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COMET P/2005 JD$_{108}$ (CATALINA-NEAT)

K. J. Lawrence, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, reports the NEAT discovery of a comet on NEAT images taken on June 28.4 UT, the object showing a fan-shaped tail $\sim 10''$ long in p.a. 270°. Following posting on the "NEO Confirmation Page", J. E. McGaha (Tucson, AZ, 0.62-m *f*/5.1 reflector) reports that his 300-s CCD exposures taken on June 30.33–30.35 show a stellar nucleus with a uniform round coma $7''$ in diameter and a $4''$-long fan-shaped tail in p.a. 215°. J. Young (Table Mountain, 0.6-m reflector) adds that his CCD frames taken on June 30.4 show a small but bright $5''$-diameter coma and a faint, straight $16''$ tail in p.a. 255°. The Minor Planet Center has noted that this object was observed incidentally (as apparently asteroidal) by the Catalina Sky Survey on May 12, by LONEOS on May 13, and by the NEAT survey on June 21 — the first two nights of observations being published with the designation 2005 JD$_{108}$ on *MPS* 132975.

2005 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.	*Observer*
May 12.42963	$21^h10^m23^s.71$	$-12°45'21''.7$	18.9	Catalina
June 28.39944	21 16 54.32	−11 31 20.6	18.4	NEAT

The new astrometry, the following elliptical orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2005-M65.

$$\begin{array}{lll} T = 2005\ \text{Aug.}\ 1.3467\ \text{TT} & \omega = 88°.9493 & \\ e = 0.376713 & \Omega = 224.3811 & \Big\} 2000.0 \\ q = 4.032734\ \text{AU} & i = 3.2761 & \end{array}$$
$$a = 6.470112\ \text{AU} \quad n° = 0.0598875 \quad P = 16.46\ \text{years}$$

THE EDGAR WILSON AWARD 2005

The Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory announces that the 2005 Edgar Wilson Award for the discovery of comets (cf. *IAUC* 6936, 8372) is being divided among the following two individuals: Roy A. Tucker, Tucson, AZ, U.S.A., for C/2004 Q1; and Donald Edward Machholz, Jr., Colfax, CA, U.S.A., for C/2004 Q2.

COMET P/2005 JQ$_5$ (CATALINA)

J. J. Gonzalez, Leon, Spain, reports that he has detected this comet visually at total mag 10.3–10.5 (coma diameter $4'$) on June 25.94 (altitude 11°) and 26.94 UT (altitude 8°) with a 0.20-m reflector.

2005 June 30 *Daniel W. E. Green*