

**Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams**  
**INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION**

Mailstop 18, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, MA 02138, U.S.A.  
 IAUSUBS@CFA.HARVARD.EDU or FAX 617-495-7231 (subscriptions)  
 CBAT@CFA.HARVARD.EDU (science)  
 URL <http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/iau/cbat.html> ISSN 0081-0304  
 Phone 617-495-7440/7244/7444 (for emergency use only)

*COMET C/2006 T1 (LEVY)*

David H. Levy, Tucson, AZ, reports his visual discovery with his 0.41-m  $f/5$  reflector of a diffuse comet that is close to Saturn in the sky; the discovery position tabulated below is from CCD astrometry obtained with a 0.36-m reflector, while the magnitude is visual. Following posting on the 'NEO Confirmation Page', other observers have confirmed the object as a comet, including K. Sárneczky (Szeged, Hungary, 0.60-m Schmidt telescope), who reports that his CCD frames taken on Oct. 3.13–3.14 UT show a strong central condensation of magnitude 15 and a coma of diameter  $1'$ . P. Birtwhistle (Great Shefford, Berkshire, U.K., 0.40-m  $f/6$  Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope) writes that his CCD images taken on Oct. 3.2 show a circular coma of diameter  $4'.5$  with a concentrated but non-stellar center and a thin, straight tail  $14'$  long in p.a.  $295^\circ$  ( $10''$  wide as it leaves the coma, fanning out to  $2'$  wide as it fades into the sky background). R. Miles (Stourton Caundle, Dorset, U.K., 0.06-m refractor) communicates that his CCD frames taken on Oct. 3.2 show a total  $V$  magnitude of 9.5 in a  $3'$  aperture. E. Guido and G. Sostero (observing remotely with a 0.25-m  $f/3.4$  reflector near Mayhill, NM) write that their CCD images from Oct. 3.48 show a coma diameter of  $3'$  and a tail  $2'$  long toward p.a.  $297^\circ$ . A. Hale, Cloudcroft, NM (0.41-m reflector) reports that his visual observation on Oct. 3.47 yields a coma diameter of  $2'.5$  and total magnitude 9.8. J. E. McGaha (Tucson, AZ, 0.36-m  $f/10$  Schmidt-Cassegrain reflector + CCD) reports that six stacked 60-s frames taken on Oct. 3.5 show a bright, round, inner coma of diameter  $34''$  with an outer coma of diameter  $226''$ , elongated toward a  $30''$ -wide tail that extends  $600''$  in p.a.  $287^\circ$ .

2006 UT	$\alpha_{2000}$	$\delta_{2000}$	Mag.
Oct. 2.50061	$9^{\text{h}}37^{\text{m}}29^{\text{s}}.47$	$+15^\circ52'43''.1$	10.5

The available astrometry, the following preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2006-T21.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l}
 T = 2006 \text{ Oct. } 9.226 \text{ TT} \\
 q = 1.07182 \text{ AU}
 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l}
 \omega = 181.745 \\
 \Omega = 284.416 \\
 i = 19.117
 \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} T \\ q \end{array}} \right\} 2000.0$$