

## **News Conference to be held on first-hand account of Halley's Comet missions; Asoka Mendis to speak**

**March 13, 1986**

NEWS CONFERENCE

EVENT: FIRST-HAND ACCOUNT OF HALLEY'S COMET MISSIONS

SPEAKER: UCSD PHYSICS PROFESSOR ASOKA MENDIS, A PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR IN SOVIET AND EUROPEAN COMET PROBES

TIME: 10 A.M.

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1986

LOCATION: ROOM 4882, APPLIED PHYSICS AND MATHEMATICS BUILDING, MUIR CAMPUS

VISUALS: FIRST PHOTOS OF COMET'S NUCLEUS

REMARKS:

Asoka Mendis has had a ring-side seat for this month's long-awaited Halley's Comet flybys of the Vega I-II and Giotto spacecraft. He may have been the only U.S. scientist invited to collaborate with both the Soviets and the Europeans in the interpretation of data and photographs relayed to earth from the spacecraft. Before leaving for Moscow and Darmstadt, West Germany, Mendis said he expected to be able to offer the media a "quick post-mortem" of initial observations of the comet when he returned.

For more information contact: Susan Pollock, 452-3120

(March 13, 1986)