

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://www.cfa.harvard.edu/iau/cbat.html> ISSN 0081-0304
 Phone 617-495-7440/7244/7444 (for emergency use only)

COMET P/2006 W4 = P/1993 D1 (HILL)

S. Foglia, R. Matson, and M. Tombelli report the identification of “precovery” images of comet P/2006 W4 (cf. *IAUC* 8779), aided by the orbital elements published on *MPEC* 2007-X14 (with indicated $\Delta T = +1.06$ days when run back to 1992), and their astrometric measurements are provided below from the trails on the two U.K. Schmidt Telescope plates.

1993	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}
Feb.	26.53282	9 ^h 44 ^m 59 ^s .08	-34°38'11.0
	26.57795	9 44 57.60	-34 38 01.8
Apr.	5.58208	13 04 38.14	-37 52 27.4
	5.62375	13 04 36.85	-37 52 15.9

The following orbital elements by B. G. Marsden are from 92 observations, 1993–2007 (mean residual 0".6):

Epoch = 1992 June 27.0 TT			
$T = 1992$ June 21.6666 TT	$\omega = 247.5818$	} 2000.0	
$e = 0.314858$	$\Omega = 243.4600$		
$q = 4.416239$ AU	$i = 36.2938$		
$a = 6.445725$ AU	$n^\circ = 0.0602277$		
Epoch = 2009 Jan. 9.0 TT			
$T = 2009$ Jan. 21.0916 TT	$\omega = 249.6184$	} 2000.0	
$e = 0.314866$	$\Omega = 243.2496$		
$q = 4.438583$ AU	$i = 36.3618$		
$a = 6.478413$ AU	$n^\circ = 0.0597725$		

V597 PUPPIS

R. J. Rudy, R. W. Russell, and D. K. Lynch, The Aerospace Corporation; and C. E. Woodward, University of Minnesota, report 0.8- to 2.5- μm spectroscopy of this nova (cf. *IAUC* 8895, 8896) using the Infrared Telescope Facility (+ SpeX) on Nov. 30.54 UT. V597 Pup was in its early stage of development. He I 1.0830- μm was very strong, as was He I 20581- μm . The O I lines were strong, and Br γ showed a doubled line profile. There was no evidence of He II lines or thermal emission from dust. The FWHM of the lines was ≈ 3900 km/s.

Visual magnitude estimates by A. Amorim, Florianopolis, Brazil: Nov. 16.047 UT, 8.1; 20.041, 9.7; 22.078, 9.8; 23.040, 10.0.