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COMET P/2007 T2 (KOWALSKI)

R. A. Kowalski reports his discovery of a comet on Catalina Sky Survey images taken with the 0.68-m Schmidt telescope (discovery observation tabulated below), the twilight images showing a coma 15″ across. Follow-up 30-s exposures by E. Beshore with the Mt. Lemmon 1.5-m reflector on Oct. 10.5 UT show a bright, elongated nuclear condensation and a tail ≈ 20″ long in p.a. ≈ 300°. After posting on the Minor Planet Center's 'NEOCP' webpage, G. Sostero and E. Guido (Remanzacco, Italy, 0.45-m *f*/4.4 reflector) write that 70 co-added 30-s images from Oct. 10.13–10.16 show a concentrated coma with a diameter of nearly 18″ of total mag ~ 16.3, elongated toward the northwest, with a narrow tail extending nearly 15″ toward p.a. 300°. L. Buzzi (Varese, Italy, 0.60-m *f*/4.6 reflector) reports that, on his images from Oct. 11.2, the object is elongated 10″ in p.a. 310°. D. T. Durig (Sewanee, TN, U.S.A., 0.30-m *f*/3 Schmidt-Cassegrain reflector) notes that twenty stacked 2-min images taken on Oct. 11.4 show a 15″–17″ coma that is asymmetrical in p.a. 310°. J. E. McGaha (Tucson, AZ, U.S.A., 0.62-m *f*/5.1 reflector) adds that his 120-s images from Oct. 11.48 show a 6″ coma that is elongated toward a short 8″ tail in p.a. 305°.

2007 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Oct. 9.50984	$10^{h}05^{m}54^{s}.70$	$+22^{\circ}37'06''.5$	16.9

The available astrometry, the following preliminary elliptical orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2007-T76.

$$\left.\begin{array}{lll} T = 2007\ \text{Sept.}18.999\ \text{TT} & \omega = & 358^{\circ}.436 \\ e = 0.78882 & \Omega = & 4.161 \\ q = 0.69221\ \text{AU} & i = & 9.979 \end{array}\right\}2000.0$$
$$a = 3.27775\ \text{AU} \qquad n^{\circ} = 0.166089 \qquad P = 5.9\ \text{years}$$

V458 VULPECULAE

Visual magnitude estimates (cf. *IAUC* 8863), some forwarded by E. Broens, Mol, Belgium, on behalf of the Werkgroep Veranderlijke Sterren, Vereniging Voor Sterrenkunde: Aug. 26.821 UT, 10.7 (K. Hornoch, Vohancice, Czech Republic); 29.843, 11.0 (P. Cloesen, Beringen, Belgium); Sept. 4.874, 11.2 (F. Van Loo, Genk, Belgium); 12.912, 11.3 (A. Diepvens, Balen, Belgium); 16.835, 11.6 (H. Hautecler, Boutersem, Belgium); 20.784, 12.0 (M. Lehky, Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic); 24.847, 11.8 (E. Muyllaert, Oostende, Belgium).

2007 October 11 *Daniel W. E. Green*