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COMET C/2007 W1 (BOATTINI)

A. Boattini reports the discovery of a comet found on CCD images taken with the Mt. Lemmon Survey's 1.5-m reflector (discovery observation tabulated below), noting that four co-added 30-s exposures show a slightly asymmetric condensation of size $\sim 8'' \times 6''$ with the longer axis in p.a. 290°–300°. Boattini adds that ten co-added 90-s CCD exposures taken by C. Snodgrass with the European Southern Observatory's 3.58-m New Technology Telescope (+ EMMI) on Nov. 23.34–23.36 UT show a coma of size $\sim 6'' \times 7''$ and a very faint tail in p.a. 293° extending $\sim 9''$ from the comet's center. Following posting on the Minor Planet Center's NEOCP webpage, E. Guido and G. Sostero (Castellammare di Stabia, Italy) report that CCD images obtained remotely with a 0.25-m f/3.4 reflector near Mayhill, NM, U.S.A., on Nov. 21.5 shows (via 30 co-added exposures) a coma with diameter $\sim 12''$ that is elongated toward the southeast.

2007 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Nov. 20.48331	$11^h45^m54^s.46$	$+0°18'59''.7$	18.1

The available astrometry, the following preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2007-W63.

$$\begin{array}{llll} T = 2008 \text{ June } 14.300 \text{ TT} & \omega = 310^\circ.982 & \\ & \Omega = 334.585 & \left.\right\} 2000.0 \\ q = 0.72012 \text{ AU} & i = 10.352 & \end{array}$$

V598 PUPPIS

G. Pojmanski, D. Szczygiel, and B. Pilecki, Warsaw University Astronomical Observatory, report the following prediscovery V magnitudes for this nova (cf. *IAUC* 8898) from 3-min CCD exposures obtained with a 70-mm (200-mm-f.l.) f/2.8 telephoto lens in the course of the All Sky Automated Survey (pixel size $14''.8$), indicating that the object erupted in early June and reached $V \sim 4.1$ (when the images were saturated, and aperture photometry often underestimates the true stellar brightness by 0.1-0.5 mag): May 8.059 UT, [14:; 12.996, [14:; June 1.966, [14:; 5.968, 4.08; 17.954, 6.50; Aug. 18.429, 9.28; 22.412, 9.33; 28.396, 9.58; Sept. 1.415, 9.44; 5.408, 9.49; 11.399, 9.56; 19.383, 9.69; 22.390, 9.74; 26.355, 9.77; 30.358, 9.86; Oct. 4.350, 9.93; 8.343, 9.98; 12.329, 10.02; Nov. 4.281, 10.36; 7.329, 10.43; 14.353, 10.45; 18.261, 10.55. The nova also was not visible in an I-band image taken on June 2.978.

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