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COMET P/2007 E3 (LINEAR)

E. J. Christensen reports his recovery of comet P/1999 J5 (cf. *IAUC* 7201) on images obtained in the course of the Mount Lemmon Survey on Mar. 9 by himself and on Mar. 10 by R. A. Kowalski. The images were not obviously cometary, although they may have been slightly elongated toward p.a. 235° on the first night. On the second night, 30-second integrations in good seeing revealed neither coma nor tail. G. V. Williams, Minor Planet Center, identified further observations in Mt. Lemmon incidental asteroidal astrometry by Kowalski on Apr. 7.

2007	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Mar.	9.37740	11 ^h 18 ^m 40. ^s 14	+19° 55' 38. ²	21.2
	9.38374	11 18 39.96	+19 55 40.8	21.1
	9.39006	11 18 39.74	+19 55 42.6	21.1
	9.39652	11 18 39.49	+19 55 44.2	21.0
	10.31285	11 18 07.57	+20 00 05.7	
	10.33449	11 18 06.78	+20 00 11.9	
	10.34527	11 18 06.39	+20 00 15.3	
Apr.	7.26289	11 03 34.84	+21 26 40.2	22.0
	7.26917	11 03 34.66	+21 26 39.1	21.2
	7.27556	11 03 34.48	+21 26 40.5	20.9
	7.28187	11 03 34.34	+21 26 40.4	20.8

The indicated correction to the prediction on *MPC* 54170 is $\Delta T = -0.8$ day. The following improved orbital elements have been computed by Williams from 72 observations, 1999–2007:

Epoch = 1999 May 22.0 TT

$$\left. \begin{array}{ll} T = 1999 \text{ May } 12.1310 \text{ TT} & \omega = 132.1799 \\ e = 0.169470 & \Omega = 112.0187 \\ q = 3.712711 \text{ AU} & i = 13.7164 \end{array} \right\} 2000.0$$

$$a = 4.470289 \text{ AU} \quad n^\circ = 0.1042799 \quad P = 9.45 \text{ years}$$

Epoch = 2008 Oct. 21.0 TT

$$\left. \begin{array}{ll} T = 2008 \text{ Oct. } 6.3021 \text{ TT} & \omega = 131.9564 \\ e = 0.170548 & \Omega = 112.0027 \\ q = 3.693255 \text{ AU} & i = 13.7323 \end{array} \right\} 2000.0$$

$$a = 4.452644 \text{ AU} \quad n^\circ = 0.1049004 \quad P = 9.40 \text{ years}$$