAUC* 8570, M. Baek and W. Li report the LOSS discovery of a variable star on unfiltered KAIT images taken on July 22.35 (at mag 15.6), 23.35 (mag 15.6), and 24.40 UT (mag 15.7). The variable star is located at $\alpha = 21^{h}43^{m}32^{s}.94$, $\delta = +46^{o}12'22''.2$ (equinox 2000.0), which is $48''.8$ east and $108''.9$ south of the nucleus of UGC 11800. A KAIT image taken on July 16.36 showed nothing at this position (limiting mag $\sim$ 19.0).

E. Lee and W. Li also report the LOSS discovery of a variable star located $111''.1$ east and $9''.7$ north of the nucleus of MCG –04-35-5 on unfiltered KAIT images taken on July 25.19 (when the new object was at mag 15.8) and 26.18 UT (mag 15.9). This second variable is located at $\alpha = 14^{h}43^{m}35^{s}.30$, $\delta = -23^{o}26'30''.6$ (equinox 2000.0). A KAIT image taken on 2004 May 24.20 showed nothing at this position (limiting mag $\sim$ 19.0).

COMET 168P/2005 N2 (HERGENROTHER)

This comet (P/2005 N2 = 1998 W2; cf. *IAUC* 8560) has been given the permanent numbering 168P (*MPC* 54523).

2005 July 26 *Daniel W. E. Green*