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SUPERNOVA 1991ao IN UGC 270

C. Pollas, Observatoire de la Cote d'Azur, reports his discovery, on tech pan films obtained Aug. 16.1 and 17.1 UT, of a supernova of mag about 17.8 at R.A. = 0h25m17s.67, Dec = +32 30'06".5 (1950.0) in the galaxy UGC 270 (R.A. = 0h25m18s.69, Decl. = +32 29'55".5). A nearby star of mag 16 is at R.A. = 0h25m20s.41, Decl. = +32 29'34".3. A. V. Filippenko and T. Matheson, University of California at Berkeley, report that a CCD spectrum (range 390-710 nm, resolution 1 nm) obtained on Aug. 19 UT with the Shane 3-m reflector at Lick Observatory shows that SN 1991ao is of type II, within a few weeks past maximum brightness. The hydrogen Balmer lines are very strong and exhibit P-Cyg profiles. The redshift of the parent galaxy, measured from an H II region in a spiral arm, is about 0.016.

IAUC 5327

SUPERNOVA 1991ap ACTUALLY GSO

Pollas reports his discovery, on the same films mentioned above, of another apparent supernova (mag 19) in a spiral galaxy (mag 15.5) located at R.A. = 0h15m46s.70, Decl. = +31 44'32".0 (1950). The supernova is located at R.A. = 0h15m46s.94, Decl. = +31 43'57".4. Both films reach a limiting magnitude of 21; nothing is visible on the Palomar Observatory Sky Survey prints. A nearby star of mag 17.5 is at R.A. = 0h15m45s.93, Decl. = +31 43'36".4. Subsequently Filippenko obtained a CCD spectrum on Aug 20 with the Shane 3-m reflector at Lick Observatory showing the object is actually a GSO.

IAUC 5327, 5328

PERIODIC COMET FAYE (1991n)

B. Suzuki, Koshigaya High School; H. Kurihara, Kanagawa Industrial High School; H. Watanabe, Tokyo Gakugei University; and J. Watanabe, National Astronomical Observatory of Japan, report CCD observations of this comet, using the 1.88-m reflector of Okayama Astrophysical Observatory (+ IHW CN, C2, and corresponding continuum filters), on Aug. 13, 14, and 15. Each frame clearly shows a dust tail of length about 1' in p.a. 240 to 355 deg, with the brightest part at p.a. 240 to 260 deg.

Total visual magnitude estimates (cf. IAUC 5325): Aug. 17.00UT, 12.7 (B. H. Granslo, Fjellhamar, Norway, 0.20-m reflector); 17.98, 12.1 (J. Jahn, Bodenteich, Germany, 0.20-m reflector); 20.42, 12.5 (A. Hale, Las Cruces, NM, 0.41-m reflector).

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PERIODIC COMET HARTLEY 2 (1991t)

Recent observations received indicate this comet is considerably brighter than predicted on E555 and that it is an easy object in binoculars:

1991 Aug 8.97UT, 9.4 (H. Dahle, Norway, 0.203-m T); 17.04, 8.5 (B. Granslo, Norway, 0.203-m T); 17.11, 8.3 (H. Mikuz, Yugoslavia, 7x50B); 20.07, 8.4 (H. Mikuz, 20x60B)

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