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COMET C/2005 J2 (CATALINA)

An apparently asteroidal object discovered by the Catalina Sky Survey (discovery position below), and placed on the 'NEO Confirmation Page', was reported by J. Young (Table Mountain Observatory, 0.6-m reflector + CCD) on May 13.3 UT as being 3″ across and possibly cometary, although this was far from certain because of extensive cirrus. Marginal-quality 60-second exposures at 1.7 airmasses by E. Beshore (Mount Lemmon Survey, 1.5-m reflector + CCD) on May 14.2 UT showed a possible faint coma 5″–7″ across and a faint tail about 10″ long in p.a. ~ 100°.

2005 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.	*Observer*
May 12.16068	$11^{h}35^{m}53^{s}.42$	$-13°12'58''.1$	18.9	Catalina

The available astrometry, the following preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris are given on *MPEC* 2005-K01.

$$T = 2005\ \text{Mar.}\ 30.743\ \text{TT} \qquad \omega = 198°.905$$
$$\Omega = 33.360 \quad (2000.0)$$
$$q = 4.28168\ \text{AU} \qquad i = 150.790$$

COMET P/2005 JN (SPACEWATCH)

An apparently asteroidal object reported by the Spacewatch program (discovery observation below, cf. *MPS* 133394) has been found to show a coma with diameter 6″ and a 20″ tail in p.a. 145° on *R*-band CCD frames taken by C. W. Hergenrother (Lunar and Planetary Laboratory) with the University of Arizona 1.54-m Kuiper reflector at Catalina on May 12.1 UT.

2005 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
May 3.20314	$13^{h}22^{m}55^{s}.34$	$+2°13'14''.9$	20.4

The most recent astrometry, the following elliptical orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2005-K11.

$$T = 2005\ \text{June}\ 20.7004\ \text{TT} \qquad \omega = 153°.7724$$
$$e = 0.349979 \qquad \Omega = 70.8036 \quad (2000.0)$$
$$q = 2.274666\ \text{AU} \qquad i = 8.8549$$
$$a = 3.499375\ \text{AU} \qquad n° = 0.1505630 \qquad P = 6.55\ \text{years}$$

2005 May 16 *Daniel W. E. Green*