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INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

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COMET C/2005 O2 (CHRISTENSEN)

E. J. Christensen, Lunar and Planetary Laboratory, reports the discovery of a comet (discovery observation below) in the course of the Siding Spring Survey, the new object showing a round coma $\sim 7''$ in diameter with a slight extension in p.a. $\sim 270^\circ$, on images taken with the 0.5-m Uppsala Schmidt telescope.

2005 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
July 31.75168	$3^{\text{h}}34^{\text{m}}52.50^{\text{s}}$	$-11^{\circ}47'14.3''$	18.2

The available astrometry, the following preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2005-P21.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} T = 2005 \text{ Sept.}29.550 \text{ TT} \quad \omega = 268.221 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \Omega = 280.295 \\ q = 3.34281 \text{ AU} \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad i = 148.773 \end{array} \right\} 2000.0$$

SUPERNOVA 2005cz IN NGC 4589

D. C. Leonard, California Institute of Technology, reports that a CCD spectrum (range 340–900 nm) of SN 2005cz (*IAUC* 8569), obtained on July 28 UT with the Keck I 10-m telescope (+ LRISp), shows it to be a type-Ib supernova, ~ 1 –2 weeks after maximum light. Although somewhat contaminated by host-galaxy light, the spectrum is quite similar to SN 1998dt at 8 days past maximum (see Matheson *et al.* 2001, *A.J.* **121**, 1648).

V5116 SAGITTARII

R. W. Russell, D. K. Lynch, and R. J. Rudy, The Aerospace Corporation, report 0.8–2.5- μm spectroscopy of V5116 Sgr on July 15 UT using SpeX at the Infrared Telescope Facility. The nova showed emission lines of H I, He I, C I, N I, Ca II, and O I with FWHM ~ 2200 km/s. P-Cyg profiles were observed on the He I lines at 1.0830 and 2.0581 μm . There was no evidence of thermal emission from dust.

Additional visual magnitude estimates (cf. *IAUC* 8561): July 9.892 UT, 9.4 (A. Kammerer, Malsch, Germany); 12.93, 9.3 (J. Carvajal, Madrid, Spain); 30.91, 10.6 (J. G. de S. Aguiar, Campinas, Brazil).