PLATE 4. This 10 × 7 degree image of Comet Macholtz passing close to M 45 (the Pleiades) was taken with a 200 mm Canon *f*/2·8 telephoto lens and a SBIG STL-11000 CCD camera from San Esteban in Chile on 2005 Jan 8 by Daniel Verschatse. The comet ion trail is clearly visible along with the much shorter reddish dust tail. The image was kindly supplied by Daniel Verschatse, Observatorio Antilhue, Chile.

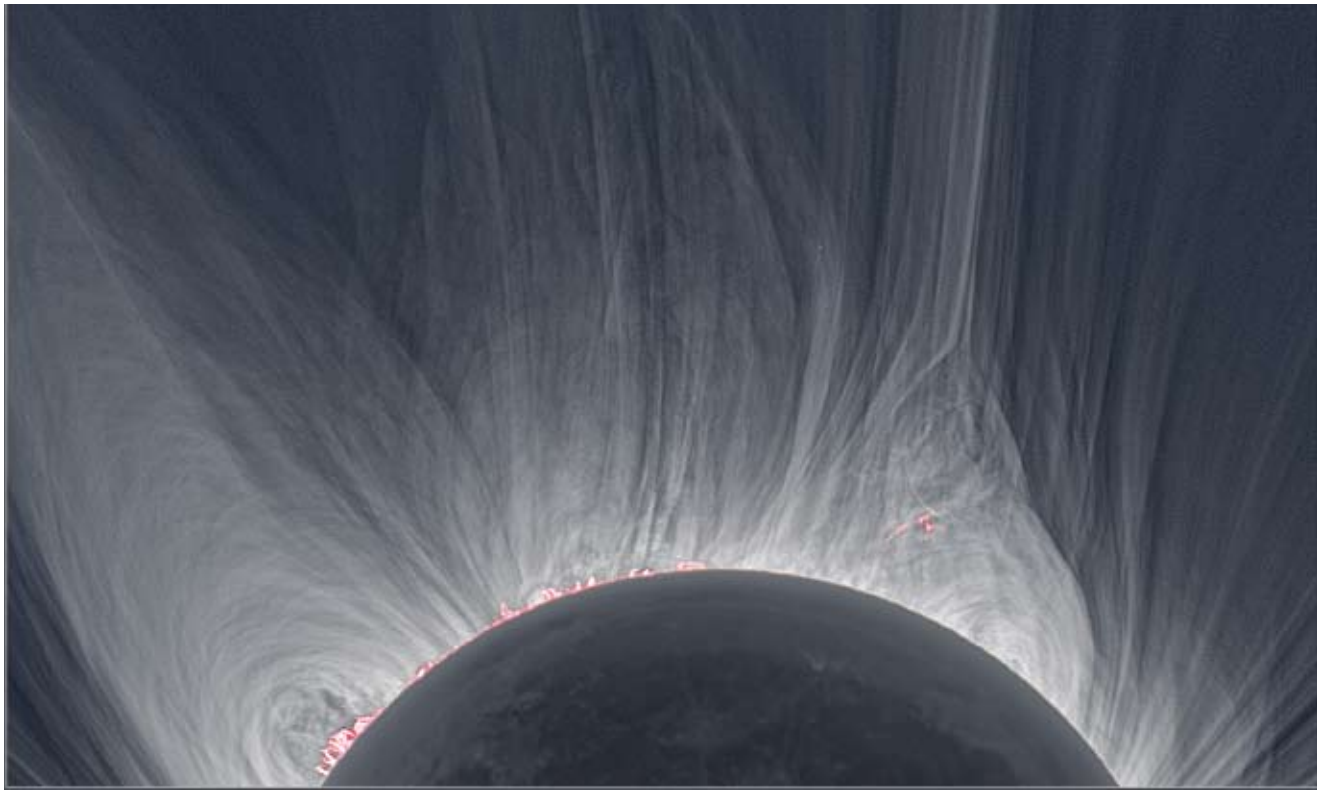

PLATE 1. This extremely-high-resolution image, generously supplied by Miroslav Druckmüller, who recorded it in Mongolia during the solar eclipse of 2008 August 8, shows fascinating details above the Eastern limb of the Sun. The resolution of coronal details is probably on the edge of possibilities of SLR digital cameras. The limiting factors of the image sharpness are not only the optics, focusing, tracking, and vibrations but also movements in solar corona during the total eclipse.

PLATE 2. Recorded by *VISTA* on 2009 December 12, NGC 2024, also known as the Flame Nebula, is an emission nebula in the constellation of Orion energized by ζ Orionis.

PLATE 3. Hanwell Community Observatory's 30-inch telescope was 'opened' on 2009 September 18 (see page 37), and many of those involved in the project are shown on the observing platform. From left to right: David Briley, Jayne Taylor, Christopher Taylor, Andrew Baxter (project engineer), David Rose, Margaret Gunn, Leo Huckvale, Dr. David Randell, Lynda Smith, Terry Pearce (telescope optician), Diane Bailey and Robin Kemp.