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January 28, 1994

Spaceport News

America's gateway to the universe. Leading the world in preparing and launching missions to Earth and beyond.

John F. Kennedy Space Center

1994 Spaceport News Summary

There were two headers used in 1994. The above banner was used for every 1994 issue, except the January 14, 1994, issue, which used the same banner as 1993.

Introduction

The first issue of the Spaceport News was December 13, 1962. The 1963, 1964 and 1965 Spaceport News were issued weekly. The Spaceport News was issued every two weeks, starting July 7, 1966, until the last issue on February 24, 2014. Spaceport Magazine, a monthly issue, superseded the Spaceport News in April 2014, until the final issue, Jan./Feb. 2020. The two 1962 Spaceport News issues and the issues from 1996 until the final Spaceport Magazine issue, are available for viewing at [this website](#). The Spaceport News issues from 1963 through 1995 are currently not available online.

In this Summary, black font is original Spaceport News text, blue font is something I added or someone else/some other source provided, and purple font is a hot link.

All links were working at the time I completed this Spaceport News Summary.

The Spaceport News writer is acknowledged, if noted in the Spaceport News article.

From the January 14, 1994, Spaceport News Summary

On pages 1 and 6, "**KSC officials tour Russia**", by Paula Shawa. In part, the article reads "Pepsi bottles labeled in Russian, flight-ready hardware covered only with simple plastic sheeting, and a highly competent launch team that has amassed a formidable track record over the last 30 years. Those are just some of the impressions that Roy Tharpe, Kennedy Space Center Launch and Landing Projects Office Manager, came away with after a seven-day whirlwind visit last November to the former Soviet Union. Tharpe served as the launch systems expert on a NASA team that toured Russia's extensive space complexes. The six-member panel was tasked with evaluating the facilities which could be used to support Russian-U.S. space endeavors..."

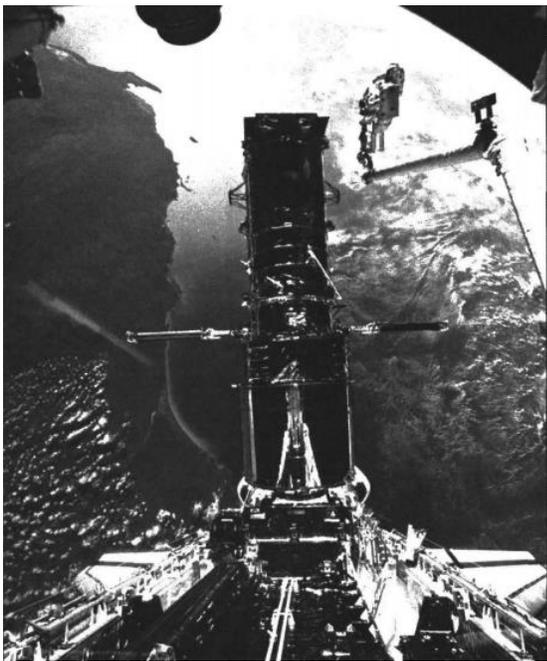
Just last month the United States and Russia signed agreements to cooperate on a number of space initiatives, including the space station, and expand others such as astronaut exchanges... A highly visible manifestation of the unprecedented collaboration will occur next month when Russian cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev flies aboard the U.S. Space Shuttle...

One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan... Tharpe was amazed to learn that no major modifications had been made to the Baikonur launch pads in 10 years, a sharp contrast to the frequent modifications performed at the two KSC liftoff sites... "The Russian philosophy is, If it ain't broke, don't touch it," Tharpe noted. "They don't tweak things or enhance them..."



"ROY THARPE returned from his trip to Russia with a variety of remembrances, including a copy of the Moscow Times newspaper, a poster highlighting the joint Russian/U.S./international space station, and a warm fur hat. Even though Tharpe visited the former Soviet Union in November, subzero temperatures made heavy winter clothing mandatory."

[On page 1.](#)



"ORBITING EARTH at an elevation of 325 miles, STS-61 Payload Commander Story Musgrave appears tiny from his perch in a foot restraint on the end of Endeavour's Remote Manipulator

System (RMS) arm. Musgrave and his extravehicular activity (EVA) partner Jeffrey Hoffman are wrapping up the final of five STS-61 spacewalks in December to service the Hubble Space Telescope, shown here. The west coast of Australia forms the backdrop for this dramatic view from space...”.

From The January 28, 1994, Spaceport News

On page 1, “**Discovery readied for liftoff on Feb. 3**”. In part, the article states “Preparations for the year's first Shuttle mission are continuing at Launch Pad 39A where the Space Shuttle Discovery and its payloads remain poised for a Feb. 3 launch... The STS-60 TCDT was unique because it marked the first time that a Russian cosmonaut has ever boarded a U.S. space vehicle at its launch pad. Sergei K. Krikalev, a veteran space traveler, will become the first Russian to fly aboard the Space Shuttle in a joint agreement that will result in an American astronaut flying aboard the Russian space station Mir next year...”



“ST8-60 CREW members are all smiles as they pose for a moment during the Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test at Launch Pad 39A. From left, they are Mission Specialists N. Jan Davis, Sergei K Krikalev (a Russian cosmonaut) and Ronald M. Sega, Pilot Kenneth S. Reightler Jr., Commander Charles F. Bolden Jr. and Mission Specialist Franklin R. Chang-Diaz.”

On pages 1 and 6, "**Crippen announces management changes at KSC**", by Susan Walsh. A portion of the article reads "Center Director Robert L. Crippen has announced the selection of four persons to top positions within the space center.

Alan J. Parrish was named to fill the position of director, Executive Management Office, to replace George L. English, who is retiring after more than 29 years of service at Kennedy Space Center... JoAnn H. Morgan was chosen to fill Parrish's current position as director of Safety, Reliability and Quality Assurance... Also reassigned is Charles B. Mars as director, Mission Assurance, reporting to Morgan. Pending NASA Headquarters approval, Linda L. Rogers has been named to the SES position of director, Procurement Office.

"I am confident that with these reassignments we will be in a strong position to meet all the challenges of 1994 and subsequent years,"... Crippen said..."



On page 5, "**Crippen invites questions from center employees**". Part of the article reads "...We have many communication mechanisms already in place at KSC, ranging from Spaceport News and the KSC Bulletin, to safety and personnel bulletins and the various contractor publications. As a matter of fact, there are at least 28 such publications issued at KSC... We also hold regular meetings so that information will be passed from employees to management and back again. In addition, I have kicked off my annual all-hands meetings with each organization and hope to see all of you over the course of the next couple of months.

This column is an attempt to make the communication process more tailored to individual concerns by answering specific questions people might have on their minds. I have always had an open-door policy, but through this forum, I can answer questions which I believe would be of centerwide interest. I will be happy to answer your questions in this column, with a few restrictions. I won't answer personnel questions which relate to only one person, for instance. However, I will answer personnel questions which are of interest to a wide audience. "Early outs" for civil service people is one of those areas...

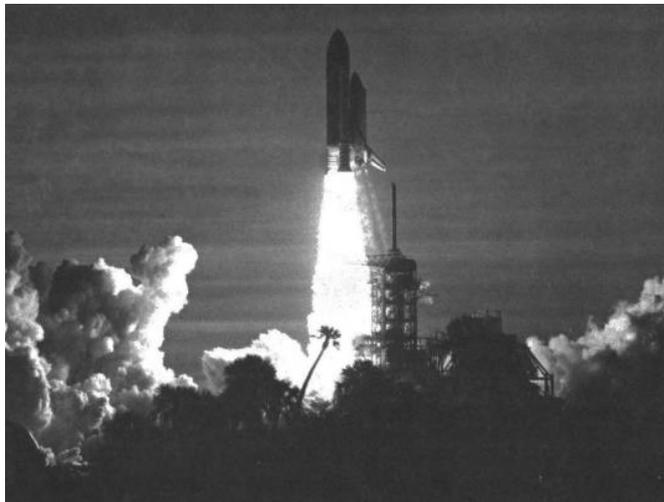
The idea for this column was suggested by Joyce Beeson, OP-SC0-1, through the Search For Opportunities process. I would encourage everyone to use this process in any area where you think improvements can be made. It works. If you have any questions you would like answered in this column, send them to mail code "CD" and mark them for the "Ask the Center Director" column."



Robert L. Crippen
KSC Director

From The January 29, 1994, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**STS-60 launches a new age of cooperation**".



On the left, "A GOLDEN NEW ERA in space cooperation begins with a flawless countdown and the on-time liftoff of the Space Shuttle Discovery on Mission STS-60. Liftoff from Launch Pad 39A occurred on Feb. 3 at 7:10:01 a.m., EST. The first Shuttle mission of 1994 carries the first Russian cosmonaut, Sergei K Krikalev, to fly on the Space Shuttle. Primary payloads of the 60th Space Shuttle flight are the SPACEHAB-2 laboratory and the Wake Shield Facility." On the right, "STS-60 Pilot Kenneth S. Reightler Jr. (front left) and Mission Commander Charles F. Bolden Jr. (front right) lead the way from the Operations and Checkout Building. Behind them are (from left) Mission Specialists Ronald M. Sega and Sergei K Krikalev; Payload Commander Franklin R. Chang-Diaz; and Mission Specialist N. Jan Davis."



“KSC DIRECTOR Robert L. Crippen (clockwise from left), briefs NASA Administrator Daniel S. Goldin, Russian Space Agency Director Yuri Koptev and Russian interpreter Alexy Kraznov on launch activities.”

On page 4, “**FOD message hits home**”.



“CENTER DIRECTOR Robert Crippen (from left) discusses foreign object debris (FOD) prevention with Chris Comerford (center), NASA FOD manager, and Ernie Reyes, NASA director of Quality Assurance, following the opening ceremony for KSC FOD Awareness Week, held at the Operations and Checkout Building on Jan. 24, The week's activities concluded with the third annual FOD Awareness Banquet held Jan. 28 at the Comfort Inn in Cocoa Beach.”

From The February 25, 1994, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 6, “**STS-62 mission may yield advances in technology**”. In part, the article reads “Mission STS-62 slated for liftoff on March 3, will carry a diversified collection of experiments designed to improve or advance spaceflight and Earth-based technologies. The U.S. Microgravity Payload-2 (USMP-2) is one of the two primary payloads of STS-62. The USMP-2 and the other primary payload, the Office of Aeronautics and Space Technology-2 (OAST-2), are both making a second flight aboard the Space Shuttle...”

Columbia's scheduled liftoff on Thursday, March 3, from Launch Pad 39B will mark the first of three planned Extended Duration Orbiter flights in 1994. Countdown for STS-62 will begin on Feb. 28. The launch window will open at 8:54 a.m., and lasts about 2 and ½ hours. Columbia is scheduled to land at the Kennedy Space Center's Shuttle Landing Facility on March 17.



"STS-62 CREW MEMBERS pause a moment for a group portrait at Launch Pad 39B. Pictured from left are: Mission Specialists Charles "Sam" Gemar and Pierre Thuot; Commander John Casper; Pilot Andrew Allen; and Mission Specialist Marsha Ivins. The crew was at KSC in February for the Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test, the dress rehearsal for a March 3 launch."

[Also on page 1.](#)

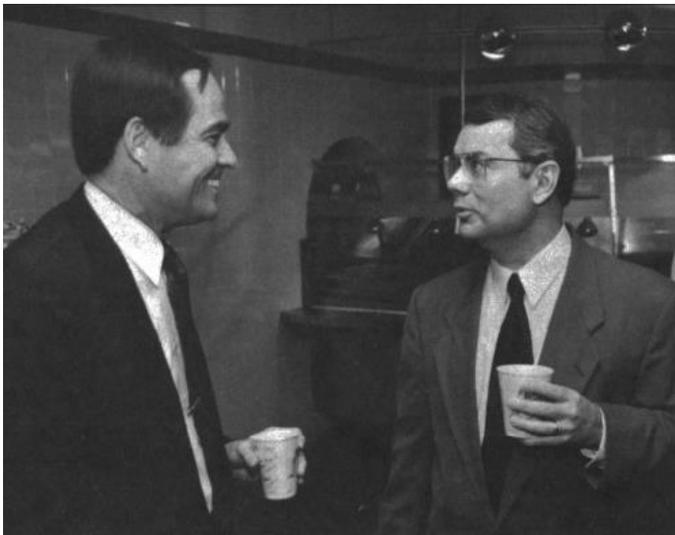
We need you!
We want to know what you think about *Spaceport News*. A survey will be mailed out to each employee shortly. Please take a moment to fill out the survey and mail it back to PA-MSB.

From page 2, “**First of planned U.S.-Russian missions lands at KSC**”.



“THE SPACE SHUTTLE DISCOVERY effortlessly glides onto Runway 15 of KSC’s Shuttle Landing Facility. Mission Commander Charles Bolden Jr. brought Discovery in for a flawless landing on Feb. 11, with main gear touchdown occurring at 2:19:22 p.m. EST. Discovery marks the 19th end-of-mission landing at the Kennedy Space Center, and the first time a Russian has flown aboard a U.S. Space Shuttle.”

On page 4, “**Meeting with the community**”.



“CENTER DIRECTOR Robert Crippen (left) chats with U.S. Rep. Jim Bacchus, D-Merritt Island, at the annual Community Leaders Briefing held at Spaceport USA on Feb. 16. Crippen addressed the current status of the Space Shuttle program and discussed NASA’s budget at the event. Community leaders also received an up-close view of Spaceport USA’s newest attraction, a life-size model of a Space Shuttle orbiter called Explorer and toured the space center. More than 300 attended the breakfast.”

Regarding Explorer, [Wikipedia](#) states “...Because KSC was to receive the retired Atlantis, Space Shuttle *Explorer* was removed from the KSC Visitor Center on December 11, 2011... The vehicle... began its move by barge to the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center... on May 24, 2012... The replica shuttle was stripped of the name *Explorer* as part of the dismantling process...”

Space Center Houston announced on May 2, 2013, that it had acquired NASA 905, one of NASA's two modified Boeing 747 Shuttle Carrier Aircraft. The center planned to display the replica shuttle atop the SCA with interiors of both vehicles accessible to visitors. A competition to name the shuttle opened on July 4, 2013, and concluded on September 2, 2013, with over 10,000 entries received. The winning entry was submitted by Timothy Judd, and the new name, *Independence*, was revealed on October 5, 2013...

Independence underwent extensive renovation in 2013 and 2014 to repair damaged components and update its appearance to more closely match that of the modern shuttle fleet... On August 14, 2014, a heavy lift was completed to place *Independence* on top of NASA 905, which had been moved to Space Center Houston from Ellington Field on April 30, 2014. The combined exhibit, named "Independence Plaza", opened to the public on January 23, 2016...”

The following photos and captions are from Wikipedia.



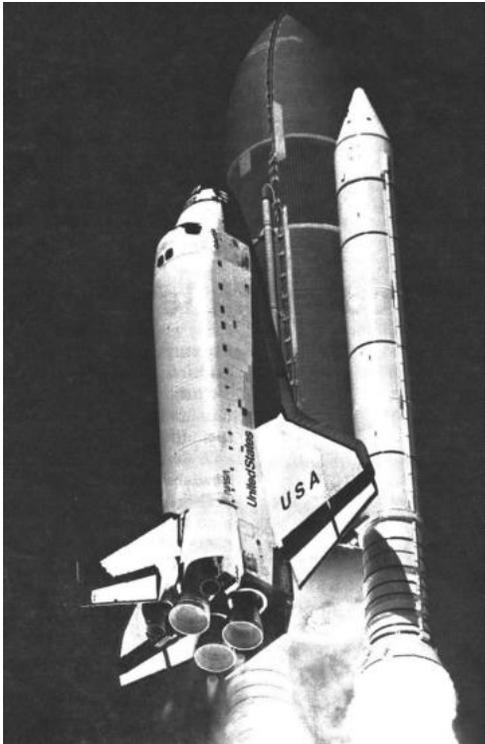
“Space Shuttle replica *Explorer* (now *Independence*) at Kennedy Space Center, Florida”



“Shuttle *Independence* and NASA 905 in Independence Plaza at Space Center Houston.”

From The March 11, 1994, Spaceport News

From page 1, “**Liftoff**”.



“WITH A VETERAN CREW on board, the Space Shuttle Columbia roars off Launch Pad 39B at 8:53:07 a.m. EST to begin a 14-day extended duration mission in space. Commander of Mission STS-62 is John Casper; Andrew Allen is the pilot; and Pierre Thuot, Charles “Sam” Gemar and Marsha Ivins are the mission specialists. The two primary payloads for Columbia’s 16th flight are the U.S. Microgravity Payload-2 (USMP-2) and the Office of Aeronautics and Space Technology-2 (OAST-2). A diversified collection of secondary payloads are located in the payload bay as well as the middeck.”

Also on page 1, “**Two KSC workers honored as women engineers of year**”. In part, the article reads “Two KSC engineers recently received prestigious engineering awards from the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Space Coast Section for promoting engineering in work-related and educational areas. NASA employee Kathleen Harer was named the 1993 Space Coast Outstanding Woman Engineer of the Year, and Kay Hire of Lockheed Space Operations Company was selected as the 1993 Distinguished New Woman Engineer...”

Harer... holds two undergraduate engineering degrees and a master's degree in business administration. Since 1983, she has worked with NASA in various capacities in the Safety Office, including serving as chief of the Industrial Safety Branch, until accepting her current position as an environmental coordinator for the Shuttle Management and Operations Directorate... Harer is involved in numerous engineering,

management and community activities. She actively promotes engineering to young people in the Brevard area through mentoring programs and through her position as chairperson of the Career Guidance committee for SWE.

Hire has a master's degree in space technology and an undergraduate degree in engineering. She has worked at KSC as an activation engineer for EG&G Florida Inc. and currently works for Lockheed Space Operations Co. as a Space Shuttle test project engineer... In her spare time, Hire serves in the Naval Air Reserve, and is a member of numerous technical, professional and community groups. Hire also holds the distinction of being the first U.S. military female assigned to a combat air crew."

Getting ahead a little, Kay Hire became an astronaut and flew on STS-90 and STS-130.



"KSC EMPLOYEES Kay Hire (left) of Lockheed and Kathleen Harer of NASA display their awards following an awards ceremony held by the Society of Women Engineers at the Eau Gallie Yacht Club on Feb. 22. Hire received the 1993 Distinguished New Woman Engineer Award; Hare was presented with the 1993 Space Coast Outstanding Woman Engineer of the Year Award."

On page 2, "**Employees ask about... Shuttle lunar flight**".



In part, the article states "...A Thermal Protection System specialist suggested that flying an extended-duration-equipped orbiter to orbit the moon and return "would stir public interest in such a way as to inspire support and funding for NASA just as Apollo did." The shuttle orbiters were not designed for flight beyond Earth orbit and do not have

propulsion systems capable of flight to lunar orbit and return. I certainly hope that we will go back to the moon for extended exploration and development in the future.

On page 6, "**Crippen honored by AFA**". Part of the article reads "The Cape Canaveral Chapter of the Air Force Association (AFA) inducted KSC Director Robert Crippen as a General Jimmy Doolittle Fellow of the AFA's Aerospace Education Foundation. Crippen accepted the honor at the AFA's annual Aerospace Tribute Night Dinner held on Feb. 25. The fellowship is named after aviation pioneer General James H. Doolittle. Recipients are chosen for outstanding achievement in their particular field of endeavor. The AFA honored Crippen for his service as an astronaut and his recent accomplishments as center director, specifically internal changes he has made to improve space center operations..."



CRIPPEN

From The March 25, 1994, Spaceport News

On page 1.



"CROSSING PATHS - Space Shuttle Main Engine No. 2034 must wait its turn as the orbiter Endeavour rolls over to the Vehicle Assembly Building on March 14. The SSME had been pulled from Discovery and was on its way to the VAB for refurbishment in the main engine shop.

Endeavour rolled out to Launch Pad 39A on March 19, with liftoff on STS-59 targeted for April 7. The week of March 14 was a busy one at KSC, with Columbia returning from Mission STS-62 on March 18 at 8:09 a.m. EST. The 13-day, 23-hour flight became the second longest Shuttle mission to date.”

On page 2, “**Discovery channel will launch movie on Space Shuttle**”. In part, the article states “The definitive television documentary about the Space Shuttle program could be in the making at Kennedy Space Center. An Australia-based production crew called Beyond Productions has been commissioned by the Discovery Channel to put together a two-hour film about the Shuttle. Filming began at KSC on March 14. “We believe that the general public’s vision of the space program needs to be reinvigorated,” said Producer Michael Caulfield...

Scott Hicks, the director of the film, plans to spend six weeks at several NASA installations. “We’re trying to capture the real people at NASA, ordinary people doing extraordinary things,” said Hicks... The film is scheduled to be Discovery’s lead program for the fall quarter...”.



“GETTING IT RIGHT - The Beyond Productions film crew captures for posterity the rollover of the orbiter Endeavour into the Vehicle Assembly Building on March 14. The footage could become part of a film on the Space Shuttle program.”

The film is available for viewing [at this YouTube site](#), “The Space Shuttle (1994)”, and it is a neat film! There is footage/commentary by a lot of folks, including John Muratore, Wayne Hale, Al Sofge, Tip Talone, Grant Cates, Bob Sieck, Greg Katnik, Eileen Collins, Hoot Gibson and others.

On page 3, the caption for the photo on the next page is “Center Director Robert Crippen addresses the crowd at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 7 for Kennedy Space Center’s new Central Industry Assistance Office (CIAO). The new facility, located

at Gate 2 on State Road 3, allows potential bidders to review contract solicitations and attend contract bid openings without having to obtain a temporary badge. Also, representatives of NASA and KSC prime contractors will be at the center to offer counseling on contract and subcontract opportunities.”



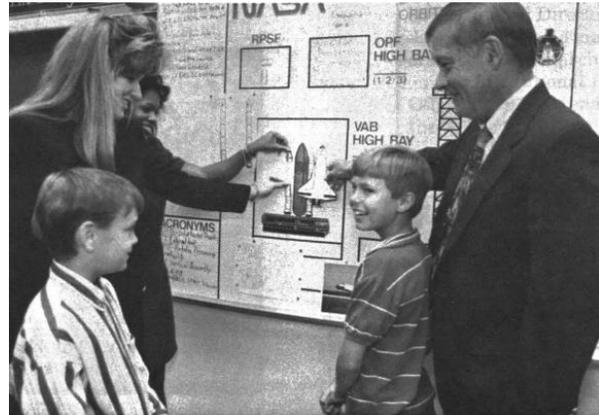
This facility, N6-1009, shows the same name as in the above photo caption, on the KSC Facilities Search. A Google Maps street view is below, which shows the building as the NASA Press Accreditation Office.



Also on page 3, **Center managers assigned new jobs**. The article states “Three top NASA managers at Kennedy Space Center recently were assigned to new positions. James F. Harrington III moves from his position as Shuttle Operations director to director, Safety and Reliability in the Safety, Reliability and Quality Assurance Directorate. Jackie E. Smith is designated director, Engineering, in the Engineering Development Directorate. He was serving as director, Safety and Reliability. Smith and Harrington's new assignments were effective March 20.

Also, effective March 4, David Flowers was designated as acting comptroller of the center following the retirement of McFarland "Max" Steel on March 3. Flowers had been serving as deputy comptroller."

On pages 4 and 5, "**KSC helps students 'engineer the future'**". Part of the article reads "Kennedy Space Center engineers from every level and organization fanned out across Brevard County in February to bring home to young minds the message that engineering is fun and exciting. The theme for this year's National Engineers Week, held Feb. 20-26, was "Engineering the Future." To make the outreach program especially successful this year, each NASA directorate and almost every contractor... selected a handful of public and private schools in Brevard for intensive outreach..."



On the left, "Launch Director Bob Sieck and children at Tutor Time get a "Shuttle" ready for flight. On the right, "NASA engineer Jennifer Cannon (left) and Shuttle Management and Operations Director Jay Honeycutt visit with students at Fairglen Elementary."

On page 6, "**Dryden returns to full NASA center status**". A portion of the article states "Dryden Flight Research Center returned to full status as a NASA center on March 1. It had been a facility of Ames Research Center for the past 13 years. Located in Edwards, Calif., Dryden was established in 1946 by NASA's predecessor agency, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. It became a NASA center in 1959. In 1981, Dryden became a part of Ames under an agency-wide consolidation effort..."



"AERONAUTICAL RESEARCH is the primary activity at Dryden. Here, an SR-71 B takes off on

a training flight. The twin-cockpit B model is one of three SR-71s on loan to NASA from the Air Force for use in a high-speed, high-altitude research program.”

Concerning NASA SR-71s, I found the following on [THE AVIATIONIST website](#):

“According to official records, NASA has operated a fleet of seven Blackbirds:

YF-12A (60-6935) – December 1969 to November 1979

YF-12A (60-6936) – March 1970 to June 1971

SR-71A/YF-12C (61-7951/“06937”) – July 1971 to December 1978

SR-71A (61-7971/NASA 832) – January 1995 to June 1996

SR-71A (61-7967) – August 1995 to January 1996

SR-71B (61-7956/NASA 831) – July 1991 to October 1997

SR-71A (61-7980/NASA 844) – September 1992 to October 1999

The last SR-71 flight was made on Oct. 9, 1999, at the Edwards AFB air show. The aircraft used was NASA 844 that flew to 80,100 feet and Mach 3.21 in the very last flight of any Blackbird... The NASA SR-71s were then put in flyable storage, where they remained until 2002. Then, they were sent to museums.

The following is a photo of NASA 831, shown on the previous page, at the Air Zoo Aerospace & Science Museum, in Kalamazoo, Michigan.



On page 7, “**Discovery vehicle manager sets goals, achieves them**”. In part, the article reads “Jenny Webb made KSC history in February as the first woman convoy commander for Mission STS-60, but for her it was simply the next step in a career fueled by a love for the space program. “I’ve been lucky,” said Webb, the vehicle manager assigned to Discovery. “I’ve always known what I wanted to do. Space has always interested me, and like most people, I truly believe in what we’re doing here at KSC and as an agency. It’s what gets you up in the morning.”

As Discovery's vehicle manager, Webb is in charge of managing the Orbiter Recovery Convoy Team at the prime landing site at the conclusion of a mission... Webb assists on a daily basis in planning and management of orbiter processing operations, from the Orbiter Processing Facility to the launch pad...

Webb's educational background includes a bachelor's degree in aerospace and ocean engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and master's degrees in space technology from the Florida Institute of Technology and in engineering management from the University of Central Florida... She joined NASA in 1988 as an operations engineer...".



"JENNY WEBB, vehicle manager for Discovery, pauses during her duties as convoy commander at the conclusion of Mission STS-60 in February."

From The April 8, 1994, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Debus award goes to Sieck**". The article reads "KSC Launch Director Robert Sieck is being honored with the Kurt H. Debus award by the Florida Committee of the National Space Club. Named for KSC's first director, the award is given to an individual for having made a great contribution to the national space program in Florida .

Sieck became launch director in 1986 and since then has presided over 36 safe and successful Shuttle missions (through STS-62). The award will be presented at the Space Club's annual banquet April 8."

On page 2, "**Spaceport News survey results pour in.**" In part, the article states "Three thousand and counting. That's how many people have responded so far to the Spaceport News survey sent to each Kennedy Space Center employee. Not only is the level of response significant, but so is the amount of time taken by employees to answer

the survey questions and offer their opinions and ideas. It is clear that many saw the survey as an opportunity to speak out and make their voices heard...

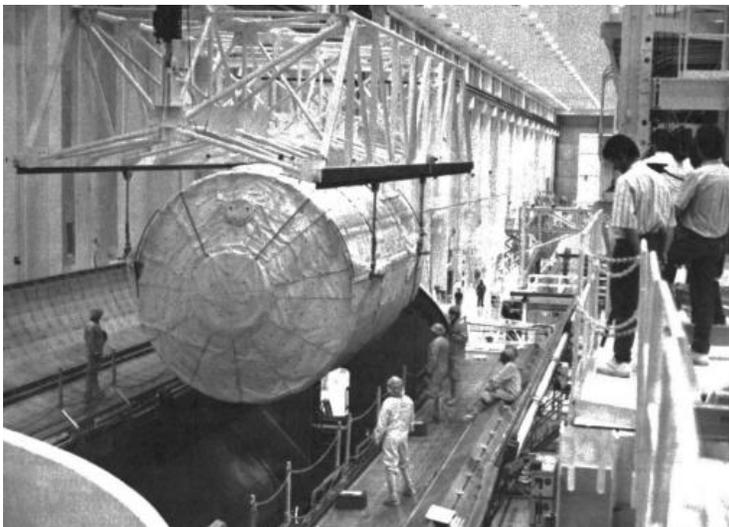
Each time a survey is received at the KSC News Center, NASA employee Karin Biega logs the answers and comments provided... It's too early to conclusively report the survey's findings... A comprehensive look at survey results and feedback should appear in one of the May issues of the paper..."



"NASA EMPLOYEE Karin Biega can't find her desk underneath the oodles of Spaceport News surveys that the NASA Public Affairs Office has received."

From The May 20, 1994, Spaceport News

On page 1.



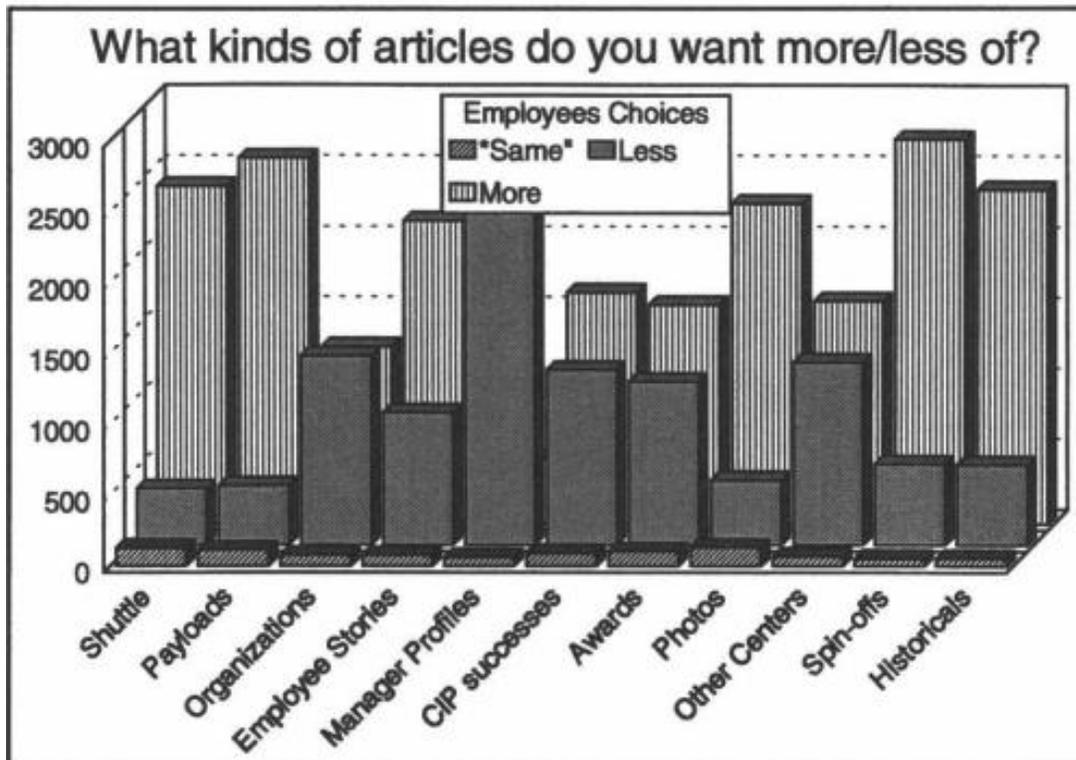
"IML-2 MOVES OUT - Workers in the Operations and Checkout Building move the International Microgravity Laboratory-2 (IML-2) into the payload canister on May 5. After transfer to Orbiter Processing Facility Bay 2, the Spacelab facility was installed in the payload bay of the orbiter

Columbia on May 9. Liftoff on Mission STS-65 is targeted for July 8 from Launch Pad 39A. During the nearly 14-day flight a crew of seven - including the first Japanese woman to fly on the Shuttle - will carry out 80 Investigations capitalizing on the near-weightlessness of space.”

On page 3, “**Management gets Spaceport News survey results**”. Part of the article reads “Final results of the Spaceport News survey were presented to senior management on May 11, and editorial changes already are under way to make the newspaper more responsive to the feedback provided. Response to the survey was extremely high: 3,888 employees completed the questionnaire...”

A large majority favored a once-a-month publishing schedule for the paper (67 percent for, only 27 percent against). Most respondents (47 percent) felt the paper is informative. A majority (64 percent) also liked the overall tone of the paper, although some 20 percent of respondents feel it is too stiff and formal. Most respondents (53 percent) just read one or two articles each issue; some 40 percent read it all...

Ideas offered for stories included KSC sports events, budgetary issues, letters to the editor, launch and payload schedules, and environmental issues. Much of this information already is being incorporated into the paper. More stories are now being included about non-management level employees and teams... In coming issues, Spaceport News will continue striving to be more responsive to the interests of its readers...



From the June 3, 1994, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 8, **“Atlantis returns with upgrades”**. In part, the article states “After a 19-month stay in California, the orbiter Atlantis returned to Kennedy Space Center equipped for long duration flights and docking with Russia's Space Station Mir. OV-104 arrived at KSC on May 29, ferried from the Rockwell plant at Palmdale atop the 747 Shuttle Carrier Aircraft. Atlantis was sent to the west coast in October 1992 to undergo a series of equipment upgrades and inspections...

Completed work included improved nose wheel steering modification; elevon cove repair and thermal system modifications; improved auxiliary power unit connection installation; drag chute installation; and fifth power reactant storage and distribution tank set enhancements. Atlantis joins Columbia as one of two orbiters fully equipped for Extended Duration Orbiter (EDO) flights of at least 16 days. A number of modifications also were made to prepare for a series of rendezvous and docking flights with Mir. The next five missions which Atlantis will fly will all be docking flights... The first, STS-71, is targeted for next May...”.

Also on page 1, **“A Russian tradition takes root”**.

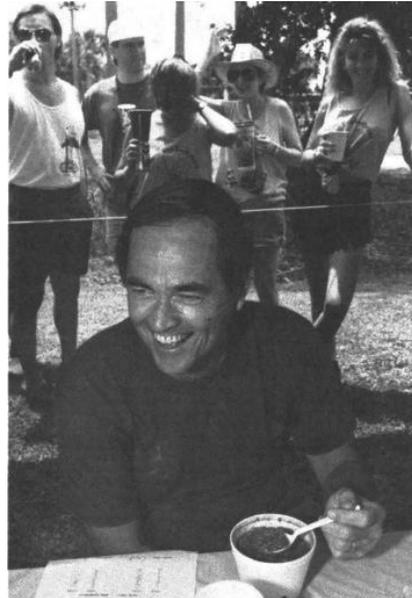


“KENNEDY Space Center Launch Director Robert Sieck looks on as STS-60 Pilot Ken Reightler (left); Mission Specialists Ron Sega, Jan Davis, and Sergei Krikalev, and Mission Commander Charlie Bolden plant an oak tree between Headquarters and the Training Auditorium. Payload Commander Franklin Chang-Diaz was unable to attend. Krikalev is the first cosmonaut to fly on the U.S. Space Shuttle. Planting a tree after a spaceflight is a Russian tradition being instituted at KSC to commemorate Shuttle missions on which cosmonauts have flown.”

As best I know, the tree planting tradition at KSC, extended to STS-63, and two International Space Station expeditions. For more information, “The KSC Tree Story” is in the [September 1, 2015, Neat Information Update](#). Cosmonauts flew on other Shuttle missions, including to Mir

and the first International Space Station assembly flight, STS-88, and Sergei Krikalev was a crew member on that flight.

On pages 4 and 5, "**Kennedy Space Center All-American Picnic**". A portion of the article states "The annual Kennedy Space Center All-American Picnic on May 14 drew a record turnout estimated at more than 3,200 people. Among the more popular events were the now-traditional chili cook-off, and two events new this year, the car show and karaoke machine for would-be singers..."



On the left, "Family, friends and food are the ingredients for a good time for picnickers (clockwise from left) Scott Colloredo, Lisa Morgan, Leslie Williams, Christy Ross, Roger Mathews, Alan Baker, Mike Lundberg and Jimmy Comeaux." On the right, "Center Director Bob Crippen... enjoys tasting the chili concoctions as a judge for the chili cook-off..."



"Chili cook-off "Flame Trench" team leader I "monitor" Loren Shriver (at right) receives congratulations from cook-off announcer and judge Mike McCulley. Shriver's team took first place in the contest. Sharing the spotlight is the team's chief cook, "igniter" Susie Barth (standing next to McCulley)."

From The June 17, 1994, Spaceport News

On page 1, “**Russians welcomed to KSC Shuttle-Mir officials discuss docking issues**”. In part, the article reads “Russian officials preparing for the second Shuttle-Mir docking mission met with their Kennedy Space Center counterparts June 6-10... A different docking setup is planned for the first Space Shuttle-Mir flight, STS-71 in May 1995... To avoid having to reconfigure Mir for each of the remaining nine docking flights, NPO-Energia designed modifications for the docking mechanism, including a 13-foot long docking module which will provide the needed clearances between the orbiter and Mir...”

During their week-long visit to KSC, the Russians met with the Launch Site Support Team, consisting of representatives from all areas of the space center - payloads, safety, security, facilities, operations and scheduling, and Shuttle... Topics of discussion ranged from the processing flow at KSC for the docking module to the language or languages in which paperwork will be written...”



“RUSSIAN AND U.S. space program officials prepare to discuss Cargo Integration Test Equipment (CITE) testing of Russian docking hardware during a June 8 meeting in the Operations and Checkout Building.”

On page 6, “**Employees meet with astronauts, earn awards**”.



A portion of the article reads “Astronauts from three Space Shuttle missions flown this year recently returned to Kennedy Space Center to visit with the workers who helped make their flights safe and successful, and also honored 15 employees with the prestigious Silver Snoopy award... Members of the STS-59, -60 and -62 flights visited in April and May with workers both at KSC and Cape Canaveral Air Station...”



“STS-62 COMMANDER John Casper signs autographs for employees in the Launch Complex 39 Multi-Function Facility Cafeteria.”

From The July 1, 1994, Spaceport News

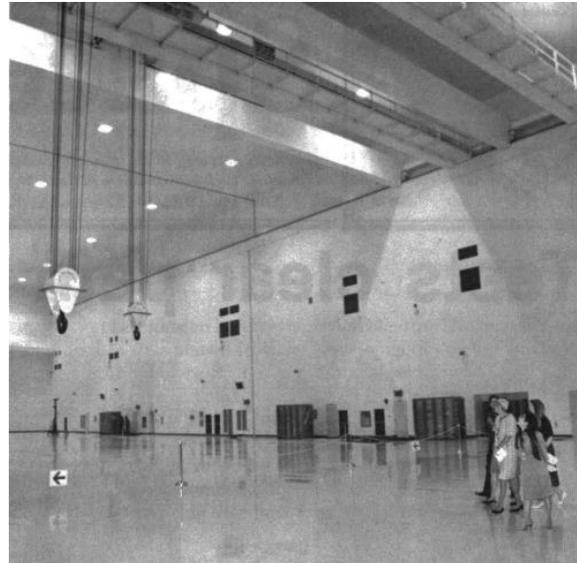
On pages 1 and 4, “**Tests clear path for July 8 launch**”. Part of the article reads “STS-65 crew members successfully completed their Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test last week and are preparing for their return to Kennedy Space Center for the Shuttle Columbia's July 8 launch... NASA managers officially set July 8 as the launch date for the mission at a Flight Readiness Review session last week. The launch is currently planned for 12:43 p.m. EDT at the start of a 2 1/2 hour window...”



“THE SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA, left, awaits its July 8 launch date on Launch Pad 39A. The launch is set for 12:43-p.m. EDT at the start of a 2 1/2 hour window. The planned mission

duration is 13 days, 17 hours, 56 minutes. Right, STS-65 crew members, led by Commander Bob Cabana, walk out from the Operations and Checkout Building during the final phase of the Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test. Behind him are (front to back) Pilot Jim Halsell; Payload Specialist Dr. Chiaki Mukai; Payload Commander Rick Hieb; and Mission Specialists Leroy Chiao, Carl Walz and Don Thomas.”

On page 2, “**Space Station Facility dedicated**”. The article states “The Space Station Processing Facility, was dedicated June 23.”



On the left, “Cutting the ceremonial ribbon are, from left: Bill McGarvey, director, Facilities Engineering, NASA Headquarters; Jeremiah Pearson III, associate administrator for Space Flight, NASA Headquarters; John Conway, director of Payload Management and Operations; Wilbur Trafton, International Space Station program director; Robert Crippen, Center Director; and James Towles, deputy director of Installation Management and Operations.” On the right, “The SSPF has 457,000 square feet and includes clean rooms for processing Space Station elements with supporting control rooms and laboratories.”

On page 4, “**Space artist to exhibit works at education center**”. In part, the article states “Artist Robert McCall, whose paintings of space exploration are known the world over, will exhibit 50 of his works at the new Center for Space Education from July 16 to August 31. The showing of the art exhibit coincides with the opening of the center. A ribbon cutting is set for 10:30 a.m. July 15.

The Center for Space Education is adjacent to Spaceport USA. The 44,000- square-foot facility includes classrooms and library space, and areas where innovations and new technologies in the education field can be demonstrated. The facility represents the second phase of The Astronauts Memorial Foundation's goal to honor U.S. astronauts who have given their lives in the quest to explore space.

McCall was commissioned to create the mural by the Bionetics Corporation. His creation is titled "Star Seekers," and spans 6 by 14 feet. McCall has a very distinct philosophy about his art: "I want to communicate my own personal sense of wonder about the universe," he has said, "about the potential for the future - . on Earth or wherever...".



"THE MURAL "Star Seekers" by Robert McCall spans 6 by 14 feet."

From The July 15, 1994, Spaceport News

This issue of the Spaceport News is devoted to the 25th anniversary of Apollo 11. A small portion of the issue follows.

On page 2.

Center Director's Message

Part of the Message reads "As we commemorate the 25th anniversary of the first lunar landing, it's worth remembering the context in which this monumental feat took place. The late 1960s represented a watershed in the history of our nation. Many milestone events happened so quickly that it was as if time stood still and held its breath while this country engaged in a tumultuous self-assessment. The late 1960s were the era of the Vietnam conflict, civil rights, student unrest and the birth of environmental awareness... To remain so focused and dedicated on that goal during such a trying time represents an admirable achievement in and of itself.

Perhaps this is one of the greatest gifts the Apollo program bequeathed to us, the men and women of today's space program: a belief in our goals, and in our ability to achieve them in the face of all obstacles. I believe that the same commitment that made Apollo a success still runs strong here at Kennedy Space Center... Let us hold on tightly to the

baton passed to us by our Apollo peers and press forward to the international space station and beyond... Great nations dare to dream, and the exploration of space is the greatest dream of all. We here at KSC are making that dream a reality."

On page 3, "**The astronauts of Apollo - Where are they now**", compiled by Alan Aldinger. The article reads "The 29 astronauts who flew the 11 manned Apollo missions either helped pave the way to the moon or landed and walked there. They are very much in our minds as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of Apollo 11 's historic mission. Spaceport News has done a little investigating to find out where they are now. The commander of the Apollo mission is listed first, followed by the command module pilot and the lunar module pilot. Mission dates and significance also are provided."

This article/page from the Spaceport News issue is included as the last page of this Summary.

On page 4, "**Apollo hardware scattered from Earth to the moon**", compiled by Alan Aldinger. Part of the article states "Only a small portion of the giant Apollo/Saturn V launch vehicle - the command module - returned to Earth intact after each Apollo flight. Spaceport News readers might be interested in knowing where these and some of the other major hardware elements now find a home.

Command modules: Apollo 7, National Museum of Science and Technology, Ottawa, Canada; Apollo 8, Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, Ill.; Apollo 9, Michigan Science Center, Jackson, Mich.; Apollo 10, Science Museum London, London, England; Apollo 11, National Air and Space Museum, Wash., D.C....

KSC employees are well aware of the full-size Saturn V vehicle on display outside the Vehicle Assembly Building. The S-IC first stage is a ground-test replica; the S-II second stage was originally designated to fly on the canceled Apollo 18 mission, while the S-IVB third stage, originally built for use on the Saturn IB vehicle and later modified for the Saturn V, was modified again for testing in the Skylab program..."

[A Field Guide to AMERICAN SPACECRAFT](#) is a good website, with the location of American spacecraft and else. [HEROICRELIQS](#) is another good site.

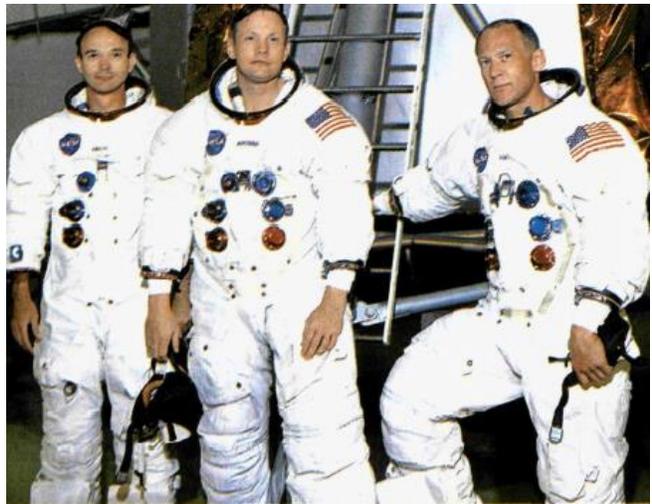
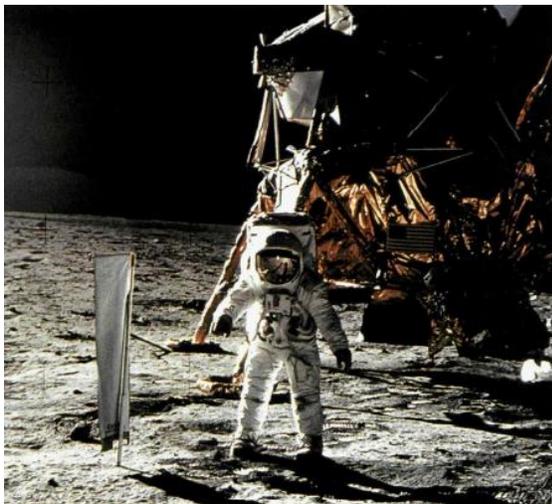
On pages 10 and 11, "**Readers remember: Letters reflect on lessons of Apollo**". Part of the article reads "Spaceport News recently asked past and present KSC employees to contribute their memories of Apollo 11, specifically to address the following questions: What should our future goals in space be? After space station, where should we go next? What is your vision of the future in space?"

Dr. Norman Murphy, 57, was a systems safety supervisor for the Bendix Launch Support Division during Apollo 11. During the Apollo era employees felt challenged,

we had a team commitment and a dedication to do whatever was necessary to get the job done... My advice to this generation of space workers would be to become active, passionate space program supporters. Know when to commit and when to give your word. Then stand behind your commitment and help make history because every individual can make a difference.

Fritz Widick was chief spacecraft test conductor in charge of lunar modules during the Apollo program. After space station, I think we should build a small colony on the moon. Once we have learned to live and work on the moon, we will have the technology for a long-duration stay on Mars. A little philosophy about getting the job done. George Page (former chief of Spacecraft Operations Division) told me to “fight the fire that burns the brightest,” which kept my priorities straight. Make as many decisions as you can at your level of authority.

John Brewer, 59, works with Lockheed Space Operations Co. communications. He came to KSC in 1966 as RCA employee in the KSC Communications Project. The phrase “the difficult will be done immediately, the impossible takes a little longer” surely exemplifies the spirit of the Apollo era workers. We were all here to do one job: to put a man on the moon and return him safely... Getting the job done safely and on time was always the driving force. However, one that became very evident to me was that it was better to use a little extra time to get the job done right the first time rather than to rush through it only to have to do a rework... The Apollo program captured the imagination of young and old alike around the world. By returning to the moon, I believe that spark can be rekindled.”



From The July 29, 1994, Spaceport News

On page 1, “**Center's mission: building on dreams**”. In part, the article reads “The new Center for Space Education (CSE) began its business of building dreams earlier

this month. The facility, which was dedicated July 15 by the Astronauts Memorial Foundation, is a living memorial to astronauts who have given their lives for space exploration. The idea for the center was born in the wake of the Challenger accident to pass along the legacy of those astronauts to new generations of space pioneers. "I like to brag that we at KSC work for the future," said Center Director Robert Crippen during opening ceremonies. "That's what the Center for Space Education is all about." ...



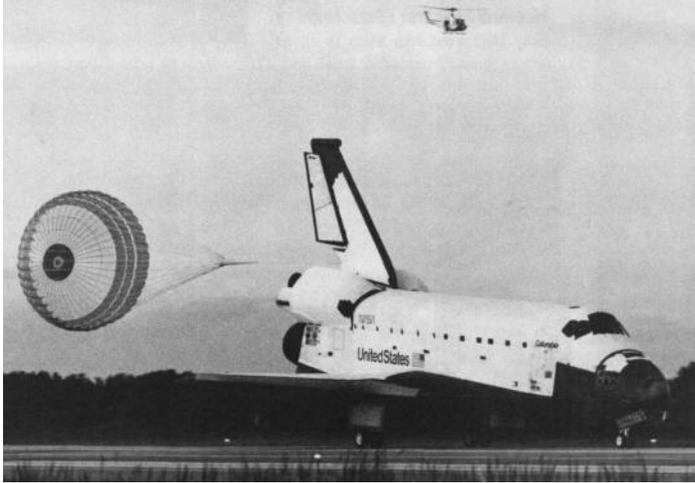
“PAUL DONNELLY, chairman of the Astronauts Memorial Foundation, welcomes guests to the opening of the Center for Space Education.”

The Center for Space Education is on the west side of the KSC Visitor Complex, not far from the Saturn 1B in the Rocket Garden, on the left in the below aerial from Google Maps 3D. [This is the website](#) for the Center for Space Education.

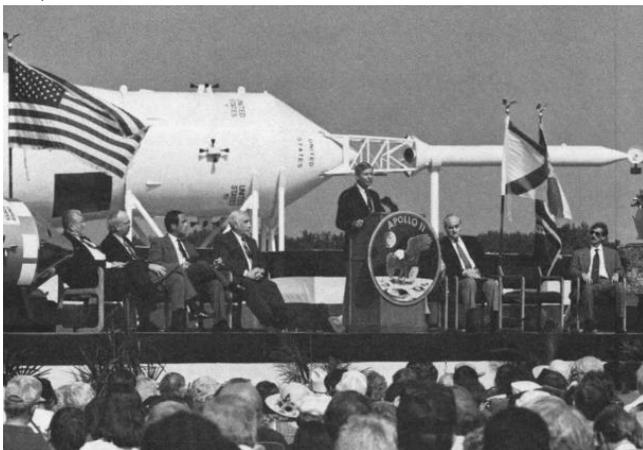


Also on page 1, “**Smooth sailing**”. The caption for the photo on the following page is “THE SPACE SHUTTLE Columbia completes a picture-perfect landing at KSC's Shuttle Landing Facility just after dawn on July 23. The nearly 15-day flight that began July 8

was the longest to date. The touchdown ended Columbia's 17th mission in space and broke the previous mission endurance record by 18 hours. The previous record was held by Columbia on mission STS-58 in October 1993. Columbia now holds the record for the four longest Space Shuttle flights.”

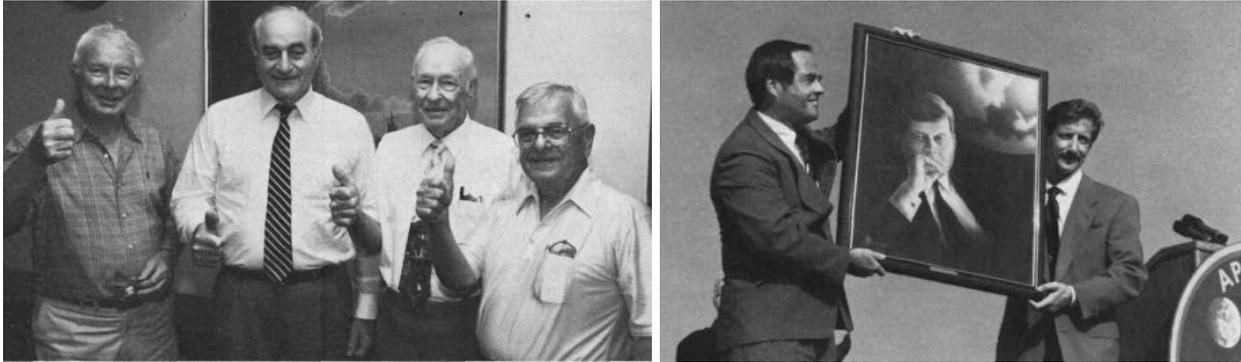


On pages 2 and 3, **“Celebrations rekindle spirit of Apollo 11”**. A portion of the article states “KSC employees joined the world in remembering the past and looking toward the future during a week of observances honoring the 25th anniversary of Apollo 11. The official NASA celebration of the lunar liftoff was held in the Rocket Garden at Spaceport USA on a hot and sunny July 16. Other events included the premiere of the IMAX movie *Destiny in Space* during a special showing for community leaders on July 14, and a commemorative dinner at the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel on July 16.”



On the left, “U.S. SEN. BOB GRAHAM speaks at the KSC anniversary ceremony. He is surrounded on the platform by, from the left, Apollo 13 astronaut Fred Haise; Ed O'Connor, executive director, Spaceport Florida Authority; Center Director Robert Crippen; Director of Public Affairs Hugh Harris; (not visible is Jack King, the former NASA information chief known as the "voice of Apollo"); Rocco Petrone, Apollo 11 Launch Operations director; and Houston artist Mike Sanni. Graham called Apollo 11 a "transforming event" for the country.” On the right, “JACK KING, Rocco Petrone and Sen. Bob Graham reflected on the significance of the program

during the KSC Apollo celebration. Petrone said the 400,000 people working during the years before Apollo 11 presented "a management challenge of unheralded proportions."



On the left and from the left, "...Paul Donnelly, chairman of the Astronauts Memorial Foundation and Launch Operations manager during the Apollo years ; Rocco Petrone, Apollo 11 Launch Operations director; Donald "Buck" Buchanan, formerly chief of the Launcher Systems and Umbilical Tower Design Section; and Walter Kapryan, who succeeded Petrone as director of Launch Operations." On the right, "ARTIST MIKE SANNI presents a portrait of President John F. Kennedy to Center Director Robert Crippen during the July 16 ceremony at Spaceport USA. The painting, titled "Not Because It Is Easy," is now on display at KSC Headquarters."

On page 5.



“Q: My schedule has me at my desk at 3:15 a.m. My problem is the KSC traffic light system for that time of the morning. Why don't they use flashing signals during nonpeak hours (say 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.)? A: The old mechanical timer-type traffic controllers have been replaced at KSC with computer programmable models which utilize sensors in the roadbed to determine if cars are awaiting service. Gary Wistrand, chief of the Protective Services Office, reports that the traffic timings at KSC signal locations are set to provide the most efficient flow of traffic and to conform to state and federal standards. Disabling traffic signals during offpeak hours by placing them in the flashing mode defeats the safety purpose of the system.

From the August 12, 1994, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 8, "**KSC employees caught in coup at African TAL site**", by Susan Walsh. In part, the article reads "While thousands of Kennedy Space Center employees were planning their weekend activities while traveling to work on the morning of Friday, July 22, a small contingent of KSC workers found themselves in the midst of a military coup d'etat halfway around the world..."

Four lieutenants of the Gambian National Army, ranging in age from 25-30, seized power that day in a bloodless coup in The Gambia, a small African nation whose major airport serves as one of four NASA Transoceanic Abort Landing (TAL) sites in the event of a contingency landing of the Space Shuttle orbiter. "It was not a pleasant situation," dryly recalled NASA operations manager and group leader, Thomas Howard. "But if we had to be stuck there, we had the right personnel to make the best of a bad situation..."

The Armed Forces Provisional Ruling Council ousted the government of the People's Progressive Party, which had ruled the country for 30 years. The council suspended the constitution, ordered... seaports and land borders closed. They also cut phone lines. It was the latter move that concerned EG&G security employee Ronald Simons the most...

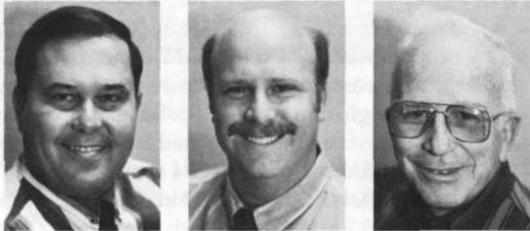
Simons and Howard looked down gun barrels held by soldiers when they attempted to reach the Banjul International Airport where they were scheduled to meet with officials about NASA agreements to use facilities there... Simons and Howard, in a NASA-owned truck, came to a roadblock where guards armed with AK-47 automatic rifles pulled them over. "We were asked to get out of the vehicle," Simons explained. "One guard demanded the key so we gave it to him. I asked if we could take our personal items. He was kind of hesitant, but we grabbed our briefcases and the computer I had brought." The two were left on the road in the hot sun to make their way back to the hotel, more than 15 miles away...

They didn't make it back to the hotel... They reported to the U.S. Embassy instead, where they were enlisted to help restore communications and assist Americans... Back at the Kairaba Beach Hotel, Jim Moos, head of the Lockheed Space Operations Co. group working at the TAL site, became the "warden officer" responsible for overseeing Americans at two hotels and serving as their communications link. He set up an around-the-clock command post, and the TAL site workers took two-hour shifts manning a radio which provided their only link to the world...

Meanwhile, back at KSC, apprehension mounted for managers struggling to determine the whereabouts and safety of employees... Al Harley, chief of NASA Landing and Facility Operations, received the first KSC phone call shortly after 8 a.m. Friday from Johnson Space Center, which had been called by the State Department. He immediately contacted the NASA KSC Security Operations Office and Jim Deshotel and Cal Burch set up an information operations center they operated from Friday morning

until 6:30 p.m. Wednesday "when we verified all our people were aboard a plane and had left the country," Deshotel said...

They also kept families and officials informed of the latest developments. KSC Center Director Robert Crippen and other top managers were given status reports at least twice daily... The TAL site workers are "extraordinary people," Harley said, trained not only in all orbiter landing operations, but also in dealing with sensitive circumstances which can occur in foreign countries... The group was honored at a KSC "heroes welcome" party Aug. 8..."



HOWARD

SIMONS

MOOS

There is a good read on Shuttle TAL sites at [this website](#). According to the website writeup, Banjul, the Gambia location "...was used for 28 of 36 low-inclination launches before being closed in November 2002..."

On pages 1 and 7, "**Center selected as SRL-2 test target**". Part of the article reads "Kennedy Space Center's involvement in the Space Radar Laboratory (SRL-2) mission won't end when the Space Shuttle Endeavour leaves the ground on Aug. 18. Four days into the mission, the center will serve as a test target for the advanced SRL-2 imaging radars... The target will be composed of an array of trihedral corner reflectors laid out in the fields in front of the Headquarters Building and the Central Instrumentation Facility..."

The six crew members assigned to Mission STS-68 were at KSC last week for the Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test, a dress rehearsal for launch. Also completed last week was the Flight Readiness Review which formally established 6:54 a.m. Aug. 18 as the launch time for the 64th Shuttle flight..."



"STS-68 CREW members pose for a moment at the 215-foot level of the Fixed Service Structure during the Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test (TCDT) at Launch Pad 39A.

From left: Mission Specialists Steven L. Smith, Daniel W. Bursch and Peter J.K. "Jeff" Wisoff; Pilot Terrence W. Wilcutt; Mission Commander Michael A. Baker; and Payload Commander Thomas D. Jones...".

On page 6, "**Society honors 3 KSC workers**". In part, the article reads "Three women engineers from the Kennedy Space Center received honors at the Society of Women Engineers national convention, held June 21-25 in Pittsburgh..."

JoAnn Morgan, director of Safety, Reliability and Quality Assurance, received the Upward Mobility Award . One of the society's highest honors, the award recognizes a woman who has made an outstanding contribution in engineering and/or technical management... Morgan is a space program veteran who entered the federal work force as a student trainee with the Army Ballistic Missile Agency in 1958. She has participated in every NASA human spaceflight program, beginning with Project Mercury in the early 1960s and continuing with the Space Shuttle today...

Kathleen Harer, Technology Integration Manager, Engineering Development Directorate, was inducted into the Society of Women Engineers Fellows Class of 1994. A past president of the society, Harer has been a member of SWE since she was a college student. She is currently serving as chairperson of the career guidance committee for the Space Coast Section of the society.

Joy Huff, a NASA engineer, received the Open Technical Exchange Award for her presentation on the Space Shuttle Thermal Protection System (TPS) at the convention. Huff has a bachelor of science degree in aerospace engineering from Penn State University. She joined NASA seven years ago and is currently lead TPS engineer for the orbiter Atlantis..."



MORGAN



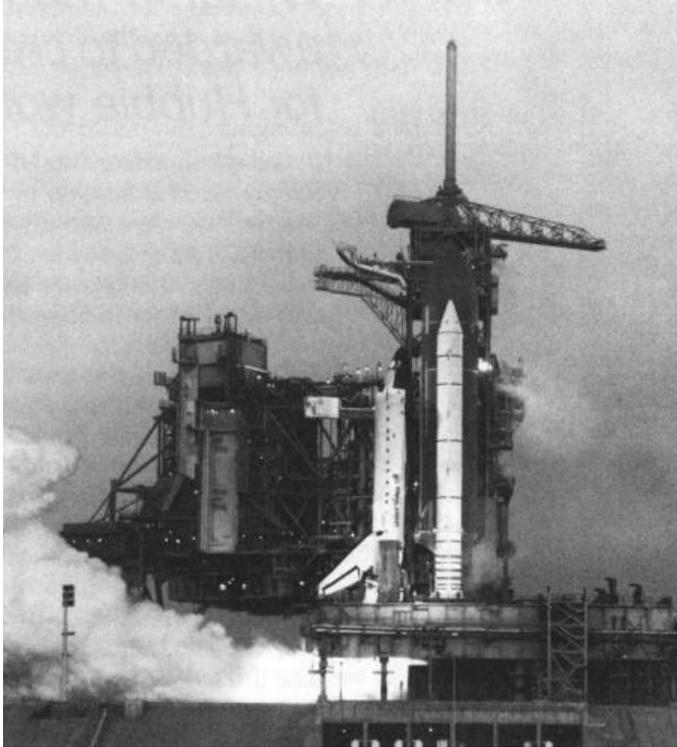
HARER



HUFF

From The August 26, 1994, Spaceport News

On page 1.



“SPACE SHUTTLE ENDEAVOUR’S three main engines fire before being shut down by onboard computers 1.9 seconds before liftoff August 18. Shuttle Launch Director Bob Sieck said he was pleased with the computers' response. "That part of the system worked exactly as it should have, he said. The abort resulted in some changes in the upcoming launch schedule. Endeavour was scheduled to roll back to the VAB during the pre-dawn hours August 24, where the three engines will be replaced with the ones originally slated to be installed on Atlantis. Endeavour's STS-68 mission is now targeted for launch the first week of October. The scheduled Sept. 9 liftoff for Mission STS-64 on Discovery and the late October launch of Mission STS-66 on Atlantis remain unchanged.”

On page 5, **Teachers discover KSC as summer students**. A portion of the article states “Jackie Harrison shared some of the wonder of her first grade students this summer as she joined 33 other Brevard County teachers in a NASA program designed to expand space science and technology instruction in the classroom. The Summer Teacher Enrichment Program (STEP), held July 11-August 5, gave participants an inside look at KSC and its functions. They also acquired resource materials that can be used to make science and aerospace come alive for their students...”

The teachers spent two weeks in various laboratories and facilities, another week in an intensive life sciences program conducted for NASA by Bionetics, and one week in classes taught at KSC by UCF. The group also took tours of laboratories and operational areas where NASA space technology is developed and took part in some

hands-on work - including constructing and launching model rockets while learning the chemistry and physics of an actual launch...

Harrison also includes a month-long unit on space in her lesson plans. But this year, as a result of the STEP program, she plans to adopt a space theme -The Dream is Still Alive - as a yearlong emphasis in her classroom. "Children love space - the more you do the more they want to do," she said. And first graders are ripe for learning about career options... One of the most impressive parts of the exercise for Harrison was the enthusiasm of the KSC employees..."



"NASA PUBLIC AFFAIRS employee Manny Virata shows STEP teachers including Jackie Harrison (center) a video production switcher used to mix and send out film of launches and other public affairs events."

From The September 9, 1994, Spaceport News

From page 1 and 6, "**KSC tackles full fall schedule**". Part of the article reads "With Discovery poised for its 19th spaceflight, Kennedy Space Center is embarking on one of the busiest periods in Space Shuttle history-three launches and landings are planned at the space center within roughly a two-month timeframe... At press time, Discovery (OV-103) was ready to lift off on Mission STS-64 at 4:30 p.m., Sept. 9, from Pad 39B, marking that facility's return to operational status after a routine six-month refurbishment..."

Discovery was cleared for launch after mission managers resolved three open issues. They concluded that the engine shutdown which halted the liftoff of sister ship Endeavour last month was not a generic problem. Second, a liquid oxygen valve on Discovery which stuck during a test was replaced and it along with three similar valves were successfully retested. Finally, a review of paperwork led managers to conclude

that the issue of a loose connector found on a booster slated to fly next year is not present on Discovery's boosters...

Endeavour (OV-105) is up next after Discovery, with a second launch attempt targeted for Sunday, Oct. 2. The high pressure oxidizer turbopump turbine discharge temperature on main engine No. 3 exceeded accepted limits during the first try Aug. 18, causing the main engines to shut down automatically and halting the countdown...

Liftoff of Atlantis on Mission STS-66 is currently targeted for Oct. 27."



"POSING OUTSIDE the Shuttle Discovery at Launch Pad 39B are the astronauts assigned to Space Shuttle Mission STS-64. Kneeling, from left, are Mission Specialist Susan Helms; Commander Richard "Dick" Richards; and Mission Specialist Mark Lee. Behind them are, from left, Mission Specialists Carl Meade and J.M. Unenger; and Pilot L. Blaine Hammond Jr."

On page 2, "**Apollo 11 tribute**".



"STS-65 Pilot James Halsell returns an Apollo 11 commemorative plaque to Shuttle Launch Director Bob Sieck during the crew-return ceremony at the Training Auditorium last week. STS-

65 crew members requested that the plaque, which traditionally hangs in the Launch Control Center, accompany them on the July 8-23 mission since they planned to be in orbit for the 25th anniversary of the July 20, 1969 Apollo 11 lunar landing. The plaque was part of a presentation the STS-65 astronauts conducted from space to honor their Apollo 11 counterparts. The plaque will be returned to its original spot in the LCC, with a few more memories attached.”

The astronaut in the previous photo is Don Thomas, STS-65 mission specialist, not Jim Halsell.

From The September 23, 1994, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 6, **“KSC workers contend for astronaut candidate slots”**. A portion of the article reads “Three KSC employees are among 122 finalists vying for selection as astronaut candidates. Joan Higginbotham, an orbiter project engineer for NASA; Cheryl McPhillips, an aerospace technology supervisor for NASA; and Kathryn Hire, a test project engineer for Lockheed Space Operations Company; have each spent a week in Houston this summer completing orientations, medical testing and interviews in hopes of extending their careers into space. Of the thousands of astronaut applications NASA received by the July 1, 1993 deadline, only 2,962 met the basic qualifications. Further screening reduced the pool to the 122 applicants interviewed.

The selection board, chaired by astronaut John Young, will choose 20-25 to become astronaut candidates. KSC has a representative on the 14-member board for the first time. James Harrington III, director of Safety and Reliability, has spent much of his summer at the Johnson Space Center in Houston taking part in the interview process...

Joan Higginbotham's desire to be an astronaut is as all-encompassing as breathing. "It's hard to explain to anybody," she said. "Like breathing, it comes naturally."

Higginbotham, 30, was recruited by NASA when she was studying electrical engineering at Southern Illinois University. She's worked at KSC for seven years as a payload electrical engineer and an orbiter project engineer. She's also been assigned to several special task teams. This is her first attempt at the astronaut selection process since receiving a master's degree from the Florida Institute of Technology...

Cheryl McPhillips, 34, wanted to be an astronaut before coming to work at KSC 10 years ago. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering at the University of South Florida in 1984 and was hired by NASA as a data engineer, conducting hands-on work in experiment integration. Her fourth application to the astronaut corps resulted in her interview which was held the week of August 28...

Kathryn Hire, 35, would like to add 'astronaut' to her list of accomplishments-she already holds the distinction of being the first woman to serve on a combat aircrew for the U.S. military. Hire works from the integration console in the launch control center where she is responsible for testing and checkout of Shuttle systems... Hire graduated

from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1981 and has a master's degree in space technology from the Florida Institute of Technology.

Getting a little ahead of things, Joan Higginbotham and Kay Hire would go on to become astronauts, flying on Shuttle missions. Wikipedia writeups are at [Kay](#) and [Joan](#) respectively. Kay retired from NASA on February 28, 2019. Joan retired from NASA in November 2007.



On the left, “CHERYL MCPHILLIPS, left, and Joan Higginbotham both say their experience in working with orbiter vehicles and payloads helped in the astronaut interview process. They are pictured above in the Operations and Checkout Building high bay”. On the right, “KATHRYN HIRE works from the integration console in the launch control center. “On a flight crew each person brings his/her own skills and capabilities to contribute to the overall mission,” she said. “Here at KSC it’s the same thing.”

On page 5, “**SSPF gets first job: Shuttle/Mir docking module**”. In part, the article states “The Russian-built spacecraft docking module that will enable Space Shuttle Atlantis to join up with the orbiting Russian Mir Space Station is the first flight hardware planned to be processed in the Space Station Processing Facility (SSPF). A docking mechanism and transfer tunnel for Mir, and a docking system for the Shuttle, are required to enable the orbiter to mate with the Mir space station.

The docking module for the Mir, called a DM, is scheduled to arrive at Kennedy Space Center on June 1, 1995. It will be processed through the SSPF and the Operations and Checkout Building and will be sent up as a payload on Mission STS-74... The DM is designed to become a permanent part of Mir for all subsequent docking missions.

The orbiter docking system, called the Androgynous Peripheral Assembly (APDA), is due to arrive at KSC in December for installation in the Space Shuttle Atlantis. Since the DM is not scheduled to be completed in time for the first Spacelab/Mir mission (STS-71), scheduled for liftoff in May 1995, Mir will have to be dramatically reconfigured to

allow the orbiter APDA to dock directly to the Mir station. Once the DM is in place, reconfiguration of Mir for each docking mission will no longer be necessary...”



“THE SPACE STATION PROCESSING FACILITY attracted a crowd during dedication ceremonies June 23. The 457,000-square-foot building will be the primary preflight checkout and processing point for elements of the international space station, starting with the Russian-built docking module scheduled to arrive next June.”

From The October 7, 1994, Spaceport News

From page 1, “**Early morning launch**”.



“AT A MINUTE after sunrise, with the sky still dark, the Space Shuttle Endeavour lifts off on Mission STS-68. The Sept. 30 launch occurred on time at 7:16 a.m. EDT. The primary payload,

the Space Radar Laboratory-2, is gathering data about Earth's environment during the planned 10-day flight... The crew Includes Mission Commander Michael Baker, Pilot Terrence Wilcutt, Payload Commander Thomas Jones and Mission Specialists Daniel Bursch, Steven Smith and Peter "Jeff Wisoff. This was the second launch attempt for STS-68; the first was halted Aug. 18 due to a main engine abort. All three main engines were replaced.”

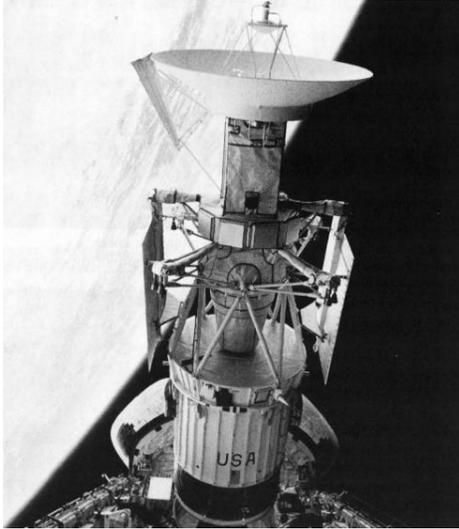
On page 2, **“Precious cargo”**.



“THE ORBITER DISCOVERY returned to Kennedy Space Center last week with the help of the 747 Shuttle Carrier Aircraft. The duo arrived at the Shuttle Landing Facility at 11 :24 a.m., Sept. 27, after departing the day before from Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. Stormy weather at KSC forced Discovery to land at Edwards Sept. 20, completing its STS-64 mission. During that mission the orbiter traveled 4,576,174 miles.”

On page 5, **“Intrepid Magellan spacecraft faces fiery end”**. In part, the article reads “A five-year mission that has become one of NASA's finest success stories is set to conclude this month, when the Magellan Venus radar mapper enters the atmosphere of Earth's nearest neighbor and burns up... NASA first began concept studies of a radar imaging probe to explore the Venusian surface back in the early 1970s. The project was canceled in 1982 for budgetary reasons, then resurrected two years later on a much smaller budget. More delays resulted and mission replanning became necessary after the 1986 Challenger accident...”

Magellan was finally launched on Space Shuttle Mission STS-30 in May 1989... Magellan began its primary mission to map the surface of Venus in September, 1990, using its sole scientific instrument, a synthetic aperture or imaging radar... Since then, it has mapped 98 percent of Venus' surface... On Oct. 11, trim maneuvers are planned to lower Magellan closer to the planet. The spacecraft's orbit will be lowered to 85 miles altitude on Oct. 12... The atmosphere will drag the spacecraft toward the surface of the planet, but it will burn up high in the skies over Venus...”.



“MAGELLAN is shown being released from Atlantis on Mission STS-30.”

From The October 21, 1994, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 8, **“Open House draws 20,000”**. The article reads “Oct. 15 was a special day for all Kennedy Space Center employees. Approximately 20,000 employees and their families and friends visited the space center for the 1994 Open House. A record number of facilities were open this year for what has become an annual tradition at KSC. It is the one day each year that we can share with our families a firsthand look at the diverse and rewarding work performed by the KSC team in support of the nation's space program.

I want to offer my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the hundreds of space center workers who unselfishly gave their time and energy to making this Open House a success. The pride and sense of accomplishment we share in our endeavors was reflected throughout the space center that day.”

Robert L. Crippen, KSC Director



“THE OPEN HOUSE gave visitors of all ages an opportunity to experience Kennedy Space Center operations. Above, Tom Pentrack, who works with the Vehicle Integration Test Team (VITT), shows his wife, Monica, and son, Michael, almost 2, a headset in Firing Room 2 at the Launch Control Center. On the right, crowds get a close-up view of Discovery in Orbiter Processing Facility Bay 2. More than 30 KSC facilities were open at the annual event, including two newly constructed buildings, the Space Station Processing Facility in the Industrial Area and the Center for Space Education at Spaceport USA, KSC visitors center.”



“THE OPEN HOUSE was an educational experience for, from the left, Mike Connor, Chris Smith and Michelle Smith. Max Kandler explains the function of a space suit in Orbiter Processing Facility (OPF) Bay 3... At right, Henry Mraz and his daughter Larissa, 7, examine a main engine display. Larissa is standing in a mockup of a Shuttle main engine. Mraz works for the Lockheed "Mod Squad" tube shop.”

On page 1.



“CREW MEMBERS for STS-66, set to lift off on Nov. 3 at 11 :56 a. m., thanked shop personnel at Orbiter Processing Facility Bay 3 for their part in preparing Atlantis for flight. From left are Mission Commander Donald McMonagle, Payload Commander Ellen Ochoa, Mission Specialists Joseph "Joe" Tanner and Jean-Francois Clervoy, Pilot Curtis Brown Jr. and Mission Specialist Scott Parazynski.

The mission will continue NASA's Mission to Planet Earth program, launching nine environmental instruments into space to map seasonal variations in the distribution and levels of ozone, chlorine monoxide and more than 30 other gases in the middle atmosphere. The flight will also measure the amount of solar energy output that affects that region of Earth's fragile protective envelope of gases. The primary payload, the Atmospheric Laboratory for Applications and Research (ATLAS-3), has seven instruments that have flown on previous ATLAS missions. Two new atmospheric research instruments will be aboard a small spacecraft that will be deployed and later retrieved during the mission. The 10-day, 20-hour mission is scheduled to end with a landing at KSC.”

On pages 4 and 5, **“WHITE ROOM CLOSEOUT CREW: MASTERS OF GRACE UNDER PRESSURE”**. In part, the article reads “In a small brightly lit room 195 feet above the pad surface, seven workers in numbered white suits quietly and methodically carry out their assigned tasks, setting up equipment and preparing for the arrival of the astronauts... They get their name from the room in which they work, located at the end of the Orbiter Access Arm... and helping astronauts into their spaceship and closing the hatch for flight... “I look for people who have the ability to interact with others, who are cool under pressure and who can take orders, explained Paul Arnold, closeout crew chief for Lockheed at KSC...”

The closeout crew is led by a contractor worker from LSOC/KSC and includes NASA and LSOC workers from both KSC and Johnson Space Center in Houston. The JSC staff includes an astronaut support person – typically a rookie astronaut – and two suit technicians, one from NASA and the other a Texas-based LSOC employee. Other KSC personnel include two additional LSOC technicians and a NASA quality assurance specialist...

Other LSOC/KSC closeout crew members are Carl Bernhardt, Chris Browning, Dave Law, Mike Mangione, Chris Meinert, Travis Thompson, Chet Sparks, Rene Arriens and Rick Welty. Bob Saulnier, Richard Hall and Jim Davis are other KSC/NASA quality assurance personnel who also work on the closeout crew...

The closeout crew is not something one just walks into. Besides having to undergo a physical, a closeout crew member also must become thoroughly familiar with the workings of the orbiter hatch. "I trained for eight months to get on the crew," said NASA QA Specialist Larry Ulmer. STS-62 last February was his first mission as prime...

Before the astronauts arrive, the closeout crew must work a number of OMIs (Operations and Maintenance Instructions), including draining water from the orbiter fuel cells and installing the first lithium hydroxide canisters for air purification in the middeck floor... When the astronauts show up, it gets really busy... The astronauts come into the white room one at a time, while the rest stay out on the 195-foot level...

"Closeout crew is something I've always wanted to do," explained Ulmer. "It's a chance to be up there near the action." "It's an honor," veteran closeout crew chief Paul Arnold stated simply



On the left, "STEVE CROSBIE and other members of the closeout crew give STS-59 Mission Commander Sidney Gutierrez a second take at liftoff as Endeavour prepared for a second launch attempt last April." On the right, "CLOSING THE orbiter hatch is another closeout crew responsibility. Rick Welty, left, and Danny Wyatt examine the hatch during last week's Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test for Mission STS-66."

From The November 4, 1994, Spaceport News

On page 1.

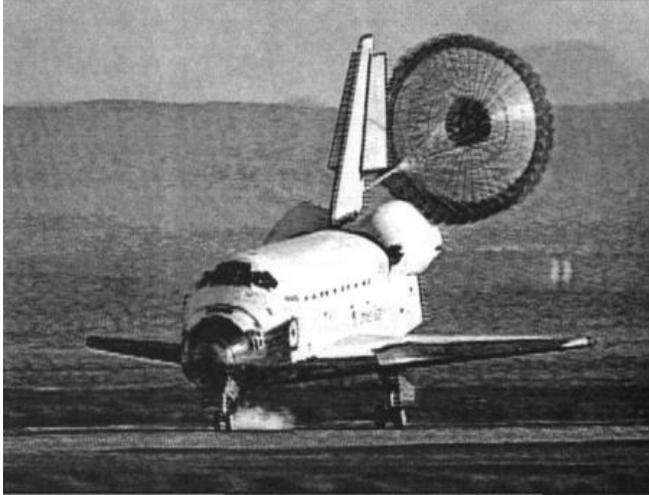


"THE CREW for STS-66, which was scheduled at press time to lift off Nov. 3 at 11:56 a.m., addressed the press after arriving at the Shuttle Landing Facility Monday, Oct. 31. The launch of Atlantis on the third flight of the Atmospheric Laboratory for Applications and Science (ATLAS), is the final mission planned for 1994. From the left are Mission Specialists Jean-Francois Clervoy, Scott Parazynski and Joseph "Joe" Tanner, Mission Commander Donald McMonagle, Payload Commander Ellan Ochoa and Pilot Curtis Brown, Jr. The launch is the first planned for Atlantis since it spent two years at the Rockwell plant in Palmdale, Calif., undergoing 165 modifications to accommodate the orbiter docking system which allows mating with Russia's Mir space station."

From The November 18, 1994, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Gordon sends STS-66 to California for landing**". The caption for the photo on the following page is "HIGH WINDS, low clouds and rain showers resulting from Tropical Storm Gordon forced STS-66 to become the fourth mission this year to be diverted to Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., for landing. Atlantis touched down at 10:34 a. m. Eastern Standard Time on Nov. 14 after traveling 4.5 million miles. The mission, the third flight of the Atmospheric Laboratory for Applications and Science (ATLAS), studied how the Earth's environment is changing and how human beings affect that change.

Project officials for all aspects of the mission were delighted with the results. ATLAS-3 mission scientist Dr. Ken Miller said, "The mission not only met all our expectations but our hopes and dreams as well... "The mission also validated the method to be used in rendezvousing and docking with the Russian Space Station Mir next year."



On page 4, **“STS-63 crew views SPACEHAB in preparation for 1995 mission”**. The article reads “THE ASTRONAUTS assigned to Space Shuttle Mission STS-63 visited the Cape recently for some training with one of the primary payloads for their upcoming flight. The SPACEHAB-3 is undergoing preflight preparation at the SPACEHAB processing facility in Port Canaveral.

One of the highlights of the first Shuttle flight of 1995 will be a rendezvous and flyaround with the Russian Mir space station, an important prelude to the planned docking between the Shuttle and Mir later in the year. Still and video cameras attached to the two SPACEHAB-3 viewing ports will allow the STS-63 commander and pilot to clearly view Mir as the orbiter approaches. The Spartan-204 is the other primary payload.”



“Outside SPACEHAB-3 are (from left) STS-63 Mission Specialist Michael Foale; Sergie Krikalev; STS-63 Mission Commander James Wetherbee; STS-63 Mission Specialists Janice

Voss, Bernard Harris Jr., and Vladimir Titov; and STS-63 Pilot Eileen Collins. Krikalev is sharing his knowledge of Mir with the U.S. astronauts.”

[Also on page 4.](#)



“REKNOWNED undersea explorer Jacques Cousteau enjoys a special briefing for launch guests at Spaceport USA during his visit to KSC for the STS-66 launch earlier this month. Cousteau and his family, from left, son Pierre-Yves, 12, daughter Diane, 14 and, on the right, wife Francine, were invited by astronauts and scuba divers Scott Parazynski and Steven Smith to view the launch. Parazynski flew on STS-66. Cousteau has noted similarities between his work as an undersea explorer and that of the astronauts.”

From The December 2, 1994, Spaceport News

[From page 1.](#)



“WELCOME BACK- The orbiter Atlantis returns to Kennedy Space Center on Nov. 22 bringing to full circle the 1994 Shuttle mission schedule. Atlantis completed the seventh and final Shuttle

flight of the year, STS-66, with a landing at Edwards Air Force Base on Nov. 14. It was the third end-of-mission landing diverted to California in a row and the fourth this year, all due to unacceptable weather in Florida. Atlantis was later towed to Orbiter Processing Facility Bay 3. It currently is scheduled to fly the third Shuttle flight of 1995, which will be the first docking between the U.S. Space Shuttle and Russian Space Station Mir.”

From the December 21, 1994, Spaceport News

From pages 1 and 6, “**Crippen leaving NASA; Honeycutt new director**”. A portion of the two articles read “In announcing his decision to leave NASA last week, Center Director Robert Crippen said he wanted to assure Kennedy Space Center employees that safely launching the Space Shuttle remains NASA’s first priority... Crippen, who piloted the first orbital test flight of the Space Shuttle program – STS-1,... said he was leaving NASA for personal reasons. “Change is good...”, he said... He said that while he has “a few good years left” he hopes to pursue opportunities in private industry... “I’m really proud of what NASA and KSC have accomplished throughout my career”...

Jay Honeycutt was named to become the sixth director of the John F. Kennedy Space Center last week by NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin... Honeycutt succeeds Robert Crippen who is leaving the agency January 21... Honeycutt began his U.S. government career at Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Ala., in 1960 and joined NASA in 1966... In 1967, he became chief, Vehicle Simulation Section in the Flight Operations Directorate at the Johnson Space Center, Houston... In 1976, he was promoted to assistant to the director of Flight Operations... He served in a number of management capacities in the shuttle program...”.



CRIPPEN



HONEYCUTT

On page 7, “**NASA names first astronaut candidate from KSC**”. Part of the article reads “A Lockheed Space Operations Company engineer has become the first Kennedy Space Center employee to be selected by NASA as an astronaut. Kathryn Hire, 35, was among 19 new astronaut candidates named last week. She was selected from among nearly 3,000 applicants, including two other KSC workers who each took part in a week-long interview process last summer... She graduated from the Naval Academy in 1981

and has a master's degree in space technology from the Florida Institute of Technology... Hire said the biggest immediate change the selection has had on her life is the impending move to Houston. Her report date is March 6."



HIRE

On pages 4 and 5, "**Christmas Coffees '94**".



On page 8, “**Christmas door winners deck space center halls**”. In part, the article reads “The annual Kennedy Space Center Christmas door competition was held Dec. 14...”.



“**First Place Traditional** – Complex F, Lockheed Configuration Accounting and Verification. From left: Bill Alexander, Charlotte Leinbach.”



On the left, “**First Place Modern** – M&O Building, EG&G Maintenance and Operations, Paint and Carpenter Shops. From left: Darnell Anderson, Wanda Rucker.” On the right, “**First Place Funniest** – Launch Control Center, EG&G Protective Services Control Center. From left: Renee Story, Nita Hitchcock, Linda Scarboro, Candice Norman.”

The astronauts of Apollo — Where are they now?

Compiled by Alan Aldinger

The 29 astronauts who flew the 11 manned Apollo missions either helped pave the way to the moon or landed and walked there. They are very much in our minds as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of Apollo 11's historic mission.

Spaceport News has done a little investigating to find out where they are now.

The commander of the Apollo mission is listed first, followed by the command module pilot and the lunar module pilot. Mission dates and significance also are provided.

Apollo 7 — Oct. 11-22, 1968. First manned flight test of Apollo hardware:



Walter Schirra Jr. — aerospace consultant, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.



Donn Eisele — died Dec. 2, 1987 in Tokyo, Japan.



Walter Cunningham — partner, Acorn Ventures Inc., Houston, Texas.

Apollo 8 — Dec. 21-27, 1968. First manned circumlunar mission:



Frank Borman — chairman of the board, Patlex Corporation, Las Cruces, N.M.



James Lovell — president, Lovell Communications, Lake Forest, Ill.



William Anders — retired chairman, General Dynamics Corp., East Sound, Wash.

Apollo 9 — March 3-13, 1969. First flight test of lunar module:



James McDivitt — senior vice president, Government Operations, Rockwell International Corp., Arlington, Va.



David Scott — president of Scott Science and Technology, Inc., Manhattan Beach, Calif.



Rusty Schweickart — involved in satellite communications business, Tiburon, Calif.



Apollo 10 — May 18-26, 1969. Tested lunar module, rendezvous, docking in lunar orbit:

Tom Stafford — partner, Stafford, Burke and Hecker Inc., Alexandria, Va.



John Young — special assistant to the director, Johnson Space Center, Houston.



Eugene Cernan — president, The Cernan Energy Group, Houston, Texas.



Apollo 11 — July 16-24, 1969. First manned lunar landing, Sea of Tranquility:

Neil Armstrong — chairman, AIL Systems, Lebanon, Ohio.



Michael Collins — retired, Avon, N.C.



Buzz Aldrin — chairman of the board, National Space Society, Laguna Beach, Calif.



Apollo 12 — Nov. 14-24, 1969. Landed at Ocean of Storms:

Charles "Pete" Conrad Jr. — vice president, McDonnell Douglas Aerospace, Huntington Beach, Calif.



Richard Gordon Jr. — president, Space Age America Inc., Manhattan Beach, Calif.



Alan Bean — American space artist, Houston, Texas.



Apollo 13 — April 11-17, 1970. Lunar landing aborted after oxygen tank rupture:

James Lovell Jr. — president, Lovell Communications, Lake Forest, Ill.



John "Jack" Swigert Jr. — died Dec. 27, 1982 in Washington, D.C.



Fred Haise — senior vice president, Grumman Technical Services Division, Titusville, Fla.



Apollo 14 — Jan. 31-Feb. 9, 1971. Landed at Fra Mauro:

Alan Shepard Jr. — president, Mercury 7 Foundation, Pebble Beach, Calif.



Stuart Roosa — president, Gulf Coast Coors Inc., Gulfport, Miss.



Edgar Mitchell — founder, Institute of Noetic Science of Sausalito, Calif.; resides, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.



Apollo 15 — July 26-Aug. 7, 1971. Landed at Hadley Apennine:

David Scott — president, Scott Science and Technology Inc., Manhattan Beach, Calif.



Al Worden Jr. — vice president, technology acquisition & new business, B.F. Goodrich, Brecksville, Ohio.



Jim Irwin — died Aug. 8, 1991, in Glenwood Springs, Colo.



Apollo 16 — April 16-27, 1972. Landed on the Descartes highlands:

John Young — special assistant to the director of the Johnson Space Center.



Tom Mattingly II — vice president and director of Atlas programs, Martin Marietta, San Diego, Calif.



Charles Duke Jr. — Charlie Duke Enterprises, New Braunfels, Texas.



Apollo 17 — Dec. 7-19, 1972. Last lunar mission; landed at Taurus-Littrow.

Eugene Cernan — president, The Cernan Energy Group, Houston, Texas.



Ron Evans — died April 7, 1990 in Scottsdale, Ariz.



Harrison Schmitt — science and technology consultant, Albuquerque, N.M.