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V5558 SAGITTARII

R. W. Russell, D. K. Lynch, and R. Pearson, The Aerospace Corporation; M. L. Sitko, University of Cincinnati and Space Science Institute; H. B. Hammel, Space Science Institute; L. Beerman, University of Cincinnati; and W. Golisch, Infrared Telescope Facility (IRTF), NASA, report on observations made of V5558 Sgr (cf. IAUC 8832) using the IRTF (+ BASS) on July 9 UT. The spectrum was smooth and featureless, roughly following a 2000-K blackbody curve, although there were minor departures from a true blackbody. If the object is a classical nova, then the F-type spectrum (expected near peak brightness) is probably significantly reddened. The narrowband [N] magnitude was ≈ 2.0 .

Visual magnitude estimates, most forwarded by E. Waagen, AAVSO: Apr. 21.136 UT, 9.9 (P. Schmeer, Bischmisheim, Germany); 30.090, 9.6 (F. Vohla, Altenburg, Germany); May 5.347, 9.3 (L. Shotter, Uniontown, PA, U.S.A.); 18.504, 9.0 (S. Kerr, Glenlee, Qld., Australia); 24.072, 8.6 (A. Amorim, Florianapoulos, Brazil); June 5.944, 8.5 (A. Kammerer, Malsch, Germany); 11.987, 8.4 (J. Speil, Walbrzych, Poland); 24.122, 8.4 (J. Bortle, Stormville, NY, U.S.A.); 26.861, 8.1 (S. Bolzoni, Busto Arsizio, Italy); 29.396, 7.5 (H. Matsuyama, Kanimbla, Qld., Australia); July 3.093, 7.5 (Bortle); 7.903, 6.7 (T. Scarmato, Calabria, Italy); 11.866, 6.6 (K. Hornoch, Vohancice, Czech Republic).

THE EDGAR WILSON AWARD 2007

The Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory announces that the 2007 Edgar Wilson Award for the discovery of comets (cf. IAUC 6936, 8730) is being divided among the following three individuals for four different comets: John Broughton (Reedy Creek, Qld., Australia) for C/2006 OF₂ (cf. IAUC 8756); David H. Levy (Tucson, AZ, U.S.A.) for P/2006 T1 (cf. IAUC 8757); and Terry Lovejoy (Thornlands, Qld., Australia) for C/2007 E2 (cf. IAUC 8819) and C/2007 K5 (cf. IAUC 8840).

COMET 188P/LINEAR-MUELLER

Comet P/1998 S1 = P/2007 J7 (cf. IAUC 8853) has been assigned the permanent number 188P (cf. MPC 60060).