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INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

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COMET C/2006 P1 (McNAUGHT)

R. H. McNaught reports his discovery of a comet (discovery observation tabulated below) on CCD images obtained with the 0.5-m Uppsala Schmidt telescope in the course of the Siding Spring Survey, noting the object to have a faint 20″-diameter coma in moonlight. Following posting on the 'NEO Confirmation Page', C. Jacques and E. Pimentel report that CCD images obtained at Belo Horizonte, Brazil, with a 0.30-m *f*/3 Schmidt-Cassegrain reflector on Aug. 8.0 UT show a coma diameter of 16″.

2006 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Aug. 7.50872	$16^{h}38^{m}58^{s}.70$	$-18^{\circ}05'46''.3$	17.3

The available astrometry, the following very preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2006-P31.

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
T = 2007 \text{ June } 17.713 \text{ TT} & \omega = 109^{\circ}.726 & \\
 & \Omega = 268.367 & \left.\right\} 2000.0 \\
q = 1.55508 \text{ AU} & i = 143.691 &
\end{array}
$$

COMET C/1998 J5 (SOHO)

Further to *IAUC* 8735, the following Kreutz-sungrazing archival SOHO comet was diffuse, elongated, and very faint.

Comet	1998 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Inst.	F	*MPEC*
C/1998 J5	May 12.227	$3^{h}17^{m}.5$	$+16^{\circ}46'$	C2	HS	2006-L20

COMET P/2006 HR_{30} (SIDING SPRING)

Further to *IAUC* 8735, J. Licandro, Isaac Newton Group and Instituto de Astrofisica de Canarias; and N. Pinilla and M. Pedani, Centro Galileo Galilei, report that comet P/2006 HR_{30} shows no evidence of a coma on *R*-band images obtained on July 26.10 UT with the 3.6-m Telescopio Nazionale Galileo at La Palma; six co-added 60-s images show the comet as point-like (FWHM 1″; ellipticity of 0.06, nearly equal to that of the surrounding stars). D. T. Durig (Sewanee, TN, 0.30-m reflector) writes that images obtained on Aug. 4.20–4.28 show a slight asymmetry or tail ~ 10″ long in p.a. 5°–10°, and P. C. Sherrod (Conway, AR, 0.41-m reflector) notes that the comet showed some nebulosity toward the north on images taken on Aug. 4.4.

2006 August 8 *Daniel W. E. Green*