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URL `http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/iau/cbat.html` ISSN 0081-0304
Phone 617-495-7440/7244/7444 (for emergency use only)

S/2005 P 1 AND S/2005 P 2

S. A. Stern, Southwest Research Institute (SwRI); H. A. Weaver, Applied Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University; M. J. Mutchler, Space Telescope Science Institute; A. J. Steffl, W. J. Merline, and J. R. Spencer, SwRI; M. W. Buie, Lowell Observatory; and E. F. Young and L. A. Young, SwRI, report color observations of the newly discovered small satellites of Pluto (cf. *IAUC* 8625, 8676) using the Hubble Space Telescope (+ ACS/HRC) on Mar. 2.75 UT. During these observations, S/2005 P 1 was at an average position of $2''.69$ from the photo-center of Pluto at p.a. 138°, and S/2005 P 2 was $1''.43$ away at p.a. 214°. Using ACS filters F606W and F435W, and adopting for Pluto I (Charon) the value $B-V = +0.710$ (Buie *et al.* 1997, *Icarus* **125**, 233), B–V colors $+0.653 \pm 0.026$ and $+0.654 \pm 0.065$ were found for S/2005 P 1 and S/2005 P 2, respectively. These colors indicate that the observed hemispheres of all three of Pluto's satellites are essentially neutral, with only minor differences among them, as might be expected for bodies having a similar origin and sharing a similar environment. Given that a much redder color of $B-V = +0.91 \pm 0.15$ was reported for S/2005 P 2 (Buie *et al.* 2006, `http://xxx.lanl.gov/abs/astro-ph/?0512491`), additional observations are solicited.

SUPERNOVAE 2006aq, 2006ar, AND 2006as

CBET 423 contains details of a type-Ia supernova (mag ≈ 19.9, calibrated to R) discovered by the "Nearby Supernova Factory" collaboration on NEAT images taken on Feb. 24.5 UT: SN 2006as is located at $\alpha = 13^{h}51^{m}24^{s}.88$, $\delta = -11°15'26''.8$ (equinox 2000.0). They also obtained spectra (range 320–1000 nm) of supernovae 2006aq and 2006ar (cf. *IAUC* 8684) on Mar. 7.6 and 7.5 UT, respectively; 2006aq is a type-II event that appears to have faded rapidly relative to the reported discovery magnitude. Type-Ia supernova 2006ar is before or near maximum.

COMET C/2006 A1 (POJMANSKI)

Visual total-magnitude estimates: Feb. 11.34 UT, 6.2 (L. A. Mansilla, Rosario, Argentina, 7×50 binoculars); 27.32, 5.2 (W. Souza, Mairipora, Brazil, naked eye); Mar. 3.83, 5.1 (K. Yoshimoto, Yamaguchi, Japan, 7×35 binoc.); 8.21, 5.4 (J. J. Gonzalez, Leon, Spain, 7×50 binoc.; 2°.5 tail in p.a. 285°); 9.20, 5.8 (A. Baransky, Pylypovychi, Ukraine, 10×50 binoculars).

2006 March 9 *Daniel W. E. Green*