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COMET C/2009 F2 (McNAUGHT)

R. H. McNaught reports his discovery of another comet on CCD images taken with the 0.5-m Uppsala Schmidt telescope at Siding Spring (discovery observation tabulated below), the object appearing well condensed with a 12″ coma and a possible very weak 15″ tail in p.a. 260° (involved with stars). Follow-up observations by McNaught on Mar. 20.49 UT show a 9″ coma and no tail. Following posting on the Minor Planet Center's 'NEOCP' webpage, R. Ligustri (Udine, Italy) reports that seven co-added 180-s CCD exposures (taken remotely with a 0.35-m *f*/7 telescope at Grove Creek Observatory, Trunkey, N.S.W., Australia on Mar. 20.6) show a coma diameter of ~ 18″.

2009 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.	*Observer*
Mar. 19.57501	$10^h57^m44^s.69$	$-43°26'24''.7$	17.7	McNaught

The available astrometry, the following preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2009-F47.

$$T = 2009\ \text{Nov.}\ 20.793\ \text{TT} \qquad \left.\begin{aligned}\omega &= 338°.758\\ \Omega &= 219.860\\ i &= 54.120\end{aligned}\right\}2000.0$$
$$q = 5.18492\ \text{AU}$$

COMETS C/2008 W11, C/2009 W12, C/2008 X5, C/2008 X6 (SOHO)

Further to *IAUC* 9028, additional presumed comets have been found on SOHO website images. C/2008 W11 and C/2008 W12 were slightly diffuse Kreutz sungrazers (peak magnitudes ~ 8 and 8.5, respectively). C/2008 X5 (Meyer group) and C/2008 X6 (Marsden group) were both small and stellar in appearance (mag ~ 7.5).

Comet	2008 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Inst.	F	*MPEC*
C/2008 W11	Nov. 29.921	$16^h24^m.0$	$-23°25'$	C2	EB	2009-C57
C/2008 W12	29.963	16 24.4	−23 23	C2	RM	2009-E60
C/2008 X5	Dec. 7.022	16 56.8	−23 57	C2	RK	2008-Y06
C/2008 X6	7.504	16 53.5	−22 17	C2	RK	2008-Y06

COMET 216P/LINEAR

Further to *IAUCs* 9005, 9010, and 9020, comet P/2009 D1 = P/2001 CV_8 (cf. *IAUC* 9021) has been given the permanent number 216P. (See also *MPC* 65277.)

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