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COMET C/2009 B2 (LINEAR)

An apparently asteroidal object that was discovered by the LINEAR survey (discovery observation tabulated below) has been found to show cometary appearance by CCD astrometrists elsewhere, following posting on the Minor Planet Center's 'NEOCP' webpage. F. Hormuth (Calar Alto 1.23-m reflector, Jan. 30.2 UT) writes that an unfiltered, stacked, 600-s image shows a coma diameter of $\sim 5''$ and a short, faint tail of length $\sim 10''$ in p.a. $\sim 340^{\rm o}$. J. Young (Table Mountain 0.61-m $f/16$ Cassegrain reflector, Jan. 31.50–31.55) notes a coma of diameter $8''$ with a small bright area slightly southeast of a broad and very short extension spanning p.a. 310°-340°. R. S. McMillan (0.9-m $f/3$ Spacewatch reflector, Jan. 31.5; apparent independent discovery) reports a short $8''$ tail toward the north.

2009	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.	*Observer*
Jan.	29.47388	$14^{\rm h}50^{\rm m}27\overset{\rm s}{.}51$	$-15^{\circ}38'30\overset{''}{.}9$	19.4	LINEAR

The available astrometry, the following preliminary parabolic orbital elements by B. G. Marsden, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2009-B91.

$$\left.\begin{array}{ll} T = \text{2009 Mar. 10.773 TT} & \omega = 193\overset{\circ}{.}959 \\ & \Omega = 18.905 \\ q = \text{2.32776 AU} & i = 156.994 \end{array}\right\} 2000.0$$

COMET P/2008 Y1 (BOATTINI)

Additional astrometry has shown that this comet (cf. *IAUC* 9007) is of short period, the following orbital elements taken from *MPEC* 2009-B62:

$$\left.\begin{array}{ll} T = \text{2009 Feb. 25.1897 TT} & \omega = 162\overset{\circ}{.}4578 \\ e = 0.732532 & \Omega = 259.7532 \\ q = \text{1.270613 AU} & i = 8.8036 \end{array}\right\} 2000.0$$

$$a = \text{4.750529 AU} \qquad n^{\rm o} = 0.0951900 \qquad P = \text{10.35 years}$$

COMET P/2008 Y3 (McNAUGHT)

Additional astrometry has shown that this comet (cf. *IAUC* 9009) is of short period; the following orbital elements were published on *MPC* 64767: Epoch = 2009 Jan. 9.0 TT, T = 2009 Jan. 11.9366 TT, $e = 0.447539$, $q = 4.434228$ AU, $\omega = 238\overset{\circ}{.}2745$, $\Omega = 262\overset{\circ}{.}9356$, $i = 38\overset{\circ}{.}8137$ (equinox 2000.0), $P = 22.74$ years.

