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INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION**

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COMET C/2008 T1 (BOATTINI)

A. Boattini reports his discovery of another comet on CCD images taken with the Mt. Lemmon 1.5-m reflector (discovery observation tabulated below), the fairly condensed coma being $\sim 10''$ in diameter, with a fan tail $\sim 60''$ long spanning p.a. 245° – 275° (with the brightest tail structure in p.a. 250°). Four stacked 60-s follow-up unfiltered images with the same telescope by R. E. Hill on Oct. 2.4 UT show a coma diameter of $10''$ – $12''$ and a broad, diffuse tail of length $40''$ – $50''$ in p.a. $\sim 300^\circ$. Following posting on the 'NEOCP' webpage, P. Birtwhistle (Great Shefford, Berkshire, England, 0.40-m reflector, Oct. 2.1) finds a diffuse coma of diameter $10''$, extending $15''$ in p.a. 248° (with a possible straight tail extending for $150''$ at the same p.a.). R. Ligustri (Talmassons, Udine, Italy, 0.25-m reflector, Oct. 2.2) reports that seven 300-s co-added exposures show a coma diameter of $\sim 15''$. J. E. McGaha (Tucson, AZ, U.S.A., 0.62-m reflector, Oct. 2.2) writes that a 240-s exposure shows a bright nuclear condensation of diameter $5''$ with a faint coma of diameter $12''$ and a faint tail $150''$ long in p.a. 256° . Images taken by R. Holmes (Charleston, IL, U.S.A., 0.61-m astrograph, Oct. 2.3) and measured by H. Devore show a wide tail $2'01''$ long in p.a. 251° . J. Young (Table Mountain 0.61-m reflector) finds a very small bright coma of diameter $6''$ with a hint of a broad, weak, fan-shaped tail $\sim 16''$ long spanning 225° – 310° . E. Guido, Castellammare di Stabia, Italy, writes that eighty stacked 60-s unfiltered CCD exposures taken remotely by G. Sostero, P. Camilleri, and himself with a 0.25-m reflector near Mayhill, NM, U.S.A., on Oct. 2.4 show a coma $\sim 10''$ in diameter and a broad, fan-shaped tail $\sim 40''$ toward p.a. 244° .

2008	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Oct. 1.34535		$0^{\text{h}}42^{\text{m}}43^{\text{s}}.52$	$+7^{\circ}48'45''.6$	18.0

The available astrometry (including prediscovery Spacewatch astrometry from Sept. 2 and 21), the following elliptical orbital elements by B. G. Marsden, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2008-T30. Marsden notes that the comet made a close approach to Jupiter in Apr. 2003 (minimum distance 0.03 AU).

$$\left. \begin{array}{ll}
 T = 2008 \text{ Feb. } 25.3012 \text{ TT} & \omega = 35.4139 \\
 e = 0.287660 & \Omega = 291.6541 \\
 q = 3.028416 \text{ AU} & i = 2.0806 \\
 a = 4.251365 \text{ AU} & n^\circ = 0.1124376 \quad P = 8.77 \text{ years}
 \end{array} \right\} 2000.0$$