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INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

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COMET P/2007 A1 (LOVAS)

Comet P/1986 W1 (= 1986 XIII = 1986p; cf. *IAUC* 4276) has been accidentally rediscovered on Catalina Sky Survey images taken with the 0.68-m Schmidt telescope on Jan. 9 by R. A. Kowalski, the comet appearing diffuse with a slightly condensed core $\approx 1'$ in diameter, and a more intense core $\approx 20''$ in diameter. Confirming CCD frames in good seeing by E. J. Christensen with the Mt. Lemmon 1.5-m reflector on the same night show a moderately condensed $10''$ coma with a diffuse tail extending $30''$ toward p.a. $\sim 75^\circ$, while his images on Jan. 10 display a moderately condensed $10''$ inner coma surrounded by a faint $30''$ outer coma (the latter being elongated toward p.a. 60°). Following posting on the Minor Planet Center's 'NEOCP' website, additional astrometry below was reported by G. Hug, B. Twarog, and D. Tibbets (Eskridge, KS, 0.7-m reflector; object diffuse) and by J. E. McGaha (Tucson, AZ, 0.30-m reflector). The indicated correction to the prediction by S. Nakano in the *2006 Comet Handbook* (and *NK 946*) is $\Delta T = +18.6$ days.

| 2007 | UT | α_{2000} | δ_{2000} | Mag. | Observer |
|------|----------|---|------------------------|------|-------------|
| Jan. | 9.07080 | 22 ^h 53 ^m 11. ^s 96 | -5°45'10. ⁹ | 16.8 | Kowalski |
| | 9.07407 | 22 53 12.66 | -5 45 07.5 | 16.4 | " |
| | 9.07734 | 22 53 13.28 | -5 45 04.2 | 16.8 | " |
| | 9.08061 | 22 53 13.78 | -5 45 01.2 | 18.3 | " |
| | 9.09382 | 22 53 16.28 | -5 44 45.3 | 17.0 | Christensen |
| | 9.09470 | 22 53 16.42 | -5 44 44.3 | | " |
| | 9.09558 | 22 53 16.60 | -5 44 43.5 | | " |
| | 9.09647 | 22 53 16.74 | -5 44 42.0 | | " |
| | 10.07002 | 22 56 24.14 | -5 25 43.1 | 17.3 | " |
| | 10.07782 | 22 56 25.67 | -5 25 34.3 | | " |
| | 10.08178 | 22 56 26.46 | -5 25 29.2 | | " |
| | 10.10260 | 22 56 30.40 | -5 25 05.4 | 18.6 | Hug |
| | 10.10699 | 22 56 31.20 | -5 25 00.8 | 18.7 | " |
| | 10.11151 | 22 56 32.06 | -5 24 56.5 | 19.1 | " |
| | 10.12584 | 22 56 34.79 | -5 24 37.4 | 18.8 | McGaha |
| | 10.13161 | 22 56 35.92 | -5 24 30.3 | 19.1 | " |
| | 10.13738 | 22 56 37.10 | -5 24 23.9 | 18.8 | " |