



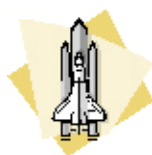
KSC Countdown

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Work on Endeavour preparing vehicle for 2007 launch



◆ **Shuttle Update:** Endeavour remains powered down in Orbiter Processing Facility bay 2

and technicians continue to prepare the vehicle for its first launch following an extensive modification period. Technicians completed the environmental control and life support system functional test.

Work continues on the orbiter boom sensor system manipulator positioning mechanisms. The mechanisms serve as the pedestals that hold the boom in place in the payload bay when it is not in use.

Endeavour is not scheduled for a launch until mid-2007, when it will carry a starboard truss for installation on the International Space Station.

◆ **Mars Rovers Update:** NASA Headquarters will host a news briefing 11 a.m. Friday to present stunning images returned by the rover Opportunity from the Victoria crater on Mars. Plans for the next phases of work for both Opportunity and Spirit, also will be discussed. Panelists will be Doug McCuiston, director of the Mars Exploration Program; Steve Squyres, principal investigator, from Cornell University; and Jim Bell, lead scientist of the rover panoramic camera, from Cornell. Both rovers have been exploring Mars more than 10 times as long as initially planned. The briefing will air live on NASA TV.

NASA to air plans Friday for Mars rovers

■ **Business Opportunities Expo** — More than 175 national and local businesses and government groups are gearing up to showcase their best products and services at the annual "Business Opportunities Expo 2006" on Oct. 17 at Port Canaveral. The trade show will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Cruise Terminal 4.

In its 16th year, the Expo is sponsored by the NASA/Kennedy Space Center Small Business Council, 45th Space Wing and Canaveral Port Authority. Vendors will highlight a variety of product and service areas, such as computer technology, communication equipment and services, and construction and safety products. Admission to the Expo is free. The NASA/KSC Small Business Council consists of United Space Alliance, The Boeing Company and Space Gateway Support. The council works with NASA's Central Industry Assistance Office to provide support to small businesses that want to work with KSC.

For more information, call 867-7353 or visit the Web site at <http://expo.ksc.nasa.gov>.

■ **Massage Therapy** — Appointments are available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday to Friday in room 1023 in the O&C Building. To schedule an appointment, contact Valerie (L.M.T. #19362) at 867-4762 or JaramVS@kscems.ksc.nasa.gov. Massages are \$1 per minute. Gift certificates and discounted packages are also available. If there are any ques-

tions about scheduling, types of massages offered, or any other issues, please call Valerie.



■ **Reminder** — Sea turtle nesting continues through the end of October.

If you live near the beach, be mindful of unnecessary exterior lights.

■ **Did You Know?** Unidentified briefcases, gym bags, equipment bags, backpacks or similar items arouse concerns for explosive devices. To alleviate these concerns, all such items should have an identification tag. Free identification tags may be obtained at the following locations:

- KSC Headquarters Building, VRC Badging Office, Room 1470
- VAB F Gate Badging Station
- PIDS 1 located on Phillips Parkway near the CCAFS South Gate
- PIDS 3 located on NASA Causeway near the U.S. 1 entrance
- SSPF, Room 1473
- USA Security Office at the PCC

Failure to tag your property may result in its confiscation or destruction, as well as causing unnecessary evacuations. Unidentified boxes or containers also arouse concerns. Please dispose of unneeded boxes or containers in authorized waste receptacles and leave the items open so that passersby can see they are harmless. For more information, contact the J-BOSC Security Awareness Office, 861-5146, or e-mail SecurityA@jbosc.ksc.nasa.gov.

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday. Deadlines are 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays.

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Find KSC Countdown on the Internet at <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown-toc.html>