Mission update

Inside

2000 Spaceport News Summary

There were two main banners used in 2000; shown above, with the bottom version taking over with the June 30, 2000, issue of the Spaceport News. The Mission update feature, on the left-hand side of the first page, looks to have lasted through the June 30th issue, when an "Inside" feature replaced the Mission update, showcasing articles in the Spaceport News, by description and page number. This feature was in the remainder of the 2000 issues.

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 Spaceport Magazine, a monthly issue, superseded the Spaceport News in April 2014, until the final issue, Jan./Feb. 2020.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, 2000, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 3, **"Child-care facility gets an A".** Part of the article reads "Billie Abner, administrator for the Child Development Center (CDC), learned in early January that the facility had achieved accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Under government policy, all child care facilities at NASA centers must either have accreditation or be in the process of pursuing it…

KSC's facility, with a staff of about 35 employees, accommodates approximately 140 children ranging in age from six weeks to kindergarten… The center opened in 1990 under contractor management and moved under the aegis of the NASA Exchange in 1996. Abner joined the facility in August of 1998 with the primary goal of leading the accreditation process, something she had participated in at other NASA centers… The Child Development Center will receive a symbolic torch for display as a sign of the NAEYC accreditation."

"Child Development Center administrator Billie Abner, top right, shares time with youngsters at the facility. CDC employee Lillie Ann Mazion, right, helps a trio get into the swing of things."

On page 2, **“Spaceport News is online and in color”.** In part, the feature reads “Issues of Spaceport News dating back to 1996 can be found on the World Wide Web… Color versions of Spaceport News are posted to the web site at the time of publication. This online availability offers an opportunity for KSC to reduce the number of paper copies that are distributed…”.

Also on page 2, **“Mission accomplished”.**

“The crew of STS-103 poses in front of the orbiter Discovery following its return to Earth on Dec. 27 at 7:00:47 p.m. at the Shuttle Landing Facility. Standing left to right are Commander Curtis L. Brown Jr., Mission Specialist Claude Nicollier of Switzerland, Pilot Scott J. Kelly, and Mission Specialists Jean-Francois Clervoy of France, C. Michael Foale, John M. Grunsfeld and Steven L. Smith. The crew spent eight days — including Christmas — in space to bring the Hubble Space Telescope back into operation. During the mission, Discovery’s four spacewalking astronauts, Smith, Foale, Grunsfeld and Nicollier, spent 24 hours and 33 minutes upgrading and refurbishing Hubble, making it more capable than ever to renew its observations of the universe. Mission objectives included replacing gyroscopes and an old computer, installing another solid state recorder, and replacing damaged insulation in the telescope. The flawless landing on Runway 33 marked the 20th consecutive Shuttle landing at KSC.”

On page 4, **“Student artists help mark 50th anniversary”.** Part of the story reads “The winners of a recent youth art contest to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Bumper launch will be honored in a dedication ceremony on Jan. 22. The event will take place at Space View Park in Titusville beginning at 10:30 a.m. As part of the year-long celebration of the historic occasion, the 50th Anniversary Committee sponsored a commemorative plaque drawing contest…

The winning design will be used to develop a two-foot-by-two foot granite plaque to be placed at the U.S. Space Walk of Fame at Space View Park, on the shore of the Indian River… The contest ran from Aug. 24 through Oct. 31 last year. A selection committee, consisting of state senator Patsy Kurth, Florida Today columnist Milt Salamon, 45th Space Wing representative Carmen Beecher, KSC representative Steve Dutczak of Public Affairs and Space Gateway Support representative Chuck Debelius…

Jiae Hwang of Satellite High School supplied the winning drawing. The following students also were honored: Kalolaine Pahulu, Bayside High School (second place), Jeremy Petrie, Palm Bay High School (third place), and Ryan McNeill of Melbourne High School and James Martin of Satellite High School (honorable mention).’

From The January 28, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 1, **“Mission update STS-99”.** A portion of the feature says “The Space Shuttle Endeavour was scheduled at press time to launch from Pad 39A on Jan. 31 at 12:47 p.m., carrying six astronauts on mission STS-99. The launch window extends for 2 hours and 2 minutes… STS-99 will register as the 97th Space Shuttle launch and the 14th flight of Endeavour. Landing at the end of the 11-day mission is planned for KSC’s Shuttle Landing Facility on Feb. 11 at 4:55 p.m.”

On pages 1 and 5, **“Leaders pledge to keep Florida ahead in space race”.** Part of the article reads “…The first Florida Space Summit on Jan. 14 brought together a formidable assembly of leaders from state and federal government, private industry, NASA and the Air Force in a discussion about Florida’s future in space launches. “This meeting is unprecedented,” NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin said early in the two-

and-a-half-hour session. “I’ve been administrator for eight years now, and I’ve never been invited to a meeting like this.”…

Much of the discussion focused on Florida’s growing competition for space launch business. Lieutenant Governor Frank Brogan seemed to sum up the concerns of others on the matter. “Our simple geography doesn’t give us the complete advantage we once had,” Brogan said… “Far too many people just take space for granted because it has been here, it is here and they think it always will be here on the Space Coast,” Brogan added. “We don’t want to just hang on to (the space program), we want to grow it in Florida.”

“Participants in the Space Summit at the KSC Visitor Complex included (from left) Senator Connie Mack, NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin, Florida Governor Jeb Bush, Senator Bob Graham and U.S. Representative Dave Weldon.”

On page 2.

“Viki Brennan, Central Florida District Manager for the United States Postal Service, unveils a postage stamp on Jan. 12 commemorating the Space Shuttle program. The stamp, part of the “Celebrate the Century” series, is one of 15 symbols of memorable developments from the 1980s. Joining Brennan at the ceremony in the Visitor Complex’s Universe Theater are, from left, NASA astronaut Richard Linnehan, United States Representative Dave Weldon, KSC Director Roy Bridges and Visitor Complex President Rick Abramson.”

Also on page 2, **"New transporters promise smooth ride for payloads".** In part, the story reads "A pair of new transporters for NASA's payload canisters that carry spacecraft and International Space Station elements from payload facilities to and from the launch pads and the orbiter hangars arrived at KSC on Monday, Jan 17. The transporters were shipped by barge from their manufacturer, KAMAG Transporttechnik, GmbH, of Ulm, Germany… "The addition of these new transporters will assure the long term reliability for moving payload canisters," said Ira Kight, chief of ground system engineering at NASA…".

"One of two new payload transporters for Kennedy Space Center sits on the dock at Port Canaveral after being shipped by barge from Germany."

On page 3, **"STS-99 set to map mountains, molehills".** A portion of the story says "The first mission of 2000 will take the Space Shuttle Endeavour 145 miles above the Earth in order to get a precise look at the planet's surface. STS-99, the Shuttle Radar Topography Mission, features a crew of six. The mission is commanded by Kevin R. Kregel, who makes his fourth flight. Pilot Dominic Gorie (Cmdr., U.S. Navy) will take part in his second mission, having served the same role on STS-91, the final docking mission to the Russian space station Mir.

Mission Specialist Janet L. Kavandi, who has a doctorate in analytical chemistry, also is making her second trip to space. Fellow Mission Specialist Janice Voss is the mission's most experienced member with four previous flights. The final two mission specialists reflect the international element of the space program. Mamoru Mohri, making his second flight, represents NASDA, the Japanese space agency. Gerhard P.J. Thiele will make his first space flight as a representative of the European Space Agency.

Endeavour will carry into space a sophisticated array of radar equipment, including two antennae and a 200-foot mast that will extend from the payload bay. The mission is expected to gather close to 1 trillion measurements of the Earth's topography… No spacewalks are planned during the mission. The crew, however, will be prepared for the possibility of as many as three spacewalks if parts of the radar system must be deployed or retracted manually. Landing at KSC is scheduled for Feb. 11 at 4:55 p.m."

“The crew of STS-99 takes a break from recent Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test activities at the 167-foot level of the Fixed Service Structure on Launch Pad 39A. From left to right are Mission Specialist Janet Lynn Kavandi (Ph.D.), Commander Kevin Kregel, Mission Specialists Janice Voss (Ph.D.), Gerhard Thiele and Mamoru Mohri, and Pilot Dominic Gorie. The top of a solid rocket booster and the external tank are visible behind them.”

On page 4, **“McMonagle departs for industry position”.** In part, the feature reads “Veteran astronaut and senior Space Shuttle manager Donald R. McMonagle departed NASA on Jan. 14 for a position in private industry. “Don has given tremendous service to NASA and this country,” said Ron Dittemore, Space Shuttle program manager…

During a farewell ceremony held at KSC on Jan. 12, McMonagle received mementos from Center Director Roy Bridges and other high-ranking KSC officials. McMonagle has served at KSC as manager of Launch Integration for the Space Shuttle Program since 1997. His responsibilities included managing shuttle launch preparations, overseeing launch of the shuttle and ensuring the safe return of the shuttle to KSC following landings at remote locations. He also served as chairman of the Space Shuttle Mission Management Team for launch…”.

“Don McMonagle, former Shuttle manager of Launch Integration, speaks with astronauts Janice Voss and Janice Kavandi during a farewell gathering.”

From The February 11, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 7, **"KSC takes venerable pilot under its wing".** A portion of the feature states "…Ralph Charles, the oldest licensed pilot in the United States at age 100, was one of the VIPs at the Banana Creek viewing area for that day's launch attempt. Weather forced a postponement of the STS99 launch until Feb. 11. Charles is one of the few remaining links to the origins of aviation. Born in Middletown, Ohio, on Nov. 8, 1899, he took flying lessons from Bernard Whelan, one of the first fliers trained by Orville Wright…

Charles worked at building airplanes during the 1930s and then began flying chartered planes based at the Standard Oil hangar in Newark, N.J… In 1943, "…Charles and his wife, Leona, returned to Ohio, where he worked for the Curtiss Wright Airplane Company as a civilian test pilot… He stopped flying in the mid1940s, honoring the request of his wife, who had grown tired of their frequent moves… Following his wife's death "…in 1995, after 70 years of marriage, he bought a World War II-era plane called a Defender and regained his pilot's license. Despite his long hiatus from aviation, he carries more than 6,000 hours of flight time. That experience includes a couple of crashes….".

"Astronaut Andy Thomas greets 100-year-old Ralph Charles at the STS-99 launch attempt on Jan. 31."

Ralph passed in 2003, at the age of 103. This Zanesville Time Recorder article is a good read on Ralph.

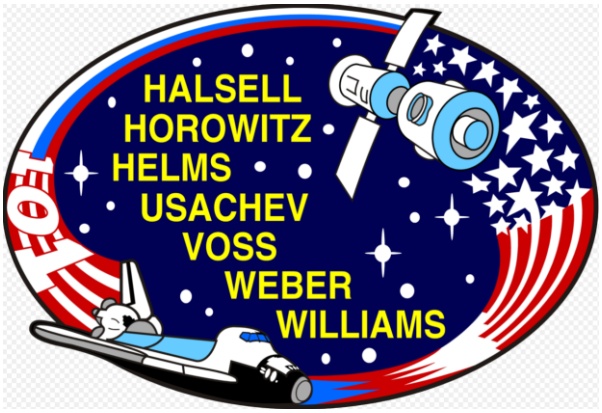
From The February 25, 2000, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 3, **"Mission update for STS-101 and STS-106".** Part of the feature reads "Veteran Shuttle commanders James Halsell and Terrence Wilcutt will lead the

next two missions to continue on-orbit assembly of the International Space Station, NASA managers announced on Feb. 18. Halsell will lead a crew of seven on the STS-101 mission, which is scheduled to launch aboard Space Shuttle Atlantis no earlier than April 13… Wilcutt will lead the seven-member crew on the STS-106 mission, which is scheduled to launch aboard the Space Shuttle Atlantis no earlier than Aug. 19…".

Mission patches were not included in the Spaceport News article. The following is from Wikipedia.

"The STS-101 mission patch commemorates the third Space Shuttle flight supporting the assembly of the International Space Station (ISS). This flight's primary tasks are to outfit the ISS and extend its lifetime, and to conduct a spacewalk to install external components in preparation for the docking of the Russian Service Module, Zvezda, and the arrival of the first ISS crew. The Space Shuttle is depicted in an orbit configuration prior to docking with the ISS. The ISS is depicted in the stage of assembly completed for the STS-101 mission, which consists of the United States-built Unity module and the Russian-built Zarya module. The three large stars represent the third ISS mission in the assembly sequence. The elements and colors of the border reflect the flags of the nations represented by the STS-101 crew members, the United States and Russia."



"This is the crew patch for the STS-106 mission, which is the first Shuttle flight to the International Space Station since the arrival of its newest component, the Russian-supplied Service Module Zvezda (Russian for star). Zvezda is depicted on the crew patch mated with the already orbiting Node 1 Unity module and Russian-built Functional Cargo Block, called Zarya (sunrise), with a Progress supply vehicle docked to the rear of the Station. The International Space Station is shown in orbit with Earth above as it appears from the perspective of space. The Astronaut Office symbol, a star with three rays of light, provides a connection between the Space Shuttle Atlantis and the Space Station, much the same as the Space Shuttle Program is linked to the International Space Station during its construction and future research operations. Stylized versions

of flags from Russia and the United States meet at the Space Station. They symbolize both the cooperation and joint efforts of the two countries during the development and deployment of the permanent outpost in space as well as the close relationship of the American and Russian crew members."

On pages 1 and 2, **"Tests offer green light for Station".** Part of the story reads "Atlantis, Houston. You are 'go' to perform critical activation of the U.S. Lab." Those words are much closer to reality with the recent completion at KSC of the most comprehensive series of integrated tests in the human space flight program since the first Space Shuttle was tested before its initial flight. The operations performed by a Multi-Element Integration Test (MEIT) team required International Space Station (ISS) flight hardware elements for four missions to be arranged on the ground as closely as possible to their eventual on-orbit configuration. From Jan. 18 through Feb. 7, the MEIT team conducted testing 24 hours a day, seven days a week…

NASA engineers at KSC, JSC, and MSFC developed and implemented test procedures based on ISS program requirements and worked in a team environment during execution of the tests… The elements involved in the test were the PMA-3 and the Z-1 Truss (ISS-3A/STS-92), the PVM-P6 truss (ISS-4A/STS-97), and Destiny, the U.S. Laboratory module (ISS-5A/STS-98). With the successful completion of testing on the ground, the Station elements will be disconnected to begin their individual launch processing for flight and will not be joined again until they reach orbit…".

"Workers in the Space Station Processing Facility monitor elements of the International Space Station during recent operations in the Multi-Element Integration Test. A mission sequence test confirmed the compatibility of elements for four upcoming flights to the Space Station."

On page 3, **"Rising radar".** The caption for the photo on the following page is "The Space Shuttle Endeavour rises into a perfectly clear sky from Pad 39A during its launch on Feb. 11. The Shuttle Radar Topography Mission, the first mission of 2000, proved to be a great success. Using specially designed radar equipment, the STS-99 crew

completed its goal of mapping most of the Earth's land mass, gathering data that will lead to the creation of the most precise surface maps ever produced. The six-person crew of Endeavour was scheduled to land at KSC's Shuttle Landing Facility on Feb. 22. STS-99 was the 97th Space Shuttle mission."

On page 8, **"Visitor Complex unveils exhibits, Debus facility".** In part, the article says "As you approached the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex on Feb. 19, the sparkle of neon lights and aroma of wonderful food set the scene for the start of an outstanding event to showcase four new exhibits at Kennedy Space Center. The opening of these new interactive, hands-on exhibits to enthuse and educate visitors marked the final phase of a more than $120 million redevelopment project by Delaware North Parks Services of Spaceport, Inc…

The Dr. Kurt H. Debus Conference Facility, named for KSC's first director, is located within the new Early Space Exploration building… The exhibits include three dimensional views of Mars, a piece of Mars rock that fell to Earth as a meteorite and an entertaining presentation of technologies which may take us to the stars… The evening's astronauts were Gene Cernan and Wally Schirra. During this innovative show, guests viewed mission briefings, video footage, space artifacts and have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to ask questions and receive answers of personal stories of space travel by those who lived it.

"It is inspirational to feel the children's inspiration as they see these exhibits," said Gene Cernan. "The goal is to inspire young people to search for the mystery of life," Center Director Roy Bridges said. "These exhibits will encourage children to continue this journey and learn the fun of exploring."

"Ute Debus, left, and Sigi Debus Northcutt were on hand for the dedication of the conference facility to their father, Dr. Kurt H. Debus, KSC's first director."

The Debus Conference Center is now co-located with "HEROES AND LEGENDS/ASTRONAUT HALL OF FAME", at the KSC Visitor Complex, next to the Rocket Garden. The below photo is from the KSC Visitor Complex website.

From The March 10, 2000, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 2, **"Walking the talk - Center director's safety walk downs set an example".** In part, the article reads Roy "Bridges began performing the monthly safety walk downs in 1998 as part of KSC's response to the Agency Safety Initiative. Once each month, he devotes a full hour to the inspection of a specific work area. If he notices any potentially unsafe conditions, he assigns the appropriate supervisor the task of fixing the problem and reporting back to him. The walk downs are not restricted to areas — such as the Orbiter Processing Facility — that might be considered high safety

risks. Bridges gives equal attention to the office environments in which many KSC employees work…”.

“KSC Director Roy Bridges keeps an eye out for hazards during a recent safety walk down at the Operations Support Building.”

On page 3, **“Station crews shift into gear”.**

“LEFT: The newly formed crew of STS-101 poses in front of the Spacehab double module in the Space Station Processing Facility. In the foreground from left are Mission Specialists Jeffrey Williams and Mary Ellen Weber, Commander James Halsell and Pilot Scott Horowitz; in the back are Mission Specialists James Voss, Yuri Usachev of Russia and Susan Helms.”

On page 7, **"Astronaut tells of skin cancer tragedy".** Part of the article says "As astronaut Jeff Ashby stood in the Mission Briefing Room, he held the rapt attention of his audience — but not by sharing his experiences on STS-93. "I'm not here to talk about space," Ashby said. "I'm here to talk about life."

Ashby, one of the speakers at the NASA Skin Cancer Prevention Program Kick-off on Feb. 24, proceeded to give a brief but moving account of his experience with the disease. He told how in 1993 he noticed an irregular mole on the back of his wife, Diana, the day before he left for a six-month Navy deployment. The spot was diagnosed as melanoma and removed, but less than a year later Diana noticed a lump under her arm. The melanoma had spread to her lymph nodes. Three years later — following numerous surgeries and other exhaustive treatments — Diana died at age 33.

"It was without doubt the toughest three years of my life," Ashby said. "I saw her go through endless pain. ... All of that came from one tiny little mole on the center of Diana's back." Asbhy's words offered an emotional complement to the scientific descriptions and practical advice dispensed during the kickoff event."…

"Astronaut Jeff Ashby gives an interview to a TV reporter during his appearance at the KSC Skin Cancer Prevention Program Kick-off on Feb. 24."

From The March 24, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 1, **"Mission update STS-101".** Part of the update says "Shuttle managers have set a target launch date of no earlier than April 17 for Space Shuttle Atlantis on STS-101… Space Shuttle Atlantis was scheduled at press time for rollout to Launch Pad 39A on March 24. Landing is planned for April 28 at Kennedy Space Center…".

From The April 7, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 1, **“Mission update”.**

Part of the update reads “Program managers have selected April 24 as the target launch date for STS-101. The launch is scheduled to occur at approximately 4:15 p.m. The planned landing time for the mission is May 4 at about 11 a.m. The launch date reflects a one-week change from a previous target date, allowing Mission Commander Jim Halsell to complete planned training activities. Those activities were delayed because of an ankle injury Halsell sustained during training on March 15…”.

Also on page 1, **“Atlantis reaches first stop”.**

“The Space Shuttle Atlantis, riding aboard the Mobile Launcher Platform, ascends the ramp to Launch Pad 39A on March 25. The platform, which travels at about 1 mile per hour while carrying an orbiter, tilts to keep the flight assembly in a level position during the climb to the pad. Atlantis will carry a crew of seven on STS-101, a mission dedicated to the maintenance of the International Space Station….”.

On page 2, **“Flexing their arm”.** The caption for the photo on the following page is “Members of the MacDonald Dettwiler Space and Advanced Robotics Limited team celebrate the completion of a recent Multi-Element Integration Test in the Space Station Processing Facility. The team verified the compatibility of the Canadian-built Space

Station Remote Manipulator System (SSRMS), or robotic arm, with the Laboratory Module. The SSRMS will be launched on Flight 6A, targeted for 2001. Tom Young, manager of the MacDonald Dettwiler contingent at KSC, offered thanks “to everyone at KSC for their professional and personal support.”

On page 3, **“Getting ready, inside and out”.**

“Workers in the Vehicle Assembly Building oversee the replacement of Main Engine No. 1 in Space Shuttle Atlantis. Because of concerns about a possibly defective fuel pump tip seals, launch managers decided to replace the engine with one scheduled for installation on Discovery. The main engine nozzle, visible in the photo, is 7.8 feet across and 9.4 feet high…”.

On page 7, **“Kids’ day at Center rescheduled for summer”.** Part of the feature reads
“There is a change this year in the timing of KSC’s participation in children-at-work

days. In the past, NASA has observed Take Our Daughters to Work Day on the fourth Thursday in April, followed in June by a Take Our Sons to Work Day.

Because of the need to keep the students in the classroom as part of an effort to increase learning time and raise test scores, children in Brevard County no longer receive excused absences in April. As a result, KSC will officially observe a Take Our Children to Work Day on the last Friday in July…".

Also on page 7, **"Staring contest winner".**

"A baby owl, possibly a screech owl, stares at a photographer after being found March 30 on the stairs inside Hangar G at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. The bird had apparently tried to fly from a nest near the ceiling but couldn't get back to it. Workers called an Audubon rescue center in Maitland, which captured it and will ensure the bird is returned to the wild when it's ready."

From The April 21, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 3, **"Crew counts on preparation".** The caption for the photo on the following page is "The crew of STS-101 participated in Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test (TCDT) activities at KSC on April 6-7… During a break in TCDT activities, the STS-101 crew takes time for a photo at Launch Pad 39A…". From left to right, standing, are Jim

Voss, Commander Jim Halsell, Jeff Williams, Mary Ellen Weber, and Yury Usachev. Kneeling are Pilot Scott Horowitz and Susan Helms.

On pages 4 and 5, **"Scenes from a picnic".** The feature reads "The KSC All-American Picnic, held on April 15 at KARS Park, provided a variety of entertainment for approximately 5,000 employees."

"Center Director Roy Bridges rides aboard a 1938 Ford fire engine during the picnic's opening ceremonies. A group of astronauts occupies the aft compartment of the vehicle."

On the left, “A KSC employee and his youngster spend some time with a space-suited host.“ “At right, astronauts and former KSC employees Joan Higginbotham (left) and Kay Hire get acquainted with some potential future space explorers.”

On page 5, “**Apollo 16 astronaut tries out a new seat**”.

“Almost exactly 28 years after launching on Apollo 16, former astronaut Charles Duke sits in the cockpit of the Space Shuttle Endeavour. Duke, who contributed to the placement of instruments in the original Space Shuttle cockpit, had never been inside an orbiter before his recent trip to KSC. Duke now can say that he has been in the same seat as former colleague John Young, who flew on the first Space Shuttle mission in 1981. Duke and Young explored the surface of the moon together in a lunar rover as part of Apollo 16, which launched on April 16, 1972. Duke, 64, now lives in Texas.”

On page 6, **“Shriver leaves KSC for industry job”.** A portion of the story reads “Loren J. Shriver, a former Space Shuttle astronaut who became one of KSC’s highest-ranking executives, has retired from NASA to take a position in private industry. Shriver, 56, began work at KSC as the Space Shuttle Program Manager for Launch Integration in 1993. He had served as Deputy Director for Launch and Payload Processing since 1997. Shriver has been named deputy program manager of operations for United Space Alliance, NASA’s prime contractor for the Space Shuttle program…

After joining the astronaut program in 1978, Shriver flew on three Space Shuttle missions. He served as pilot for STS-51C in 1985, and fulfilled the role of commander on two subsequent missions, STS-31 in 1990 and STS-46 in 1992… Before joining the astronaut program, Shriver had a distinguished career in the Air Force…”.

Loren Shriver

On page 8, **“Making progress”.**

“A recent aerial photo shows the continued progress in construction of the remote launch vehicle hangar., located at the south end of the Shuttle Landing Facility. Next to the multi-purpose RLV hangar are facilities for related ground support equipment and administrative/ technical support. At the bottom of the photo is the tow-way road which connects the runway with the Orbiter Processing Facility.”

From the May 5, 2000, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 3, **"KSC proves capabilities 3 times over".** Part of the feature states "STS-101 offered a reminder that, for all the intricate choreography KSC manages during a Space Shuttle launch, there remains one crucial element beyond the Center's control: the weather. For three consecutive days, launch teams and the crew of seven astronauts were fully prepared to send Atlantis on a course for the International Space Station. But unacceptable weather each day — either at KSC or elsewhere— kept the Shuttle on the ground. It was the first time that managers attempted a launch on three consecutive days.

For the attempts on April 24 and 25, crosswinds in excess of the established limits at KSC's Shuttle Landing Facility prevented launch… The weather at KSC was fine on the third attempt, but the planned launch succumbed to poor conditions at all three of the Trans-Atlantic Landing Sites — two in Spain and one in Morocco… Atlantis will remain on Launch Pad 39A until the next launch attempt, currently targeted for about 6:33 a.m. on May 18. The countdown clock is scheduled to begin at the T-43 hour mark on the morning of May 15.

The consecutive launch attempts put considerable strain on KSC's supply of liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen, the propellants used in the Shuttle's external tank… Tankers began arriving to restock the tanks between the third weather scrub and the rescheduled launch attempt. Shuttle Test Director Steve Altemus said KSC will receive about 75 tankers carrying more than 300,000 gallons of liquid oxygen by next week. Another 25 tankers will bring 250,000 gallons of liquid hydrogen…".

"Air Force Captain Cliff Stargardt of the 45th Weather Squadron shows landing site wind readings to reporters at the KSC Press Site on the day of a launch attempt."

On page 6, **"Olympic torch gets flying start".** Part of the article reads "…A replica of the Olympic symbol is set to travel aboard Atlantis on STS-101, scheduled to launch from KSC on May 18. Stowed below the crew compartment, the torch will traverse approximately 4 million miles in space during the mission. The Sydney 2000 Games Olympic flag also was stowed aboard Atlantis. The torch's ride to the International

Space Station resulted from the efforts of NASA astronaut Andy Thomas, a native of Australia. “I had the idea about a year ago to see if we could fly the Olympic torch,” Thomas said. “That was approved by all the appropriate people. The official torch relay is going to start (in May), so this is a sort of unofficial preliminary to that.”

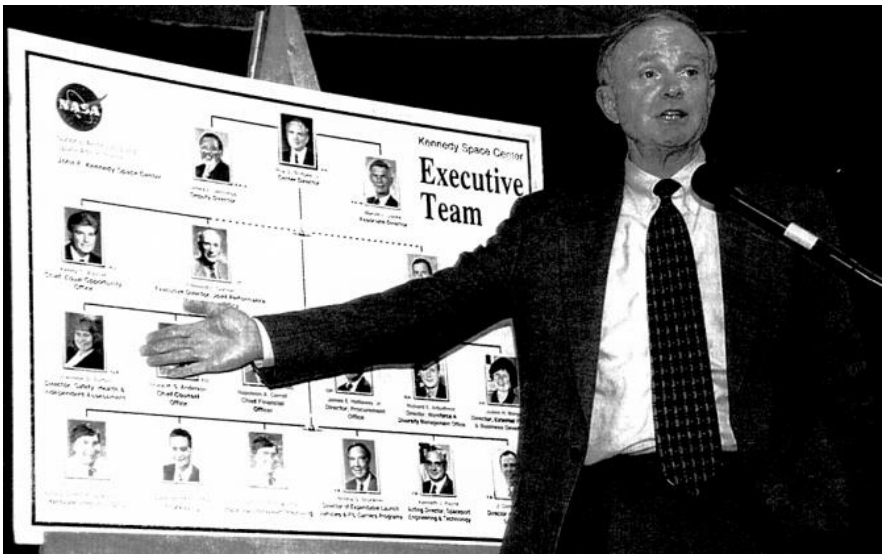
Thomas appeared at KSC during launch attempts on April 24 and 25 to draw attention to the torch. He demonstrated a replica of the device, a gracefully curved instrument made of lightweight materials… Thomas, a veteran of two space missions, packed a boomerang aboard the Space Shuttle for his first mission — a gesture intended to ensure his return. Thomas last flew in 1998 on STS-89, a docking mission to the Mir Space Station. He returned to Earth 141 days later with the crew of STS-91…”.

“Astronaut Andy Thomas displays a likeness of the Olympic torch that will travel on mission STS-101.”

From The May 19, 2000, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 3, **“KSC 2000 launches a new era”.** In part, the feature reads “After months of planning, the new organizational structure of Kennedy Space Center officially took effect on May 7. The structure replaces the previous 21 directorates with 15 organizations reporting to the Center Director. At a press conference the day of the unveiling, Center Director Roy Bridges was asked about the driving force for the reorganization. “There are several, not the least of which is the fact we’ve been an organization that’s been in pretty much the same configuration for about 20 years.” Bridges said. “The world has changed a lot in 20 years, and our role at the Center has changed too. It’s a way of catching up, and quite frankly we probably should have done this a lot earlier.”

The organization includes entirely new offices: Safety, Health and Independent Assessment; Workforce and Diversity Management; External Relations; and Business Development; Spaceport Engineering and Technology; and Spaceport Services. Bridges added that the old structure didn't reflect the realities of the KSC workforce… Bridges said "…You might say we cleaned up the yard a little bit to let our customers know where to find what they need."…



"Center Director Roy Bridges displays a chart showing KSC's new organization structure at a press conference."

From The June 2, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 1, **"Station gets boost from crew".** The article reads "On the fourth attempt, the weather was perfect. Space Shuttle Atlantis pierced the pre-dawn dimness on May 19, carrying a crew of seven on a course to the International Space Station. Atlantis docked with the station, and two astronauts completed a space walk of nearly seven hours, making repairs and attaching supplies.

The mission will prepare the Station for the arrival of the Zvezda Service Module, expected to be launched by Russia in July 2000. It was the first rendezvous with the Space Station since STS-96, about a year earlier. Before undocking, the crew used the Shuttle's thrusters to lift the station into a higher orbit.

The 98th Space Shuttle mission concluded with a landing at Kennedy Space Center early on the morning of May 29."

“The Space Shuttle Atlantis soars into the predawn sky on May 19, with the exhaust from the solid rocket boosters providing illumination. After three previous weather scrubs, conditions were ideal for a launch.”

Also on page 1, **“Mission update STS-106 and STS-92”.** Part of the feature says “STS-106 is scheduled to launch no earlier than Aug. 19. The mission will complete the work begun by the crew of STS-101. Mission managers decided earlier in the year to distribute between the two flights the duties originally planned for one mission…

Following STS-101, the Space Shuttle Atlantis will make a fast turnaround for the flight of STS-106… The STS-92 mission is scheduled to launch no earlier than Sept. 21.”

The following STS-92 mission patch and patch description on the next page are from Wikipedia.

“Designed by the crew members, the STS-92 patch symbolizes the second mission to carry U.S.-built elements to the International Space Station (ISS) for assembly. The black silhouette of the Space Shuttle Discovery stands out against the deep blue background of space in low Earth orbit.

In the foreground in gray is a profile view of the ISS as it appears when the shuttle and crew arrive, with the station consisting of the Unity node, its two pressurized mating adapters (PMA), the Zarya functional cargo block, the Zvezda service module, and the Progress cargo vehicle. Following the shuttle's rendezvous and docking, the ISS configuration will be augmented by the two elements delivered by Discovery–the Z1 truss and PMA-3. These two elements, depicted in red, will be installed using the shuttle's robot arm and be connected to ISS during four spacewalks. The multi-national nature of both the STS-92 crew and the ISS are reflected in the multi-colored Astronaut Office symbol.”

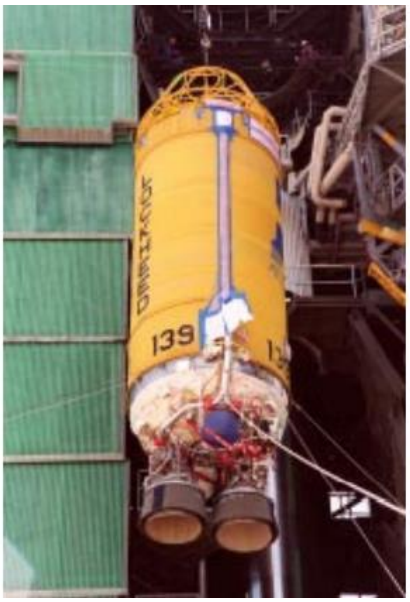
From The June 16, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 1, **“NASA fire-fighting equipment put to test”.**

“When a fire on Kennedy Space Center grounds broke out near Launch Complex 39 Area, between S.R. 3 and the Indian River. NASA/KSC used its “Bambi” bucket -- a high-impact-resistant flexible plastic bucket -- to pick up water (as in photo at left) and drop it on the site of the fire (right). The bucket holds 324 gallons.”

On page 3, **“Getting ready for TDRS and getting TDRS ready for launch”.** The caption for the photo on the next page is “Cape Canaveral Air Force Station begins building the Atlas IIA/ Centaur rocket that will propel the TDRS satellite into space. On the far left, the Atlas arrives at Launch Pad 36A where it will be raised to vertical and lifted up the gantry. The middle photo shows the Centaur upper stage being hoisted up the gantry to be mated with the Atlas. At right, the TDRS is moved to a mating adapter

in the Spacecraft Assembly and Encapsulation Facility (SAEF-2). At right and left of the TDRS are the fairing which will encapsulate the satellite for launch."

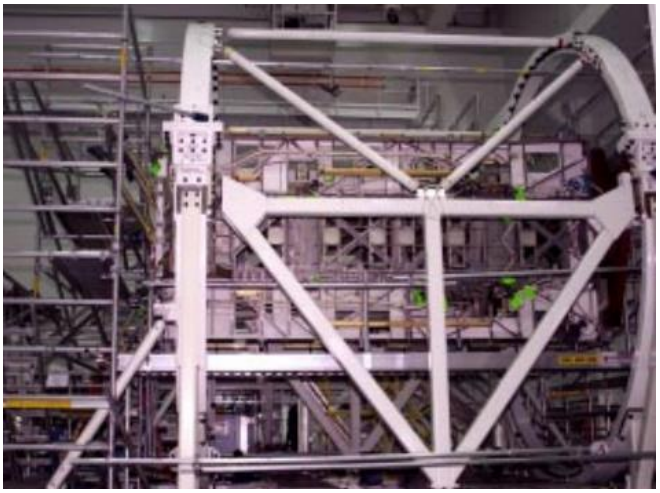



On page 8, **"High over KSC".**

"A group of Kennedy Space Center employees recently teamed up for an "All KSC" freefall jump from Skydive Space Center at Dunn Airpark in Titusville. Jim Bolton of United Space Alliance organized the 13,500-foot-high jump, which was photographed by Dean O'Flaherty… , the skydivers exit the aircraft and then… maneuver themselves into a formation. Although the KSC team spends their workdays processing and launching Shuttle payloads, on a clear day in their off-duty time, they can be found back in the sky enjoying their unique view of the Cape."

From The June 30, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 5, **"NASA receives ISS integrated truss structure P6".** A portion of the feature reads "NASA has officially received from The Boeing Co. the first of four massive pieces of hardware that will become part of the International Space Station's electric power supply and control system… The Integrated Truss Structure P6, which includes the long spacer, the integrated equipment assembly, two solar arrays and three radiators, is one of four integral units designed to generate, distribute and store electric power on the Station. The element and its accompanying cargo are scheduled to be launched on STS-97, or the 4A Station mission, on Nov. 30…".



"NASA receives ISS integrated truss, at left, from Boeing. Above, at left, Jay Greene, NASA's deputy program manager for the ISS program, and Dr. Joe Mills, Boeing deputy program manager of ISS.

From The July 14, 2000, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 6, **"CNN focuses on KSC workers during STS-92 flow".** In part, the story reads "CNN is taking an in-depth look at Shuttle processing at Kennedy Space Center for an hour-long documentary that covers preparation for the 100th Shuttle mission launch… "Although there have been a number of reports on the space program, we feel they've overlooked the real story: the people who turn the wrenches," said CNN reporter Miles O'Brien, who is leading the special project with his producer Linda Saether…

O'Brien and his producer, who are based in Atlanta, have visited KSC numerous times since the project got underway here in December. They and additional camera operators have videotaped about 37 flow events and plan to tape at least that many more through the STS-92 launch. O'Brien is doing much of the videography for the

special report both because it's a time intensive project and because he did camera work during his early days as a television journalist…".

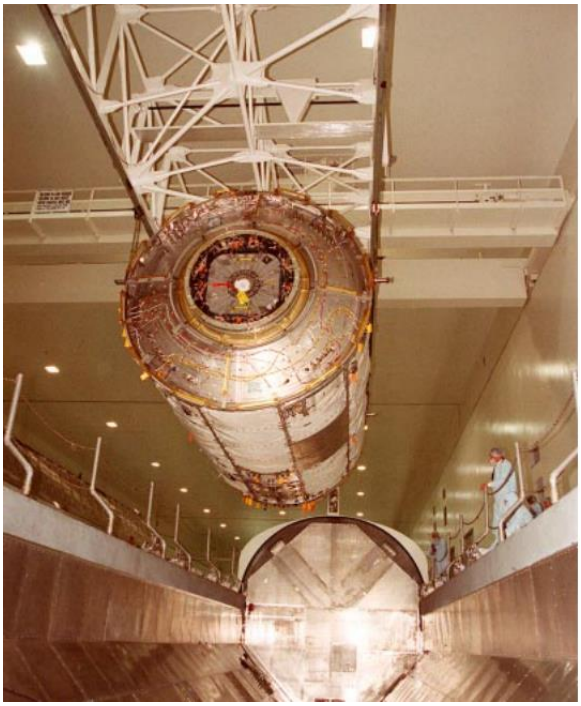
"CNN reporter Miles O'Brien takes a break from interviewing KSC workers for an hour-long documentary. The report will cover preparations being made for the 100th Shuttle mission launch."

You can read more about Miles on Wikipedia. The documentary, a good one, is avialable for viewing on YouTube, at Terminal Count What it Takes to Make the Space Shuttle Fly. There is some good airtime with Gene Nurnberg, Greg Katnik and Coleen Adams, as well as others.

On page 3, **"U.S. Laboratory aces vacuum chamber test".** Part of the feature reads "The U.S. Laboratory Destiny successfully completed a series of milestone tests that move it closer to its final destination — space. The 32,000-pound research lab was the first International Space Station (ISS) pressurized element to spend seven days in a renovated vacuum chamber last used when Americans walked on the moon. The 28-foot-long, 14-foot wide lab was placed in the chamber July 1 to undergo the element leak test…

"Completing this test was a large step in meeting the lab's 'Destiny': launch early next year. Its performance exceeded expectations, boosting our confidence in on-orbit performance. I'm very happy for the lab team," said Tip Talone, director of International Space Station and Payload Processing at KSC… To perform the test, the laboratory was placed on the rotation and handling fixture inside the Operations & Checkout Building high bay, raised to vertical, lifted and moved to a point above the chamber, then lowered inside. Once the lid was secured, the chamber created a vacuum environment equivalent to 257,000 feet altitude or 48 miles to determine if the module had any leaks and confirm the rates at which gases were consumed…

The lab is scheduled to be launched on Shuttle mission STS-98, the 5A assembly mission, targeted for Jan. 18, 2001."



"The U.S. Laboratory Destiny in the Space Station Processing Facility, at left, was rotated before being lifted and lowered, above, into a payload canister. Destiny was transferred to the Operations and Checkout Building for vacuum chamber testing and was determined to be leak free and safe. The module is among more than 216,000 pounds of Space Station elements, including truss sections, that are being prepared for flight at KSC…".

From The July 28, 2000, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 7, **"Zvezda takes flight".** In part, the story reads "Destined to transform the International Space Station into a new home in orbit, the Russian built Zvezda living quarters module lifted off flawlessly from the Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan, at 12:56 a.m. on July 15… In addition to serving as the early station living quarters, Zvezda will be the main docking port for Russian Progress cargo resupply vehicles. It also will provide early propulsive attitude control and reboost capabilities for the Station…

The launch of Zvezda begins a rapid series of flights to the Station, and a rapid expansion of the orbital outpost… KSC Director Roy Bridges represented KSC at the launch in Russia. "Having the opportunity to witness the Zvezda Launch as a member of the official NASA delegation was a career highlight for me," Bridges said…".

On page 7, **“KSC workers thrilled by Zvezda launch”.**

“Now we get to step up the pace. We’ll be working on many more launches. It’s gotten the ball rolling again on the Space Station.”

RON WOODS
NASA ENGINEER

“I’ve been working on the U.S Lab for five years. I transferred down here from Marshall to work on it. So I’m thrilled.”

NANCY GRAHAM
BOEING TECHNICIAN

“This is what we’ve all been waiting for. Now we can really get down to work. We’re going to be challenged to do our best.”

DAN JOHNSON
UNITED SPACE ALLIANCE ENGINEER

On pages 1, 4 and 5, **“50 years of launches commemorated”.** In part, the feature reads “The 50th anniversary of the launch of Bumper 8, the first rocket launched from the Cape, was commemorated July 24. The ceremony, held at Pad 3 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, was hosted by the Air Force Space and Missile Museum Foundation. About a dozen members of the original Bumper 8 team attended the ceremony and were introduced to the crowd of space industry leaders and members of the media. Kennedy Space Center Director Roy Bridges Jr. lauded the Bumper 8 team for laying the foundation for NASA’s successes in space research and exploration…”.

“Model Bumper 8 rocket launched at Bumper 8 ceremony on July 24.”

"The year-long celebration of "50 Years of Launches from the Cape" culminated with a series of special events at the Canaveral Spaceport. Members of the Bumper 8 launch team, several pictured above, attended a number of the events. Also participating were several space program leaders including Kennedy Space Center Director Roy Bridges, Jr. and Brig. Gen. Donald Pettit, U.S. Rep. Dave Weldon, Palm Bay, and Florida Sen. George Kirkpatrick, District 5.

Events included the 50th Anniversary Gala held on July 15, the Bumper 8 launch team reunion on July 23 and a ceremony held on July 15, the Bumper 8 anniversary of the Bumper 8 launch on July 24.

Bumper 8 team members who were able to attend some of the celebratory events included Liz Bain of Indialantic; Herman Banks, Altadena, Calif.; Ed Belcher, Indialantic; Konrad Dannenberg, Madison, Ala.; Robert Droz, Mendocino, Calif.; Norris Gray, Melbourne; Hiroyuki Hashimoto, West Hills, Calif.; Dick Jones of Melbourne; and Dr. William Pickering, Flintridge, Calif."

Stan Starr, deputy program manager for Dynacs Engineering Co. Inc. at KSC, researched and wrote this report.

On page 8, **"Team effort".** The caption for the photo on the following page is "A facility housing equipment critical to testing and servicing operations for International Space Station flight hardware officially opened July 18. Ammonia servicing equipment that is used to perform pre-flight tests and servicing of ISS flight hardware is now housed at the 1,500-squarefoot, one-story Vapor Containment Facility that is located in the KSC industrial area adjacent to the Space Station Processing Facility. Pure anhydrous ammonia plays an integral role in preparing the Space Station hardware for flight and proper on-orbit operations. Ammonia is used in the Station's thermal control system. The facility contract team, represented by those pictured, included NASA, The Boeing

Co., Speegle Construction, Harper Mechanical, Mil Con Construction, Chemco, United Space Alliance, Precision Fabrication and Cleaning, and Jones, Edmonds and Associates."

In view, from left to right, are Tip Talone, Jay Greene and Roy Bridges, in the lighter hat. And with Bill Dowdell's assistance, "…The guy in the dark sport coat beside Roy is Mike Suffredini… and behind Jay was Mike Leinbach…". Thanks a bunch Bill!!!!!

From the August 11, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 1, **"Docking sets the stage for STS-106".** A portion of the story states "The successful docking of Zvezda, the Russian Service Module, with the International Space Station on July 25 cleared the way for the STS-106 mission, which is scheduled for launch Sept. 8. Space Shuttle Atlantis will once again return to space on its second of back-to-back missions to the Station. Mission STS-106 will prepare the Station for its first resident crew, "Expedition One." That crew is scheduled to begin residing aboard the Station this fall. Zvezda will serve as the support and control components for the rest of the Station as well as the early living quarters and lab space for the first long-duration crew…".

"KSC employees accompany the orbiter Atlantis as it is moved aboard the orbiter transporter to the Vehicle Assembly Building. The launch is targeted for Sept. 8."

On page 3, **“Take Our Children to Work Day features special opportunites”.** In part, the story reads “…KSC’s eighth annual Take Our Children To Work Day was held on Friday, July 28… Kids were allowed access to areas like the Astronaut Crew Quarters that have been, during previous years, restricted to all but the necessary personnel. Anyone who waited in line for this unique opportunity knows that it was a big hit with children and adults…

Another bonus was a special bus tour that took the young ones to places that normal KSC Visitor Complex bus tours can’t go, such as an up-close tour of Launch Complex 39’s Pad A… The Air Force Museum at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station was also open to Center employees and their children…”.

On the left, “…adults and children check out the Astronaut Crew Quarters after waiting their turn in line. Above, workers share the KSC experience with children, including making a VPP safety banner.”

On pages 4 and 5, **“P1, P4 trusses arrive at KSC for processing”.** Part of the feature states “Two International Space Station (ISS) truss segments, the “P1” and “P4,” recently arrived at Kennedy Space Center for processing. The P1 truss arrived on July 26 at KSC’s Shuttle Landing Facility aboard the “Super Guppy” transport aircraft. The P1 truss is a 46-by-15 foot structure weighing about 32,000 pounds when fully outfitted and ready for launch…

The truss segment known as “P4” arrived at KSC on July 30. The P4 made a weeklong journey to the Space Station Processing Facility via trailer from a Boeing plant in Tulsa, Okla… The P4 truss segment is slated to launch in February 2003…”.


"The P1 truss arrives at KSC's Shuttle Landing Facility aboard the "Super Guppy" transport aircraft; The Guppy is opened to offload the truss segment; and a trailer delivers the P4 truss to the SSPF."

From The August 25, 2000, Spaceport News

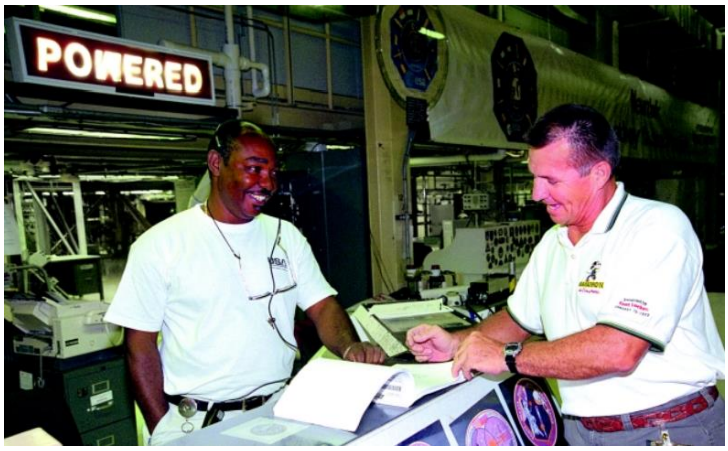
This Spaceport News is a special issue titled **"A Day in the Life of KSC", featuring a lot of photos. A few of those photos follow.**

SPECIAL COLOR EDITION
coming Aug. 25:

"A Day in the Life of KSC"
Spaceport News goes behind the scenes at Kennedy Space Center to show our team at work.


"Center Director Roy Bridges Jr. meets with his senior staff members at KSC Headquarters." "Sue Gross, NASA executive secretary in Shuttle Processing, listens to a coworker's question."

“Student Sarah Stout cuts up with, from left, flight crew support specialist Lauren Lunde, astronaut David Brown, attendant Glenda Jackson and flight crew support specialist Delores Abraham.”



“In Orbiter Processing Facility 3, R.C. Koontz, United Space Alliance manager of the forward and aft, at right, checks in with USA pad leader Arthur “Bubba” Howard on the progress being made processing Atlantis for the STS-106 mission.” “Atlantis Flow Director Kelvin Manning locks his office in the Launch Control Center and heads out to the parking lot.”

“In putting together this special color edition of Spaceport News,… photographer George Shelton, snapped more than 700 frames during a 12-hour period at KSC. Spaceport News Editor Kathy Hagood, working alongside Shelton, spoke with hundreds of employees on the job.”

From The September 8, 2000, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 4, **"STS-106 crew to prepare Space Station".** Part of the feature reads "…Five American astronauts and two Russian cosmonauts were set to launch on the STS-106 mission Sept. 8 at 8:45 a.m. EDT from Launch Pad 39B. STS-106 represents Atlantis' 22nd mission and the 99th flight in Shuttle program history…

During the planned 11-day mission, Wilcutt and his crew mates will spend a week inside the ISS unloading supplies from both a double SPACEHAB cargo module in the rear of Atlantis' cargo bay and from a Russian Progress M-1 resupply craft docked to the aft end of the Zvezda Service Module…".

"The STS-106 flight crew departs the Operations & Checkout Building to take part in Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test activities. Crew members are, from left to right front to back, Commander Terrence W. Wilcutt, Pilot Scott D. Altman and Mission Specialists Yuri I. Malenchenko, Edward T. Lu, Richard A. Mastracchio, Boris V. Morukov and Daniel C. Burbank."

On page 2, **"Safe Haven fit check success".** Part of the story reads "While preparing Atlantis for its targeted Sept. 8 launch date, Kennedy Space Center Shuttle managers orchestrated an unprecedented move of the Space Shuttle to the recently renovated west side of the Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) for a fit check. After the successful fit check of the new "Safe Haven," Atlantis was rolled out to Launch Pad 39B…

In August 1999, contractors began an extensive two-year renovation project on VAB high bays 2 and 4 and the crawlerway that carries a Space Shuttle to and from the launch pads. The modification was needed to improve KSC's ability to store and protect Shuttle flight hardware during hurricane season and to increase processing flexibility with an upcoming busy launch schedule… RUSH Construction of Titusville extended the crawler transporter pathway from the VAB's east side into VAB high bay 2 on the building's west side. The 1,250-foot extension was topped off with about 3,000 tons of

river rock. Crews also constructed a new orbiter tow-way into VAB high bay 4 on the northwest corner…

In high bay 2, crews removed a 125-ton crane, modified the steel frame, and completed significant floor and foundation work – including replacement of the existing Mobile Launcher Platform mounts… KWI Construction, Inc. of Merritt Island also prepared VAB high bay 4 for horizontal orbiter storage capability…".

"An aerial view at first light captures a first in Space Shuttle history: A fully stacked Shuttle – Atlantis – is rolled into Vehicle Assembly Building high bay 2 on the building's west side for a Safe Haven fit check….". On the right, "… Atlantis as it enters the high bay."

While never used for Shuttle stacking, VAB HB2 was outfitted with Apollo access platforms and used for Apollo 10, Apollo 13 and Skylab 1 stacking. Access platforms were removed from HB2 after Apollo, before Shuttle. For Shuttle, VAB high bays 2 and 4 were outfitted to store two external tanks in each high bay, with associated access platforms.

From The September 22, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 1, **"100th Shuttle mission launch set".** The feature states "Space Shuttle Discovery is poised on Launch Pad 39A to undertake the 100th Shuttle mission launch from Kennedy Space Center on Oct. 5 at 9:38 p.m. EDT. Discovery's mission, STS-92,

will play a pivotal role in the continued construction of the International Space Station because of its critical payloads, the Zenith (Z1) Integrated Truss and the third Pressurized Mating Adapter (PMA-3)… Eight Space Shuttle missions spread out over a four-year period will be required to deliver and assemble the structure's 10 pre-integrated truss segments. Once completed, the combination of trusses will be the length of a football field…".

"The STS-92 crew poses for a group photo at Launch Pad 39A. Standing, left to right are Mission Specialists Koichi Wakata of Japan, Michael Lopez-Alegria, Jeff Wisoff, Bill McArthur and Leroy Chiao; Pilot Pam Melroy; and Commander Brian Duffy."

From The October 27, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 1, **"100 missions launched! - Discovery roars off to Space Station!".** Part of the story reads "Kennedy Space Center and the world watched the blazing beginning of the 100th Shuttle mission launch as Discovery lifted off on STS-92 at 7:17 p.m. EDT on Oct. 11. The flawless launch followed three scrubbed attempts. Weather and technical issues stalled the mission's beginning for six days…

STS-92 begins the core of International Space Station construction on orbit and opens the door for the arrival of the first resident crew, Expedition One, expected to launch from Russia in late October. Discovery will deliver an exterior framework called the Z1 Truss and a third mating adapter, which the astronauts will attach. With the 100th Shuttle mission launch, the Space Shuttle has launched about 3 million pounds of cargo and 596 passengers into space. More than 850 payloads will have flown, and the Shuttle will have deployed more than 60 payloads and retrieved more than two dozen.

Although flying for two decades, the Shuttle still has more than three-quarters of its design lifetime available."

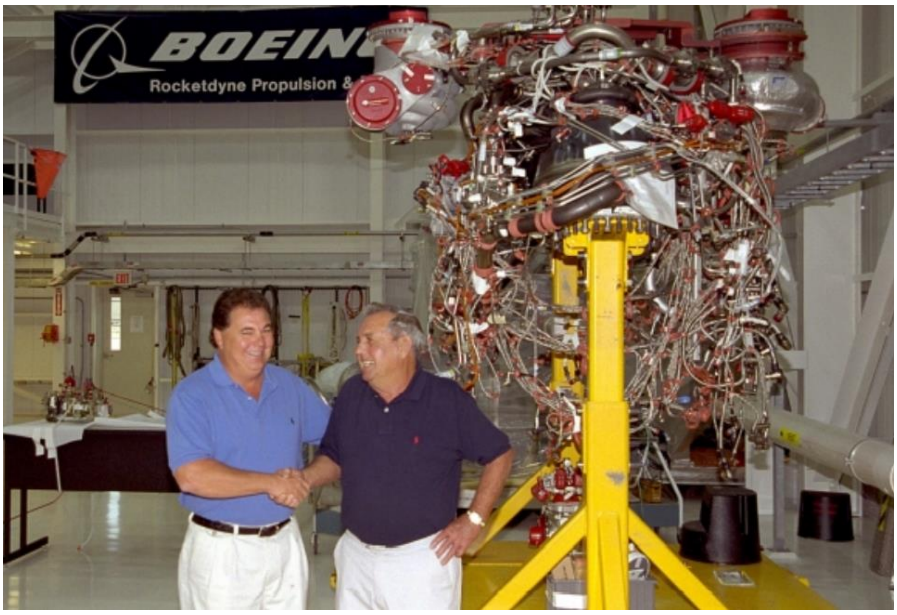
"Discovery, carrying the STS-92 astronauts and payload, ascends on the 100th Shuttle mission launch."

On page 7, **"Father, son take pride in main engine work", by Jessica Rye.** In part, the story reads "As you walk throughout the halls at Kennedy Space Center, you can almost hear the historic conversations of previous employees echoing from the walls. Many employees represent the second and even third generation of KSC workers. They are the children who grew up in the space program, wanted to carry on the family legacy, and couldn't imagine doing anything else for a living…

The Ewers family, Gene the father and Don the son, are prime examples of families who have spent their entire careers in the world of "rocket science." Gene moved his family to Brevard County in 1967 from NSTL, now Stennis Space Center, in Bay St. Louis, Miss., to continue work on the Apollo program. Don, just nine years old at the time of the move, was raised in and around the Apollo and Shuttle programs. At an early age he set his sights on following in his dad's footsteps and becoming an aerospace worker.

"It was important for me to keep the tradition going," said Don of his decision to take a job working with Rocketdyne in 1977, also at NSTL… In 1979, Gene found himself in a position where he needed to transfer another technician from NSTL to work on the main engines. Although he tried to stay out of the decision to transfer his son, many of the KSC technicians, who had worked with Don in Mississippi, recommended that he approach Don about a possible relocation to Florida. In 1980, Don returned to Florida to serve as a technician on his father's crew in the engine shop…

The father and son pair worked together in the engine shop until 1988, when Gene retired… Don, now a manager and father of two teenagers, says his children are leaning toward the engineering field, but he is not putting any pressure on them to continue the family tradition here at KSC…".



"From left, son and father, Don and Gene Ewers, worked together in the Shuttle main engine shop at KSC until 1988 when Gene Ewers retired."

From The November 3, 2000, Spaceport News

On pages 1 and 2, **"Super Safety, Health Day success".** Part of the story reads "Kennedy Space Center and the 45th Space Wing celebrated the third annual Super Safety and Health Day on Oct. 18… All normal work activities, with the exception of mandatory services such as fire and security, were suspended… The theme of the event was "Safety and Health ... A Working Relationship."… There were also astronaut visits and safety award presentations. Afternoon programs included a keynote address by Dr. Beck Weathers, survivor of the 1996 climbing tragedy on Mt. Everest…".

Wikipedia has a short read on Beck Weather's Mt. Everest adventure. This interview with Beck is pretty insightful!

On page 3, **"Discovery lands at Edwards AFB".** In part, the article states "Discovery glided to a textbook landing under sunny skies at Edwards Air Force Base in California on Oct. 24, completing the successful STS-92 mission to the International Space Station. The crew spent more than two extra days in space because of unfavorable weather at Kennedy Space Center and at Edwards. The landing marked the first time

an orbiter has not landed at KSC since March 31, 1996. The landing of that STS-76 mission began a 23-mission streak of landings at KSC…

Discovery touched down at 5 p.m. EDT and rolled to a stop on Edward's concrete runway at 5:01 p.m., for a mission elapsed time of 12 days, 21 hours and 43 minutes.

On pages 4 and 5, **"Jorge Rivera, team show right stuff in dedication to flight safety".** A portion of the story says "The STS-92 mission, scheduled to launch on Oct. 5, was scrubbed three different times… During the T-3 hour hold prior to the third launch attempt, Jorge Rivera stepped into the limelight by observing a ground support pin with a tether near the external tank's liquid oxygen feed-line during a standard pre-launch Ice Team inspection…

"I was about 50 feet from the orbiter when I focused my binoculars on this strange object and said 'uh, oh,' " remarked Rivera. "I knew right away what it was and that it most definitely should not be where it was." Rivera immediately reported to his team, initiated communication with the firing room and the rest is history. STS-92, the 100th Space Shuttle mission to be launched from KSC, was re-scheduled for launch on Oct. 11.

The KSC Mission Management Team honored Rivera and his fellow Ice Team members shortly after launch with the presentation of the Launch Director Flow Award. They were also honored by Administrator Dan Goldin at the NASA Headquarters Annual Award Ceremony with the presentation of NASA's Exceptional Achievement Medal.

The Ice Team, also called the Final Inspection Team, is composed of six KSC workers representing NASA and contractors. Their role is extremely important to the success of each mission as they provide the "final look" at the fully assembled Space Shuttle just hours before flight… The Ice Team was initiated at the onset of the Shuttle Program.

The group has been credited with the discovery of a number of foreign object debris items like the pin…".

"He is pictured… re-enacting his discovery from the 135-foot level of the launch pad…. the ground support pin and tether that Rivera observed…" is shown on the right. The pin is also shown and mentioned in the Miles O'Brien STS-92 video noted previously in this Summary.

"NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin, left, applauds the Space Shuttle Ice and Debris Inspection Team who were recognized for their keen safety observations prior to the launch of Space Shuttle Discovery. Standing next to Goldin are, left to right, D. Scott Otto, with Lockheed Martin Space Services Company; John B. Blue, Thomas F. Ford and Michael Barber, with United Space Alliance; Gregory N. Katnik and Jorge E. Rivera, with NASA. Katnik and Rivera received the agency's Exceptional Achievement Medal; Barber, Blue, Ford and Otto received the NASA Public Service Medal…".

From the November 17, 2000, Spaceport News

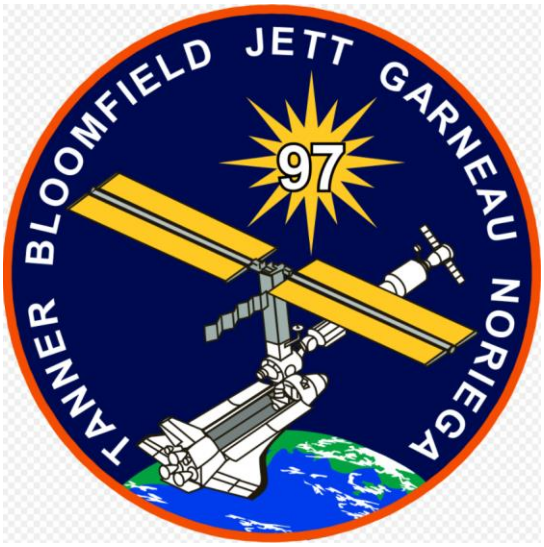
On pages 1 and 6, "**STS-97 to power up Space Station**". Part of the story reads "Powering up the enormous orbiting International Space Station (ISS) will be the primary objective of the five-member crew aboard STS-97, which is scheduled to launch Nov. 30 at 10:05 p.m. EST. Two solar arrays will be carried aboard the P6 Integrated Truss Segment and will be the first part of a system that ultimately will deliver 60 times more power to the ISS research facilities than was possible on Russia's space station Mir…

Each 108.6-foot-long solar array wing will extend outward at right angles and be connected to the Station's 310-foot-long truss. Altogether, the solar arrays will cover an area about the size of an acre, and when fully extended, will span about 240 feet, the largest deployable structure ever built… The arrays will supply 105 kilowatts – enough to light a town – and will connect the labs, living quarters, payloads and systems equipment…

Three crew members, launched earlier from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on a Russian Soyuz rocket, will greet the visitors of STS-97 and welcome them as guests. Bill Shepard, Sergei Krikalev and Yuri Gidzenko make up the Station's first crew. They have begun a five-month stay marking the beginning of continuous habitation of the International Space Station."

On the left, "The STS-97 crew leaves the O&C Building on their way to Launch Pad 39B for a simulated launch countdown. Commander Brent Jett, right, leads the way with Pilot Mike Bloomfield behind him. Taking up the rear are, left, Mission Specialists Carlos Noriega, Joe Tanner and, right, Marc Garneau, who is with the Canadian Space Agency." On the right, "During a ceremonial key exchange Nov. 7 at Kennedy Space Center, the P6 truss segment was transferred from the International Space Station ground operations to the NASA shuttle integration team. Pictured from left to right, are Brent Jett, STS-97 Commander; Bill Dowdell, mission manager; Mark Sorensen, outboard truss cargo element manager for Boeing; and John Elbon, Boeing ISS director of ground operations at KSC."

The following STS-97 mission patch and description are from Wikipedia.



This is the crew insignia for STS-97, which will deliver, assemble, and activate the U.S. electrical power system on board the International Space Station (ISS). The electrical power system, which is built into a 47-foot integrated truss structure known as P6, consists of solar arrays, radiators, batteries, and electronics. P6 will be attached to the Station using the Shuttle's robotic arm in coordination with spacewalking crewmembers that will make the final connections. The spacewalkers will then prepare P6 for the subsequent deployments of the large solar arrays and radiator, which are critical steps in the activation of the electrical power system.

The 120-foot solar arrays will provide the power necessary for the first ISS crews to live and work in the U.S. segment. The crew patch depicts the Space Shuttle docked to ISS in low Earth orbit after the activation of the P6 electrical power system. Gold and silver are used to highlight the portion of ISS that will be installed by the STS-97 crew. The Sun, central to the design, is the source of energy for ISS.

On page 3, **"Days of Caring".** The caption for the photo on the following page is "KSC NASA employees along with some newly made friends from Publix Supermarket on Garden Street in Titusville had the pleasure of visiting with some 30 seniors from the Cuyler Park Recreation facility in Mims for Days of Caring. The group played bingo and winners were awarded with various launch mission stickers, pins and lithographs brought by the NASA employees…

Many smiles and thank yous were exchanged. NASA employees who participated were Denise Coleman, Delores Abraham and Pat Christian of the External Relations and Business Development Directorate; Dan Lewis from the Procurement Directorate; and Tim Lewis of the Space Station Directorate."

On pages 4 and 5, **“Opening our gates to the community”.** Part of the feature says “More than 43,000 Brevard County residents as well as Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station employees entered the gates Nov. 4 for a fun-filled day of space education. The joint Community Appreciation Day was a phenomenal success… “I would like to thank all of the employees that made this event so successful,” said KSC Director Roy Bridges…

The highlights of the day included a drive-by tour of Launch Pad 39B with a close-up view of Space Shuttle Endeavour, and a behind-the-scenes look from the International Space Station Center viewing window to watch as actual Station elements are being processed for flight.”


“A family enjoys getting an astronaut’s autograph.” “Children have a hands-on experience with a historic capsule from the early space program.”

On page 6, **“Return of Discovery”.**

“The Shuttle Carrier Aircraft, with Discovery attached to its back… on the runway at Kennedy Space Center’s Shuttle Landing Facility on Nov. 3. The SCA returned Discovery to KSC after the orbiter’s California landing at Edwards Air Force Base at the end of mission STS-92. Discovery was demated from the SCA via the mate/demate device at the SLF and transported to the Orbiter Processing Facility bay 1 where it is undergoing preparations for its next launch, STS-102, scheduled for February 2001.”

From the December 1, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 6, **“Safety stripes”.** The caption for the photo on the following page is “Aircraft Operations… recently had the tops of the main rotor blades of four NASA UH-1H helicopters painted in a pattern of white and yellow stripes. One of the painted helicopters is pictured… The pattern was painted… on the tops of the black blades to provide for better visibility in smoke and fire conditions. When the rotors are turning, the

stripes create a yellow and white circle that may be seen from above by a second helicopter, thus improving safety. The change was made to comply with U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Department of Forestry regulations for helicopter-assisted fire control…".

From The December 15, 2000, Spaceport News

On page 3, **"Two NASA KSC managers named".** A portion of the feature reads "NASA employees Michael Leinbach and Charles Abner were recently named to management positions within the Space Shuttle Program at Kennedy Space Center. Leinbach was officially named NASA's Space Shuttle Launch Director at KSC. He rejoins the Space Shuttle Program after completing two years in support of the International Space Station… Though new to the position, Leinbach is no stranger to firing room activities on launch day. He served as NASA Test Director beginning in 1988 and was named Shuttle Test Director in 1991…

Charles Abner is NASA's new Chief Engineer for the Shuttle Processing Directorate at KSC. In this position he will be responsible for all engineering aspects related to processing flight hardware elements and facility/ground support equipment and for the integration of technical decisions made by both engineering and management personnel before and during launch. Abner's long career with NASA at KSC began in 1967."


C. Abner


M. Leinbach

On pages 4 and 5, **"Inside the Logistics Facility".** Part of the story reads "Keeping Kennedy Space Center and other Shuttle support centers supplied with parts for the orbiters and ground operations – from huge fuel cells to tiny nuts and bolts – is a massive undertaking. It's no wonder that the Logistics Facility, the building that houses administrative support and approximately 140,000 plus spare line items, measures in excess of 472,000 square feet. The facility was built in 1985 south of the Vehicle Assembly Building on Contractor Road to consolidate logistics functions near the processing area…

The value of supplies contained within the warehouse and storage areas at any one time is estimated at about $1 billion… The major processes carried out in the facility include flight spares distribution, ground support equipment distribution, receiving, delivery, packaging and crating, kitting and repairable processing. "So much happens here. It's like a world within a world," said John Kelly, manager, Vehicle Processing Storage Area."

"Receiving inspector Fredia Ford answers a coworker's question before checking packages received at the Logistics Facility." "Woody Smith, manager of transportation and receiving, conducts one of his daily safety walkdowns of the receiving area at the Logistics Facility."