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# Spaceport News

John F. Kennedy Space Center - America's gateway to the universe

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## Shuttle readied from A to B

***By Kate Frakes***
*Spaceport News*

Tropical Storm Hanna may have kept space shuttle Atlantis inside a little longer than anticipated, but once the threat cleared there was no stopping the shuttle from its journey to Launch Pad 39A on Sept. 4.

Before the storm moved in, the shuttle sat stationary inside the Vehicle Assembly Building. After two delays, managers determined that Hanna would not be severe enough to keep Atlantis from being moved to its launch pad or for it to be on the pad as the storm passed off the coast.

Atlantis first moved at 9:19 a.m. EDT, and after a slow trek down the crawlerway, arrived to Launch Pad 39A at 3:52 p.m., with four days of contingency to spare in the case of more unexpected bad weather.


*NASA/ Troy Cryder*

Endeavour is the backup shuttle, if needed for rescue, for space shuttle Atlantis' STS-125 mission to NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. At right, Atlantis arrives at Launch Pad 39A on Sept. 4.

The Brevard County Sherriff's Office joined in on the excitement. K-9 officers from the Bloodhound Unit welcomed the shuttle to the pad. The officers said they wanted to show their support by using Atlantis as the backdrop for their team photo.

"The shuttle program plays a prominent role

See **SHUTTLES** Page 8


*NASA/Kim Shiflett*

## Changeover runs smoothly as handover date nears

***By Linda Herridge***
*Spaceport News*

Change is the order of the day as Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station continue to transition from the Joint Base Operations and Support Contract, or JBOSC, and the Kennedy Integrated Communications Services, or KICS, contract to the new institutional contractors preparing for handover Oct. 1.

Kennedy's contract transition team said these changes will affect all employees at the center, civil servant and contractor alike. A town hall meeting Sept. 10 was broadcast live on NASA TV to introduce the Kennedy community to the new contractors and their management. It also showed employees what's going on and what to expect in the future.

The meeting can be viewed on the Kennedy internal home page. Another town hall meeting is scheduled for Sept. 26, from 9 to 11 a.m., at the OSB II, Room 5109.

"Our JBOSC contractors, SGS and InDyne have done a fantastic job these past ten years," said Kennedy Center Director Bill Parsons during an all hand's meeting with workers Sept. 9. "We appreciate the hard work and cooperation from each of them as we go through this transition."

Contracts recently awarded at Kennedy include the Custodial Services Contract, or CSC, to Brevard Achievement Center of Rockledge, Fla., as well as the Grounds Landscaping Maintenance and Pest Control Services, or GLMPC, to S.C. Jones Services Inc. of Dillwyn, Va.

Wayne Wells, vice president of operations at Brevard Achievement Center, said they have two specific missions to accomplish. They will assist adults with disabilities achieve vocational and social independence and provide NASA and the Kennedy community with excellent custodial support.

"We're excited about the opportunity to combine these two missions into one overall mission at Kennedy," Wells said. "We are working with NASA and the incumbent contractor to make this a smooth transition with minimal impact to the Kennedy community."

Trouble calls for CSC and GLMPC should be called in to the EG&G Duty Office at 861-5050. Special requirements and task orders should be called in to the COTR Darrell Foster at 867-1428 or e-mailed to Darrell.r.foster@nasa.gov.

The Medical and Environmental Support Services, or MESC, contract was awarded to Innovative Health Applications LLC of Cape Canaveral, Fla., a joint venture of InoMedic Inc. and Comprehensive Health Services Inc.

Dr. Charles Smallwood, MESC program manager, said the quality work performed by CHS throughout the JBOSC will continue to be performed in MESC. "IHA looks forward to transitioning Aerospace

See **CHANGEOVER** Page 2

# Biologists use gators to test lagoon's quality

***By Kate Frakes***
*Spaceport News*

Aquatic biologists at Kennedy Space Center found a modern day canary for their environmental research, and it comes in the unlikely form of an alligator.

Biologists recently initiated a study that uses research on the biology of Kennedy's lagoonal alligators to help test the quality of the surrounding environment. By monitoring the health of resident alligators, they also monitor the area for potential problems like water contamination.

Russell Lowers, an aquatic biologist for Dynamac, first started testing the alligators at Kennedy and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in September 2006 with help from Dr. Louis Guillette, a zoology professor at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Lowers explained that barrier island alligators are a sentinel species and their health reflects the environmental conditions of their habitat.

NASA/Jack Pfaller

Russell Lowers, an aquatic biologist for Dynamac, and Dr. Louis Guillette, a zoology professor at the University of Florida in Gainesville, monitor the health of local alligators for potential problems around the Indian River Lagoon.

"Because the alligator is at the top of the food chain, they will show signs of possible health issues in the surrounding environment," Lowers said. "The species here are especially unique because of their exposure to salt and fresh water."

Research focuses on all aspects of the alligator's life cycle, such as nesting success, reproductive health and population structure. Lowers said the nests are collected and incubated under controlled conditions to simulate a perfect development stage for the hatchlings

"Our goal is to find out how successful Kennedy's population is compared to other Florida populations," Lowers said. "A low hatch rate or high number of unfertilized eggs would signal something is wrong."

The researchers also developed techniques to catch and release larger alligators without harming them.

During a 15-minute exam, blood and urine samples are collected and the alligator is measured, tagged and released. These samples are sent to Guillette's laboratory at UF and other labs, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"The samples are tested for different hormone levels, reproductive and stress steroids, metals and various types of contaminants," Guillette said. "We are interested in the health of the entire population."

Preliminary results show interesting trends. Guillette said Kennedy has a relatively high nesting success rate compared to other locations in Florida. However, until all samples are analyzed early next year, no strong conclusions can be made.

From **CHANGEOVER**, Page 1

Medicine, the Agency Occupational Health Program Support Office and the Environmental Programs into the MESC in year two," Smallwood said.

Customers can request support in the same manner that they did in JBOSC. A MESC Web site is under construction. Contact numbers are:

**Occupational Medicine** – OHF Front Desk – 867-3346; physical exam scheduling – 867-3348; Health & Wellness Program – 867-3414; and Employee Assistance Program – 861-8647.

**Environmental Health** – Industrial Hygiene – 867-2400/2487; Public Health – 867-3653; and Health Physics Support – 853-5688.

**Environmental Services** – Planning/Sampling – 867-7138; and Waste Management Support – 867-8640.

The Mail Distribution Services Contract was awarded to Government Contracting Resources Inc. of Viera, Fla., with subcontractor Creative Management Technology Inc. of Cape Canaveral, Fla. Contract Manager Al Nelson can be reached at 867-2436 for questions.

Previous contracts awarded were the Institutional Services Contract, or ISC, to EG&G of Gaithersburg, Md., and the Information Management and Communication Support, or IMCS, contract to Abacus Technology in Chevy Chase, Md.

Kurt Bush, ISC program manager, said EG&G is actively engaged in interviews and job offers to incumbents. The 24/7 Duty Office number is 861-5050. The e-mail address is KSC-ISC-DutyOffice@nasa.gov, and the global e-mail is KSC-ISC-DutyOffice. For trouble calls, the e-mail address is KSC-ISC-Troublecall@nasa.gov, and in the global e-mail it is KSC-ISC-Troublecall.

Stephen Stover, IMCS deputy program manager, said the contract changeover is going smoothly and as planned. "To our employees and NASA customers you should see no change on October 1," Stover said. "The majority of processes you currently use today on the KICS and JBOSC contracts will remain in place."

The following phone numbers will be effective Oct. 1: Front Office is 867-7475; customer service for communication services is 861-2666 or 867-5010; and customer service for administrative services is 867-3838 or 867-4634.

Stover said Abacus Technology Corp. worked hard to retain as many incumbent personnel as possible for continuity of support. Over time, they hope to continually improve on services.

The KSC Institutional Support Services, or KISS, Tech Training contract was awarded to REDE-Critique of Metaire, La.

According to KISS Program Manager Tara Miller, all Kennedy contractors will have access to KISS technical training courses. Training will be scheduled and conducted based on a training priority system.

Numbers to call are: 867-7750/7751 for training administration, and 867-2300 for the training supervisor.

At Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, the Vehicle Operations and Maintenance contract was awarded to Hallmark-Phoenix 3 of Houston, Texas, Security Protection Services was awarded to Securiguard Inc. of McLean, Va., and the Infrastructure Ops and Maintenance Services, or IOMS, contract was awarded to InDyne Inc. of Reston, Va.

A Web site containing information on the various contracts, as well as frequently asked questions can be viewed at http://transition.ksc.nasa.govd/index.htm.

Two e-mail accounts also have been activated to accept feedback, questions or concerns to help ensure a smooth transition into the new contracts. The global addresses are: KSC-JBOSC-Transition@mail.nasa.gov and KSC-KICS-Transition@mail.nasa.gov.

# Space experiment rack receives flight time

A new space experiment rack under development by Kennedy Space Center and Space Florida recently received some flight time. On Sept. 9 and 10, the FASTRACK Space Experiment Platform took off from Ellington Field near Johnson Space Center in Houston aboard NASA's first commercially-provided research flights on Zero Gravity Corporation's reduced gravity aircraft.

The experiment rack is designed to support two standard lockers that fit inside the space shuttle's crew middeck. It is being developed jointly by Kennedy and Space Florida to facilitate NASA and commercial use of reusable U.S. suborbital flight vehicles currently under development.

The rack also will accommodate experiments aboard reduced gravity aircraft such as Zero Gravity's modified Boeing 727 jet, and may also be adapted in the future for orbiting vehicles and facilities.

NASA/ Troy Cryder

Technicians in the Life Science Building at Kennedy Space Center work on the FASTRACK Space Experiment Platform, which is designed to support two standard lockers that fit inside the space shuttle's crew middeck.

FASTRACK will enable investigators to test experiments, apparatus and analytical techniques in hardware compatible with the International Space Station, and perform science that can be carried out during the reduced gravity available for brief periods during aircraft parabolas.

It is designed to accommodate two single middeck lockers or one double locker, and other compatible experiment accommodations developed for use on the space shuttle and International Space Station.

Kennedy's FASTRACK project team will use NASA's commercial flight services contract with Zero Gravity Corporation to install and test a prototype rack along with three science investigations to verify interfaces, procedures and performance characteristics prior to fabrication of the FASTRACK flight units.

Among the science investigations performed on the test flights were baseline characterization data of the microgravity environment in the FASTRACK payload accommodations using instrumentation provided by NASA's Glenn Research Center; a fluid dynamics experiment by the University of Central Florida to study Faraday wave interfaces in microgravity; and tests of a biomedical sensor to evaluate its effectiveness in performing continuous, non-invasive monitoring and recording of human hemodynamics, or the movement of blood, during changes in gravity.

Despite Hurricane Ike canceling the final two days of tests flights, engineers were able to obtain good results from the on how the racks performed.

Another potential group of customers will be those participating in NASA's Facilitated Access to the Space Environment for Technology Development and Training, or FAST, Program. The FAST Program, which is managed by the Innovative Partnerships Program, will provide reduced-gravity or suborbital testing opportunities for emerging technologies developed by small businesses and others in partnerships with NASA.

With the expected emergence of commercial suborbital flights over the next few years, FASTRACK will support investigations that can benefit from longer exposure - between 2-3 minutes - of microgravity time, as well as actual spaceflight conditions.

The flights are sponsored and funded by NASA's Strategic Capabilities and Assets Program under the agency's commercial microgravity services contract with Zero Gravity Corporation.

The FASTRACK project has received support from the NASA Innovative Partnerships Program Office and the NASA Science Mission Directorate.

It is being jointly developed under a Space Act Agreement between Kennedy and Space Florida, both of which have contracted with the Bionetics Corporation to accomplish design, fabrication and testing of the experiment rack.

# Kennedy, CCAFS open doors to families Oct. 18

***By Kate Frakes***
*Spaceport News*

In celebration of NASA's 50th Anniversary, Kennedy Space Center, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and contractor employees are invited to attend the 2008 Family Day, as well as a festival-style celebration featuring concerts, food and entertainment for employees and their guests at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

Friends and family can participate in Family Day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., but gates will close by 2:30 p.m. Kennedy and CCAFS will allow self-guided tours of designated areas and badged employees can escort guests throughout the day's activities. The Visitor Complex's main campus will be open throughout the day, free to employees who bring their badge to the will-call booth.

**More online**

For more information on 2008 Family Day, visit **http://familyday.ksc.nasa.gov**

Access to the complex includes IMAX movies and the Shuttle Launch Experience.

Kennedy is anticipating special guest appearances by active NASA astronauts who will be available to sign autographs and meet with guests at specific facilities and times.

Cafeterias in the Multi-Function Facility, in the Launch Complex 39 area, the Space Station Processing Facility, and Operations and Checkout Building in the Industrial Complex will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. serving lunch for employees and guests.

The snack bar in the Launch Control Center will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There also will be three mobile refreshment trailers open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Launch Complex 39 area.

NASA Exchange stores will be open for souvenirs, T-shirts and complimentary 2008 Family Day collectors' coins.

The Operations and Checkout Mission Briefing Room will offer educational exhibits displayed by NASA and contractor organizations.

At CCAFS, Hangar F will offer exhibits and activities for children.

The Space Museum at CCAFS will be open for guests to gain firsthand insight into the history of space exploration at Kennedy.

After the on-center events, employees and guests are invited to a celebration honoring NASA's 50th Anniversary at the Visitor Complex.

The symbolic Rocket Garden will provide the backdrop for the entertainment starting at 3 p.m. with Big Head Johnny and the Eskimos.

At 5 p.m., Rockit takes the stage. The popular rock band Survivor headlines the celebration with its hits "Eye of the Tiger" and "Is This Love" at 7 p.m.

Guests will be treated to a fireworks show after the concert.

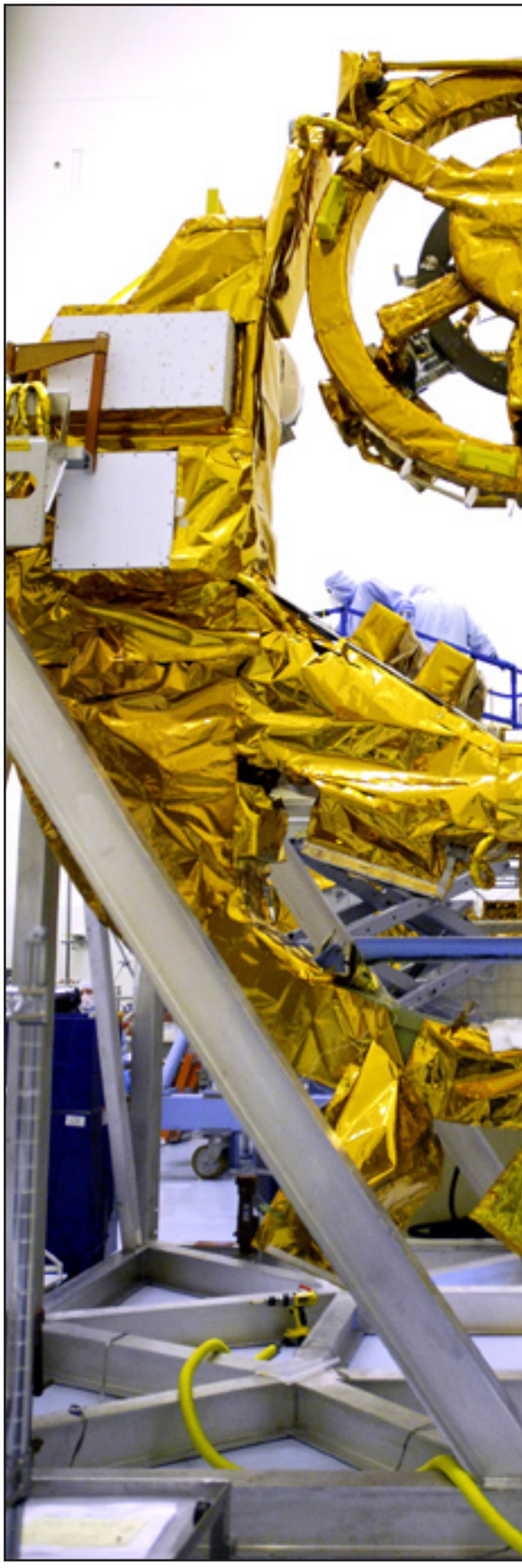
# Scene Around Ken

NASA/Jim Grossman

In Orbiter Processing Facility Bay 3 at Kennedy Space Center, a technician checks out a boundary layer transition tile underneath space shuttle Discovery. Discovery is targeted to launch Feb. 12, 2009, on its STS-119 mission to the International Space Station.

NASA

The Employees of the Month for September are, front row from left, Bao Nguyen, Constellation Project Office; Rosaly Santos, Center Operations; Melanie Huss, Human Resources Office; Jaime L. Dempsey, Procurement Office; and Vicki Johnston, ISS & Spacecraft Processing Directorate. Back row, from left, are Oliver E. Solum, Engineering Directorate; Joseph A. Torsani, Safety & Mission Assurance Directorate; Anthony Edwards, Information Technology & Communications Services; and Rami F. Intriago, Launch Vehicle Processing Directorate. Not pictured are Amber M. Hufft, Chief Counsel; Jim Draus, Launch Integration Office; Harold R. McAmis, Engineering Directorate; James Ristow, Launch Services Program; and Amy Asato, External Relations.



Payload components for space shuttle Atlantis' STS-125 r
in the Payload Hazardous Servicing Facility. Seen in the fo
capture mechanism.

# nedy Space Center

NASA/ Troy Cryder

mission to service the Hubble Space Telescope are on display oreground is the Flight Support System carrier with the soft

NASA/Jack Pfaller

K-9 officers from the Bloodhound Unit of the Brevard County Sherriff's Office welcomed space shuttle Atlantis to Launch Pad 39A. The officers said they wanted to show their support by using Atlantis as the backdrop for their team photo.

NASA/Kim Shiflett

Manny Virata, known around Kennedy as the "Coin Man," has retired after 34 years.

## *Spaceport News* has a place for your photos

Send photos of yourself and/or your co-workers in action for possible publication. Photos should include a short caption describing what's going on, with names and job titles, from left to right.

**KSC-Spaceport-News@mail.nasa.gov.**

# CFC announces slogan winner; campaign begins

*By Linda Herridge*
*Spaceport News*

The 2008 Combined Federal Campaign, or CFC, cabinet members recently updated Kennedy Space Center Director Bill Parsons and senior staff about this year's goals for the civil service work force.

CFC Chairperson Cheryl Hurst announced the winning slogan, "One Small Gift – One Giant Impact," which was selected from more than 60 entries.

It was submitted by Rob Kuczajda, an integration engineer with the International Space Station and Payload Processing Directorate. He received a signed certificate from the CFC cabinet and will receive special seating for two, to view the STS-119 space shuttle launch currently targeted for Feb. 12, 2009.

CFC Co-chair Christy Layton, a mechanical engineer in the Engineering Directorate, said this year's dollar goal is $430,500. Increased work force participation also is a goal, as well as weekly updates to senior staff as the campaign gets underway.

"A focus on participation will help to get more workers to contribute, which ultimately helps us to reach our goal," Parsons said.

NASA/Kim Shiflett

Members of the 2008 CFC cabinet gathered with Kennedy Center Director Bill Parsons as he signed the letter announcing this year's CFC campaign. From left: Joette Feeney, CFC Co-chair Christy Layton, Renee Minor, Julie Shally, Patty Hepburn, Steven Horn, Pat Christian, Bonni McClure, Cathy Norris, Sheryl Chaffee, Debbie Awtonomow, Laurie Brown, CFC Chairperson Cheryl Hurst and Chris Hinds. Not pictured: Erin Drohan, Bill Forrester, Lisa Fowler, Mark Gordon, Linda Mullen, Lori Paule, Jose Perotti, Patrick Smith, Diane Vogler and Anjanette Wicks.

The campaign officially begins with a Kick-off Showcase on Oct. 15, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Headquarters and Multi-Function Facility cafeterias.

Representatives from 28 participating charitable organizations will be present to talk with workers and explain how each donation truly helps make a positive difference to those in need.

Some of the participating charities are the Salvation Army, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Hemophilia Foundation, Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Earth Share, Hospice of St. Francis and Serene Harbor.

Hurst said Kennedy employees have consistently supported the CFC and the center is a top campaign contributor in the county.

The campaign runs from Oct. 9 through Nov. 7.

Contributions can be made through WebTADS. For more information, visit the CFC Web site at http://cfc.ksc.nasa.gov, or contact your directorate's CFC unit coordinator.

NASA/Kim Shiflett

Rob Kuczajda, an integration engineer with the International Space Station and Payload Processing Directorate wrote this year's winning slogan.

# Swiss cheese a perfect model to test effective processing

*By Kate Frakes*
*Spaceport News*

Swiss cheese may be just a diary product at the local grocery store to people who work outside of Kennedy Space Center, but for Kennedy's engineering community it's a model they must consider daily.

On Sept. 3, Kennedy Engineering Academy, or KEA, hosted its 27th venue "Safe and Effective Processing: Avoiding the Common Errors." NASA and contractor personnel gathered in the Training Auditorium to hear Fernando Santos' presentation on how communication is crucial to eliminating human error in processing.

**More about KEA online**

To view video and PDF versions of past KEA events, including Fernando Santos' or future calendar events, please visit: **http://kea.ksc.nasa.gov.**

As NASA lead structures engineer for space shuttle Endeavour, Santos has worked in the Orbiter Structures, Handling and Thermal Protection Systems Branch for eight years and advocates the importance of strong communication and direction throughout every stage of shuttle processing.

"Undetected factors can easily sneak into processes through unintentional human errors," Santos said. "Even when an error doesn't result in significant consequences, it is important for us to understand why it happened and how to prevent it from reoccurring."

The Swiss cheese model is used to categorize four main areas an accident or injury occurs because of or during processing: organizational influences, unsafe supervision factors, preconditions for unsafe acts and unsafe acts.

"The Swiss cheese model illustrates the specific actions under each of the four main areas where human error would more likely pose a threat to processing," Santos said. "Unlike holes in the cheese, if our holes line up, we potentially could create a serious problem."

Santos applied the Swiss cheese model to a case study pertaining to an analysis that was performed on one of the inspections of the shuttle's external tank foam. He was able to identify six overlooked areas of ambiguity that allowed for human errors. There were no consequences in this case, but changes were made to prevent similar situations in the future.

"If processes are performed correctly, problems like these will be avoided," Santos said. "Filling in the holes creates efficient communication that is key to safe and effective processing."

# STS-26 put shuttle back in business

*By Kay Grinter*
*Reference Librarian*


*NASA file*

The crew of the STS-26 mission, from left, David C. Hilmer, mission specialist; Richard O. Covey, pilot; George D. Nelson, mission specialist; Frederick H. Hauck, Jr., commander; and John M. Lounge, mission specialist, launched aboard space shuttle Discovery on Sept. 29, 1988. This was Discovery's seventh flight and the return to flight after the STS-51L mission accident. The primary payload was NASA 's Tracking and Data Relay Satellite-3.

Twenty years ago, NASA's human spaceflight program reopened for business with the liftoff of space shuttle Discovery on the STS-26 mission. After a hiatus of more than two years, Discovery's Return to Flight from Launch Pad 39B lifted the spirits of space program workers and the American people.

Following the loss of Challenger and its crew in January 1986, President Ronald Reagan said: "Our nation is indeed fortunate that we can still draw on an immense reservoir of courage, character and fortitude, that we are still blessed with heroes like those of the space shuttle Challenger. Man will continue his conquest of space."

President Reagan was right. After the launch of the STS-26 mission, commanded by Rick Hauck, he told the audience gathered for an awards ceremony in the Rose Garden of the White House: "Now, unless someone else has broken the news already, before we begin I'd like to tell you that at 11:37, space shuttle Discovery lifted off at the Kennedy Space Center, and it's now headed into orbit. And America is back in space."

"We're now looking forward to the successful completion of the Discovery mission and the safe return of her five-member crew. We salute the bravery of Rick Hauck, Dick Covey, Pinky Nelson, Mike Lounge and Dave Hilmers; and we ask God to bless this important voyage. They sure were considerate in their timing - just gave me time to get out here without being late."

A 98-minute delay of liftoff was caused by several problems encountered during the countdown. Fuses had to be replaced in the cooling system of the new, partial-pressure launch-and-entry suits of Pilot Covey and Mission Specialist Nelson; and lighter than expected upper atmospheric winds required a waiver of the wind condition constraint to launch.

NASA alum Hugh Harris was the deputy director of Public Affairs at Kennedy and the launch commentator during countdown.

## *Remembering Our Heritage*

"The atmosphere in the firing room reminded me of STS-1 in some ways, but there was an additional edge now because of the accident," Harris said. "On the other hand, we all knew that everyone at Kennedy and across the entire spectrum of the shuttle program had done everything they could to ensure a safe launch and continuing success in the years to come. The result was one of the cleanest flights ever."

Steve Black, Lockheed lead test project engineer for Discovery, also was in the firing room and told a *Spaceport News* reporter circulating among the launch team: "It's been like a two-and-a-half year pregnancy and the baby's fine."

STS-26 was the first shuttle launch for Forrest McCartney since becoming Kennedy Space Center director in 1986. He praised the launch team as "the best in the world" and told reporters, "This was their masterpiece."

One of the mission's primary objectives was accomplished on the first flight day: the successful deployment of a Tracking and Data Relay Satellite, or TDRS, a task that had been planned for the last Challenger mission. Mission Specialists Hilmers and Lounge handled the deployment, lofting the satellite from Discovery's payload bay at 5:50 p.m. TDRS and its inertial upper stage performed flawlessly during all subsequent maneuvers leading to on-orbit stationing.

"We appreciate you all allowing us to settle down here," Covey said as the crew bedded down for their first night in space. From then on, the crew referred to themselves as the "happy campers."

Situations that cropped up during the flight included a jammed KU-band antenna and an ongoing problem with the orbiter's flash evaporation system.

The system's malfunction elevated cabin temperatures a few degrees above normal but did not affect the astronauts' safety or well-being.

After taking the STS-26 crew approximately 1.68 million miles, Discovery touched down at 12:37 p.m. EDT on Oct. 3 at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

President Regan joined his Cabinet in applauding the landing, watching on a television set in the Cabinet Room. Vice President George Bush and a crowd of more than 400,000 were on hand near the runway to cheer the returning astronauts.

"It's been an honor and privilege to have been part of the team that processed and launched the greatest flying machine ever built, but Discovery has done her job and then some," said Black, a senior program manager for Defense Projects and Services for Lockheed Martin.

Discovery has flown 35 missions to date and is scheduled to fly three more times before the program's end in 2010.

NASA/Kim Shiflett

Rollout of space shuttle Atlantis is viewed from inside the Launch Control Center at Kennedy Space Center. Atlantis is scheduled to launch on the STS-125 mission to service NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. Launch is targeted for Oct. 10.

From **SHUTTLES**, Page 1

within our community's history," Lieutenant Michael DeMorat said. "We wanted to take the opportunity to be a part of it."

For the first time since 2001, shuttles will be on both launch pads during liftoff. Because Atlantis will be unable to dock with the International Space Station, space shuttle Endeavour will stand ready on Launch Pad 39B, in the unlikely event a rescue mission is needed.

Angie Brewer, NASA Atlantis flow director, said that this mission has been one of the tougher missions and flows.

"It's a challenge performing a dual-integrated flow for both Atlantis and Endeavour," Brewer said. "But the flexibility of this team amazes me."

Space shuttle Atlantis is targeted to launch Oct. 10 at 12:43 a.m., for the shuttle's fifth and final Hubble Space Telescope servicing mission.

Endeavour rolled over to the VAB on Sept. 11, and is now mated with its external fuel tank and solid rocket boosters. As of press time, Endeavour's rollout to Launch Pad 39B was scheduled for Sept. 18 at 12:01 a.m.

***"It's a challenge performing a dual-integrated flow for both Atlantis and Endeavour . . . but the flexibility of this team amazes me."***

Angie Brewer, NASA Atlantis flow director

## Town hall meeting set concerning customer support, contracts changeover

A town hall meeting has been scheduled from 9 to 11 a.m. Sept. 26, at the Operations and Support Building II, Room 5109, for information on the changeover to the new contracts and what it will mean for customers and stakeholders.

A question and answer session will follow the presentation. PowerPoint presentations from prior town hall meetings are available at **http://transition.ksc.nasa.gov/index.htm**.

For more information, call Peggy Parrish at 321-867-3983.

## Looking up and ahead

| | |
|---|---|
| No earlier than Sept. 26 | Launch/CCAFS: Delta IV, NROL-26; TBD |
| Target Oct. 10 | Launch/KSC: Atlantis, STS-125; 12:43 a.m. |
| Oct. 18 | Family Day at Kennedy Space Center |
| Target Nov. 12 | Launch/KSC: Endeavour, STS-126; 8:43 p.m. |
| No earlier than Jan. 23, 2009 | Launch/CCAFS: Delta II, STSS; TBD |
| No earlier than Feb. 10, 2009 | Launch/CCAFS: Delta IV, GOES-O; TBD |
| Target Feb. 12, 2009 | Launch/KSC: Discovery, STS-119; 7:36 a.m. |
| No earlier than March 2, 2009 | Launch/CCAFS: Atlas V, LRO/LCROSS; TBD |
| Scheduled for April 10 | Launch/CCAFS: Delta II, Kepler; TBD |
| Target May 15, 2009 | Launch/KSC: Endeavour, STS-127; 4:52 p.m. |
| Target July 30, 2009 | Launch/KSC: Atlantis, STS-128; TBD |
| Target Oct. 15, 2009 | Launch/KSC: Discovery, STS-129; TBD |
| Target Dec. 10, 2009 | Launch/KSC: Endeavour, STS-130; TBD |
| Scheduled for Jan. 26, 2010 | Launch/CCAFS: Atlas V, SDO; TBD |
| Target Feb. 11, 2010 | Launch/KSC: Atlantis, STS-131; TBD |
| Target April 8, 2010 | Launch/KSC: Discovery, STS-132; TBD |
| Target May 31, 2010 | Launch/KSC: Endeavour, STS-133; TBD |

## Spaceport News wants your photos

Send photos of yourself and/or your co-workers in action for possible publication. Photos should include a short caption, with names and job titles, from left. Send them to **KSC-Spaceport-News@mail.nasa.gov.**

John F. Kennedy Space Center

# Spaceport News

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