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INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION**

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COMET C/2008 J6 (HILL)

R. E. Hill reports his discovery of a comet with a diffuse coma but a clear nuclear condensation and a fan-shaped tail 1' long in p.a. 210° on four co-added 30-s Catalina Sky Survey exposures obtained in 2"-4" seeing with the 0.68-m Schmidt telescope (discovery observation tabulated below). Following posting on the 'NEOCP' webpage, J. C. Pelle writes that images taken by N. Teamo (0.41-m reflector at Punaauia, French Polynesia) on May 14.6 UT show a diffuse coma of diameter 45" and a bright central condensation. S. Nakano reports that CCD images taken by Y. Ikari (Moriyama, Shiga-ken, Japan, 0.25-m reflector) on May 14.8 show a coma of diameter 15" and a short fan tail in p.a. 240°. E. Guido and G. Sostero write that co-added unfiltered exposures obtained remotely with a 0.25-m reflector near Mayhill, NM, U.S.A., on May 15.4 show a sharp central condensation ~ 8" in diameter, surrounded by a faint, extended coma ~ 25" in diameter (total mag 15.5) and a fan-shaped tail 30" long toward the southwest. J. E. McGaha (Tucson, AZ, U.S.A., 0.36-m reflector) reports that his four stacked 60-s exposures with on May 15.4 show a round coma 14" in diameter with a tail 48" long in p.a. 242°.

2008 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
May 14.46025	22 ^h 43 ^m 56 ^s .00	+10°47'48".4	15.5

The available astrometry, the following preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2008-J78.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} T = 2008 \text{ Apr. } 22.838 \text{ TT} \\ q = 2.05912 \text{ AU} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \omega = 16.385 \\ \Omega = 299.274 \\ i = 45.904 \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} T \\ q \end{array}} \right\} 2000.0$$

COMET C/2007 W1 (BOATTINI)

Additional visual total-magnitude and coma-diameter estimates (cf. *IAUC* 8899, 8931): Apr. 13.82 UT, 8.6, 4'2 (W. Hasubick, Buchloe, Germany, 10-cm refractor); 23.88, 7.6, 15' (J. J. Gonzalez, Leon, Spain, 10×50 binoculars); 30.93, 7.3, 12' (A. Amorim, Florianopolis, Brazil, 10×50 binoculars); May 2.44, 6.9, 18' (S. Rae, Tauranga, New Zealand, 10×50 binoculars); 6.00, 7.0, 25' (M. Goiato, Araçatuba, Brazil, 7×50 binoculars); 8.45, 6.4, – (D. A. J. Seargent, Cowra, NSW, Australia, naked eye); 12.02, 6.5, 15' (Amorim; moonlight); 14.96, 6.2, 23' (Goiato; moonlight).