Circular No. 8876

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INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

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COMET C/2007 T1 (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; the object showed a 2'.0 coma, slightly extended in p.a. 80°, with moderate to strong condensation. Following posting on the Minor Planet Center's 'NEOCP' webpage, numerous other astrometric CCD observers have commented on the object's cometary appearance, including L. Donato and V. Gonano, Remanzacco, Italy (0.45-m *f*/4.4 reflector, Oct. 9.72 UT; thirty co-added 10-s exposures obtained in twilight show a coma nearly 30″ in diameter with a sharp central condensation and a fan tail almost 40″ long toward p.a. 45°); E. Pettarin, G. Lombardi, and L. Bittesini, Farra d'Isonzo, Italy (0.40-m *f*/4.5 reflector, Oct. 9.73; 25″ diffuse coma in a poor sky); F. Hormuth, Heidelberg-Königstuhl (0.70-m reflector, Oct. 9.73–9.74; coma diameter ≈ 20″; stacked *R*-band images totalling 300 s show the coma slightly elongated toward the east); M. Tichý, M. Honková, and J. Tichá, Kleť (0.57-m *f*/5.2 reflector, Oct. 9.76–9.77; coma diameter > 25″); and P. Birtwhistle, Great Shefford, Berkshire, England (0.40-m *f*/6 Schmidt-Cassegrain reflector, Oct. 9.77–9.78; 20″ concentrated coma with a 75″ tail in p.a. 80°).

2007 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Oct. 9.42315	$17^h18^m17^s.19$	$-9°37'17''.5$	12.8

The available astrometry, the following *very* preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2007-T54.

$$T = 2007 \text{ Nov. } 23.742 \text{ TT} \qquad \left.\begin{array}{l}\omega = 284°.051\\ \Omega = 136.922\\ i = 68.327\end{array}\right\}2000.0$$
$$q = 0.30498 \text{ AU}$$

COMET 191P/McNAUGHT

Comet P/2007 N1 = P/2000 P3 (cf. *IAUC* 8855, 8866) has been assigned the permanent number 191P (cf. *MPC* 60617).

P/2007 R5 = 1999 R1 = 2003 R5 (SOHO)

Regarding *IAUC* 8872, lines 16–18, the brightness peak in 2007 actually occurred shortly *before* perihelion.

2007 October 9 *Daniel W. E. Green*