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

COMET C/2007 Q1 (GARRADD)

G. J. Garradd reports his discovery of a slightly diffuse comet on CCD images taken in poor seeing with the 0.5-m Uppsala Schmidt telescope in the course of the Siding Spring Survey (discovery observation tabulated below). Following posting on the Minor Planet Center's 'NEOCP' webpage, several other CCD astrometrists have commented on the object's cometary appearance. N. Teamo and S. Hönig (0.41-m $f/8$ Ritchey-Chrétien telescope at Punaauia, Tahiti) found a $6''$ diffuse coma and a fan-shapped $20''$-long tail in p.a. $\approx 200^{\circ}$, spanning $\approx 50^{\circ}$ of p.a., on Aug. 22.5. L. Ligustri (Talmassons, Udine, Italy, 0.35-m $f/5$ reflector) writes that fifteen 180-s co-added exposures from Aug. 24.0 show a coma diameter of $\sim 12''$ with an elongation in p.a. 215°. L. Buzzi and F. Luppi (Varese, Italy, 0.60-m $f/4.6$ reflector) note that their images on Aug. 24.05–24.10 show a condensed $10''$ coma with a possible extension $6''$–$8''$ long in p.a. 225°. A. C. Gilmore (Mt. John 1.0-m $f/7.7$ reflector) adds that his images from Aug. 24.5 show a small, slightly condensed spot slightly larger than nearby star images of similar brightness.

2007	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Aug.	21.65039	$1^{h}33^{m}57^{s}.81$	$-17^{\circ}49'48''.2$	19.4

The available astrometry, the following preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2007-Q20.

$$
\begin{array}{llll}
T = 2006 \text{ Dec. } 6.785 \text{ TT} & \omega = 276^{\circ}.821 & \\
 & \Omega = 6.578 & \left.\right\} 2000.0 \\
q = 2.77670 \text{ AU} & i = 79.553 &
\end{array}
$$

V458 VULPECULAE = NOVA VULPECULAE 2007

N. N. Samus, Institute of Astronomy, Russian Academy of Sciences, informs us that this nova (cf. *IAUC* 8861, 8862; *CBETs* 1029, 1038) has been given the designation V458 Vul.

Visual magnitude estimates by C. Labordena, Castelló, Spain: Aug. 12.856 UT, 9.1; 19.853, 8.6; 21.890, 10.1. CCD magnitudes: Aug. 22.483, $R = 9.51 \pm 0.05$ (E. Forné, L'Ampolla, Spain); 22.491, $V = 10.48 \pm 0.07$ (Forné); 23.003, $B = 11.72 \pm 0.06$ (Forné); 23.828, $R = 9.10 \pm 0.16$ (A. Ardanuy, Sabadell, Spain); 23.835, $V = 11.02 \pm 0.09$ (Ardanuy); 23.839, $B = 11.45 \pm 0.11$ (Ardanuy).

2007 August 24 *Daniel W. E. Green*