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COMET C/2006 K1 (McNAUGHT)

R. H. McNaught reports his discovery of a comet (discovery observation tabulated below) on CCD images taken with the 0.5-m Uppsala Schmidt telescope in the course of the Siding Spring Survey, noting the object to be diffuse and extended 10" in p.a. 240°. Deeper images taken by McNaught on May 17.8 UT show a strongly condensed coma with a fan tail spanning $\sim 50^{\circ}$. Five stacked 1-min images taken by A. C. Gilmore with the Mt. John 0.6-m f/6.4 reflector on May 18.53–18.56 show a weakly condensed coma $\sim 10''$ in diameter and a short tail suspected to the west-northwest.

2006	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
May 1	7.71978	$22^{^{\mathrm{h}}}\!53^{^{\mathrm{m}}}\!07^{^{\mathrm{s}}}\!.97$	$-60^{\circ}38^{'}18\overset{''}{.1}$	17.6

The available astrometry, the following very preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on MPEC 2006-K13.

COMETS C/2006 B5, C/2006 B6, C/2006 C1-C3, C/2006 D2 (SOHO)

Additional Kreutz sungrazing comets have been found on SOHO website images (cf. IAUC 8694). C/2006 B5 and C/2006 C3 were described by K. Battams as tiny, stellar, and extremely faint. C/2006 B6, which was independently found by Q. Ye, was quite condensed and slightly elongated, reaching mag 4.3 on Jan. 30.638 UT at $\sim 10.8 R_{\odot}$. C/2006 C1 was small and stellar, reaching mag 6.4 on Feb. 8.404 at $12.4 R_{\odot}$. C/2006 C2 was elongated and peaked at mag ~ 5.5 , but good photometry was not possible due to a large data gap. C/2006 D2 was very small and faint in C3 images, and extremely faint and diffuse in C2 images.

Comet	2006 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Inst.	\mathbf{F}	MPEC
C/2006 B5	Jan. 26.821	$20^{^{\rm h}}\!51.^{^{\rm m}}\!6$	$-20^{\circ}08^{'}$	C3	RM	2006 - J50
C/2006 B6	29.821	$21\ 12.8$	$-20\ 29$	C3	$_{\mathrm{KB}}$	2006-J50
C/2006 C1	Feb. 7.988	$21\ 46.5$	$-16\ 41$	C3	RM	2006 - J50
C/2006 C2	9.513	$21\ 58.1$	$-16\ 53$	C3	SF	2006 - J50
C/2006 C3	10.904	$21\ 53.8$	$-15\ 25$	C3	SF	2006 - J51
C/2006 D2	16.571	$22\ 18.6$	-14~08	C3/2	$_{\mathrm{HS}}$	2006-J51