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SUPERNOVAE 2006ae, 2006af, 2006ag, 2006ah, 2006ai

Several apparent supernovae have been discovered on CCD images (all unfiltered except for the spectroscopic SDSS discoveries): 2006ae and 2006af by M. SubbaRao and the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) collaboration (cf. *IAUC* 8668, *CBET* 400; magnitudes below are estimated r-band values; both objects at center of their host galaxies); 2006ag and 2006ah on Palomar NEAT survey images via the "Nearby Supernova Factory" collaboration (details on *CBET* 402); and 2006ai by P. Luckas, O. Trondal, and M. Schwartz (cf. *IAUC* 8668). SNe 2006ae, 2006af, and 2006ah all appear to be type-Ia supernovae within a weak of maximum light upon discovery, while 2006ag is a type-IIn event. Additional approximate magnitudes of 2006ai in ESO 5-G9: 2005 Dec. 16.79 UT, [18.5; 2006 Feb. 19.52, 16.0.

SN	2006 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.	*Offset*
2006ae	Feb. 2.51	$14^h48^m23^s.27$	$+21°47'51''.5$	20.7	—
2006af	Feb. 4.38	10 33 57.18	+20 20 25.7	19.5	—
2006ag	Feb. 9.4	12 00 17.12	+28 36 22.0	17.9	—
2006ah	Feb. 9.6	13 46 13.71	− 9 07 50.6	18.6	—
2006ai	Feb. 17.54	7 29 52.16	−84 02 20.5	16.2	$2''.5$ W, $1''.8$ S

GRB 060218 = SUPERNOVA 2006aj

A. Soderberg, California Institute of Technology; E. Berger, Observatories of the Carnegie Institution of Washington; and B. Schmidt, Australian National University, report that a spectrogram (range 320–1000 nm) of GRB 060218 (cf. Cusumano *et al.*, *GCN Observation Report Circ.* 4775; $\alpha = 3^h21^m37^s$, $\delta = +16°51'58''$, equinox 2000.0), obtained with Gemini-South telescope (+ GMOS) on Feb. 21.024 UT, shows that underlying a power-law continuum are features consistent with a broad-lined type-Ib/c supernova (designated 2006aj) near maximum light, confirming the findings of Masetti *et al.* (*GCN* 4803). The Gemini-South spectrum also confirms, from several narrow emission lines, the redshift of $z = 0.033$ (Mirabal, who reported $r = 17.6$ on Feb. 19.1438 via *GCN* 4784, and who notes a pre-outburst extended object at the GRB location via *GCN* 4783). Marshall *et al.* provide a precise position of the optical counterpart of GRB 060218 from images obtained with the Swift UltraViolet and Optical Telescope: $\alpha = 3^h21^m39^s.71$, $\delta = +16°52'02''.6$ (estimated 1σ error $\sim 1''.0$; cf. *GCN* 4779). Zheng *et al.* report (on *GCN* 4802) the following R magnitudes for the optical counterpart of GRB 060218: Feb. 18.4522, 17.8; 20.4471, 18.2.

2006 February 21 *Daniel W. E. Green*