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*COMET C/2005 S2 (SKIFF)*

B. Skiff, Lowell Observatory, reports his discovery of a comet (discovery observation tabulated below) on CCD images taken with the LONEOS 0.59-m Schmidt telescope, the object showing a moderately condensed 6″ coma and a fan-shaped tail extending perhaps 15″ toward the southwest (in the direction of motion). A 5-min exposure taken by Skiff with the Perkins 1.8-m telescope (+ PRISM camera + 'VR' filter) shows the coma diameter as ~ 5″ and the tail extending at least 36″ in p.a. ~ 240°. Following posting on the 'NEO Confirmation Page', J. Young reports that six stacked CCD images taken on Sept. 30.23–30.28 UT with the 0.6-m Cassegrain reflector at Table Mountain show the comet to have a 4″ coma with a 12″ tail in p.a. 260°, and E. J. Christensen reports that four 45-s co-added frames taken with the 1.5-m Catalina reflector on Sept. 30.3 show an 8″ coma and a 20″ tail in p.a. 230°–240°.

| 2005 UT | $\alpha_{2000}$ | $\delta_{2000}$ | Mag. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sept.29.27649 | $0^h55^m25^s.73$ | $+3°48'39''.9$ | 19.1 |

The available astrometry (including Sept. 25 prediscovery Spacewatch observations), the following very indeterminate parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2005-S78.

$$T = 2010\ \text{Feb.}\ 12.081\ \text{TT} \qquad \left.\begin{aligned} \omega &= 306°.165 \\ \Omega &= 201.227 \\ i &= 166.711 \end{aligned}\right\} 2000.0$$
$$q = 3.29967\ \text{AU}$$

*SUPERNOVA 2005ee IN PGC 73054*

M. Modjaz, R. Kirshner, and P. Challis, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, report that a spectrogram (range 340–740 nm) of SN 2005ee (cf. *IAUC* 8603), obtained by N. Martimbeau on Sept. 25.32 UT with the F. L. Whipple Observatory 1.5-m telescope (+ FAST), shows it to be a type-II supernova. The spectrum consists of a flat continuum, a P-Cyg profile of H$\alpha$, and absorption troughs of H$\beta$ and other lines. Adopting the recession velocity of 9730 km/s for the host galaxy, as measured from H$\alpha$ emission of an H II region in the host galaxy, the supernova expansion velocity derived from the minimum of the H$\beta$ line is ~ 11000 km/s.

2005 September 30  *Daniel W. E. Green*