



Space News Roundup

Vol. 34

July 21, 1995

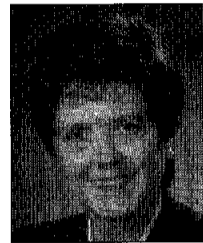
No. 29

Huntoon earns Silver Knight

By Kathleen Kaminski

JSC Director Dr. Carolyn L. Huntoon received this year's Silver Knight of Management Award, presented by the JSC Chapter of the National Management Association.

This award, the highest award an individual NMA chapter can grant, recognizes Huntoon's leadership as JSC director and her ability to inspire members of the JSC community toward achievement of the objectives of the NMA.



Huntoon

The Silver Knight of Management Award was presented to Huntoon at the JSC NMA's Annual Award Meeting held at

the Gilruth Center on June 29, the same day as the historic docking of the Space Shuttle *Atlantis* with the Russian Mir Space Station.

Deputy Director of Engineering Chet Vaughan also was recognized as Manager of the Year for his continuing contributions to JSC, NASA as a whole, and the JSC NMA Chapter.

Kevin Candee of the Financial Management Division received the chapter's Leadership Award for his work as co-chair of the programs committee.

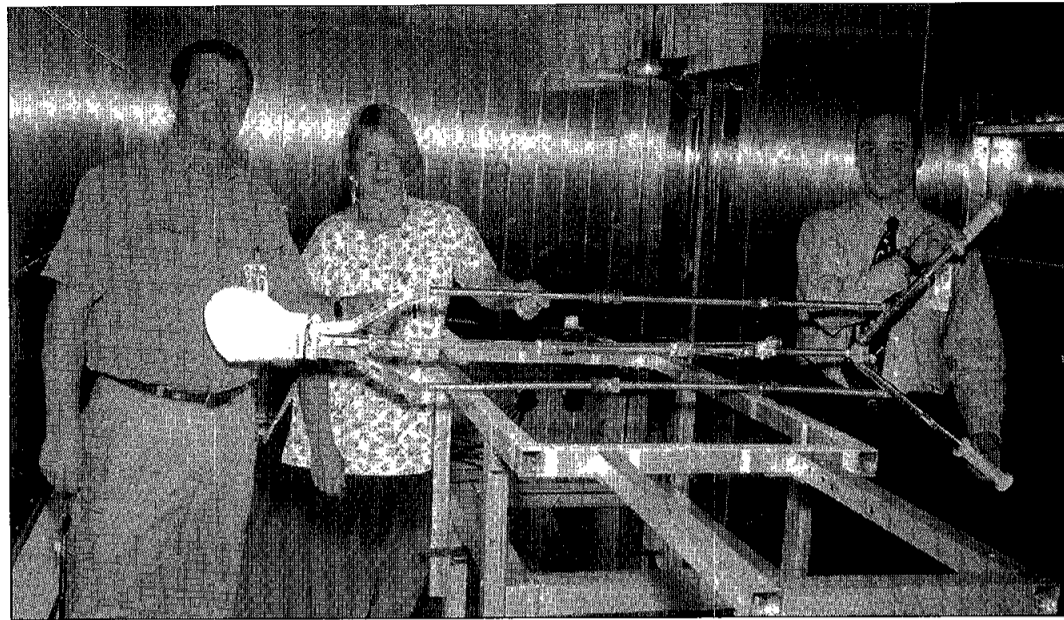


Vaughan

The newly elected officers of the NMA-JSC Chapter include President, John

Cools; Vice President, Tom Diegelman; Secretary, Thadd Bowers and Treasurer, Dave Kissinger.

The NMA is dedicated to the development and recognition of management as a profession and the promotion of the American Enterprise System. It is the largest professional association of its type in the world, with approximately 70,000 members in 265 chapters. The JSC NMA offers all NASA employees the opportunity to develop leadership skills and team-building experiences through monthly meetings, professional development courses, seminars and other activities. For further information, contact Kathleen Kaminski at x38706.



JSC Photo

From left are W. B. Wood of the Crew and Thermal Systems Division, Christie Hartmann of Lockheed and Matt Leonard of the Extravehicular Activity and Crew Equipment Projects Office with the cutting tool used by cosmonauts to repair the Spektr solar panel.

Team work helps repair Spektr solar array panel

By Karen Schmidt

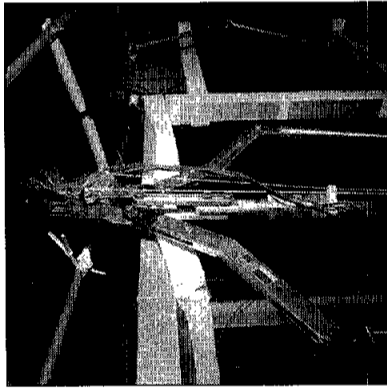
When an auxiliary solar panel on the Spektr science module would not unfurl due to a retention bar failure and tools aboard Mir were unavailable, U. S. and Russian managers wanted to send help via *Atlantis*.

The U. S. agreed to develop the tool and Phase One Program Director Tommy Holloway formed a team.

The Extended Length, General Purpose Cutter's largest obstacle was that they only had six days to develop and test a tool that would cut the array from five feet away.

"The response from the team was outstanding. In record time, a tool was developed that allowed the cosmonauts to accomplish the task," Holloway said.

Team members Matt Leonard and Richard Fullerton of the Extravehicular Activity and Crew Equipment Projects Office, together with Cindy Begley, and Wayne Wedlake of the Mission Operations Directorate, and W.B. Wood of the Crew and Thermal Systems Division designed and developed requirements for the tool using an existing portion of a tool provided by Donald Giles of Porter-Ferguson Inc. The cutting portion of the tool is normally used as a steering wheel cutter by rescue personnel to remove trapped people from automobile accidents. Gary Krch of



ILC and Christie Hartman of Lockheed also aided in the initial concept design of the cutter.

The team expanded quickly to include support from tech services as the design began to solidify. Tech services machinists Michael Balbi,

William Bowen, Ricardo Gonzalez, Lyle Gurnsey, and Gilbert Majia all Rothe Development employees led by Keith Day, Joseph Riccio, and Larry Zielke of the Manufacturing, Materials and Process Technology Division were busy taking the designs and turning them in to real hardware. As fabrication continued, Chris Morin, aided by Wayne Basiliere, both of Hamilton Standard Management Services set up a computer and began incorporating

parts into drawings necessary for the hardware.

All through the weekend the team worked at a hectic pace to integrate the operations requirement of cutting from five feet away with the actuation required to operate the cutting head. Throughout the process, Karl Hamelmann of GHG supporting Safety and Mission Assurance, and Johnny Porter of Loral supporting quality engineering provided inputs to ensure safety and quality. Jay Bennett of the materials section of Tech Services provided inputs that allowed the team to use the appropriate materials from those

Please see JSC, Page 4

Discovery returns to Kennedy

Discovery's five astronauts packed up their gear and prepared for their supersonic entry back to Earth today as another shuttle crew geared up for the final stage of their training prior to launch next month.

With all of their mission's objectives completed, STS-70 Commander Tom Henricks, Pilot Kevin Kregel and Mission Specialists Don Thomas, Nancy Currie and Mary Ellen Weber prepared for their return home today.

The Tracking and Data Relay Satellite deployed from *Discovery* just hours after launch on July 13 reached its final station on orbit more than 22,000 miles above Earth earlier this week and was pronounced in excellent shape by engineers who are ready to add the TDRS-G satellite to complete a network of orbiting relay stations.

During the mission, *Discovery's* crew down-linked video images of bioreactor tissue cultures that were described as better than any seen before by investigators who are working to qualify the machinery for use on orbit. Bioreactors are extensively used on Earth to grow three-dimensional cell cultures that cannot be produced by traditional culture methods. The Bioreactor Development System is being used to determine how effective the equipment is for supporting tissue growth with minimal cell damage. Other experiments ranged from the HERCULES camera, a camera that can imprint the latitude and longitude of areas photographed, to the Windex, a study of the glow created as the shuttle surfaces interact with atomic oxygen in low Earth orbit.

"This has been the smoothest mission of any we've ever flown," said Henricks, who is completing his third flight into space. "Every step of the way, from the TDRS deploy to our in-cabin experiments, have been conducted flawlessly, a real tribute to those who put this mission together."

The flight marked the first use of the new Mission Control Center down the hall from the old MCC, which still is supporting launches and landings until early next year.

"Our first flight in the new Flight Control Room has been a dream," said John Muratore, the Chief of Control Center Systems.

"We'll find a few things to tweak before we fly STS-69 next month, but all in all, the debut of the new control room has been exceptional," Muratore said.

Please see STS-70, Page 4



Galileo releases Jupiter probe

Packed like an interplanetary paratrooper, the atmospheric probe with its payload of scientific instruments aboard NASA's Galileo mission successfully sprang loose from the main spacecraft last week and began its long, five-month free-fall toward Jupiter.

"We're delighted to have successfully released the probe on its Jupiter atmospheric mission after having carried it for almost six years," said William O'Neil the Galileo project manager at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Data from Galileo confirmed that the rugged, conical-shaped probe was released as planned.

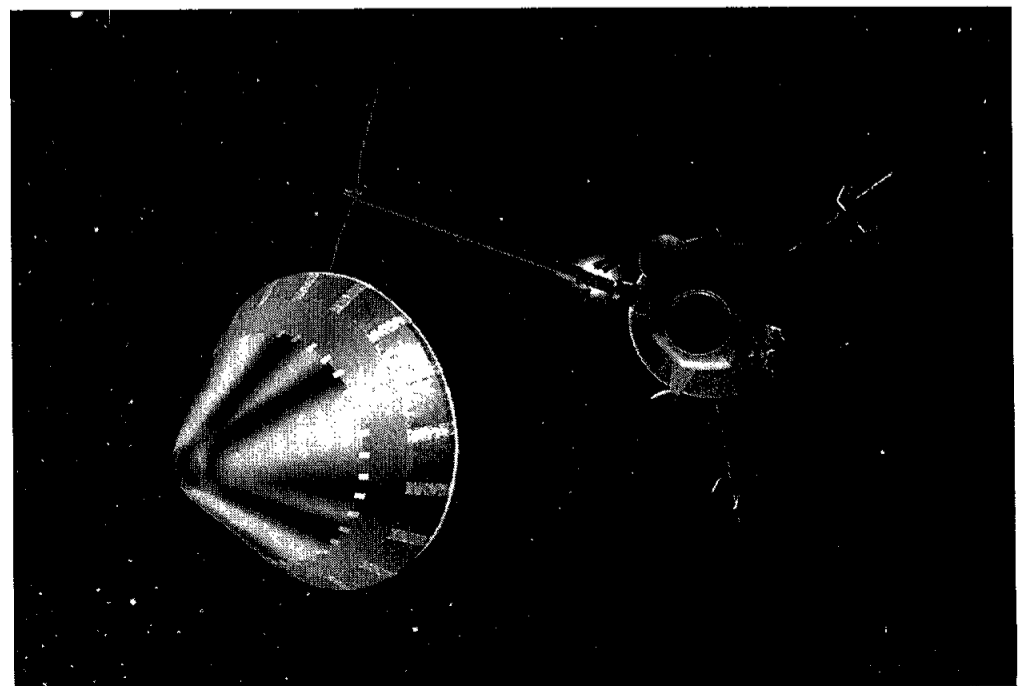
"The probe is configured for its encounter with Jupiter and is on its way," said Marcie Smith, manager of the probe mission at Ames Research Center. "We're very excited to have the probe mission underway."

Next week, Galileo will fire its main engine to deflect its own course toward an orbit high above Jupiter's cloud tops. The probe and main spacecraft will communicate again

on Dec. 7 as the descending probe, after traveling its remaining 51 million miles, transmits its data to the Galileo spacecraft, where it will be recorded for later broadcast back to Earth. After hitting the top of Jupiter's atmosphere at the highest impact speed (106,000 mph) ever achieved by a human-made object, the rugged probe will unfurl its main parachute and float downward. Seven onboard instruments will directly measure for the first time Jupiter's chemical make-up, winds, clouds and lightning. The probe will radio its data to the Galileo spacecraft for up to 75 minutes.

Before the probe was released, controllers lined up Galileo's spin axis so that it was pointed along the path the probe will take as it enters Jupiter's atmosphere. Controllers then spun up the combined spacecraft and probe to 10.5 rpm. The spin stabilized the probe's attitude, or orientation in space, as it flies toward Jupiter. Ground controllers and Galileo's onboard systems sent a series of commands to prepare the

Please see PROBE'S, Page 4

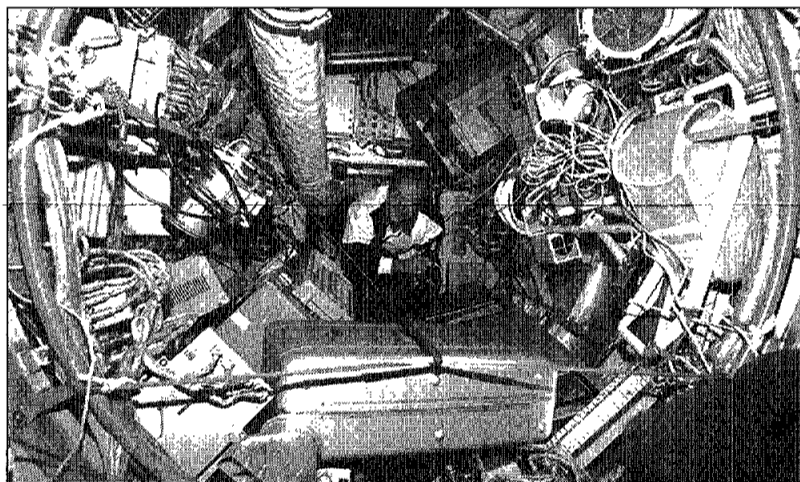
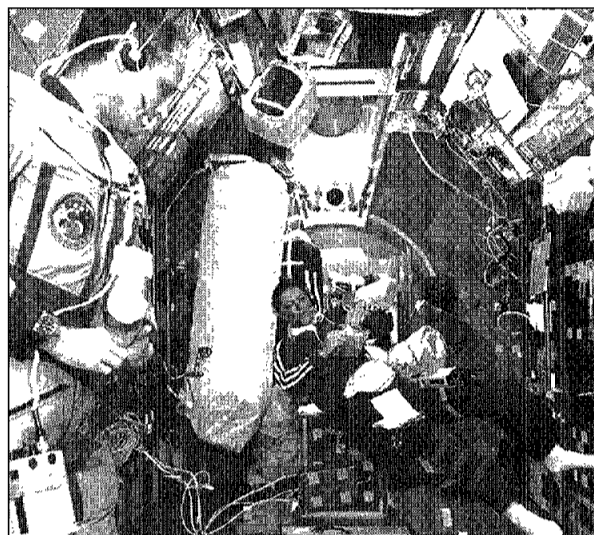
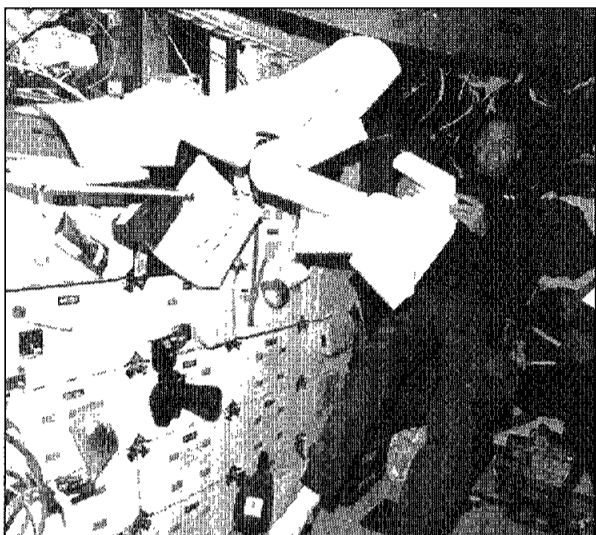


An artist concept shows the Galileo spacecraft releasing the rugged, conical-shaped probe that will enter Jupiter's atmosphere in December.



Cosmic Ballet

STS-71, Mir 18 and Mir 19 crews advance space science

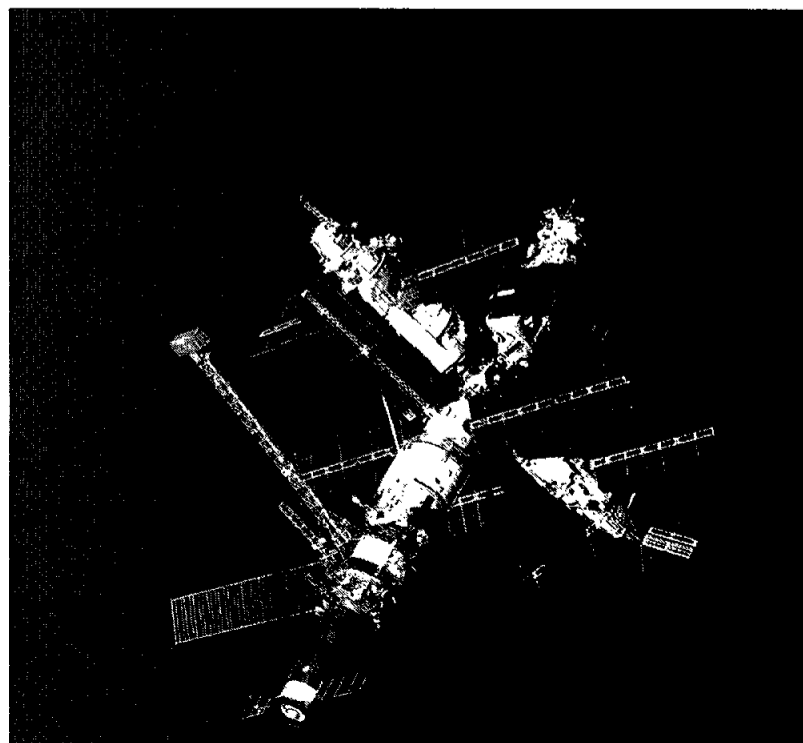


The historic mission of *Atlantis* docking with the Russian Mir Space Station will be remembered as the start of establishing an international outpost.

Through the mission the crew collected photos to share. From left to right, top to bottom:

- 1) The traditional in-flight crew portrait features clockwise starting at the six o'clock point, Mission Specialist Greg Harbaugh, Commander Hoot Gibson, Mission Specialist Charlie Precourt, Mir 19 Flight Engineer Nikolai Budarin, Mission Specialists Ellen Baker and Bonnie Dunbar, Mir 18 Cosmonaut/Researcher Norm Thagard, Mir 18 Commander Vladimir Dezhurov, Mir 18 Flight Engineer Gennady Strekalov and Mir 19 Commander Anatoly Solovyev.
- 2) Harbaugh checks out data uplinks in *Atlantis*' middeck.
- 3) Thagard, left, and Dunbar work in the Spacelab.
- 4) Thagard shows off his Mir 18 flight suit that he wore during his American record-breaking stay of 115 days on Mir.

- 5) Precourt floats from *Atlantis* into the Kristall Science Module.
- 6) From left, Thargard, Dezhurov and Strekalov enjoy hot fudge sundaes.
- 7) Solovyev, left, and Budarin perform a communications check on the Soyuz in preparation for undocking to capture pictures of the *Atlantis*/Mir undocking.
- 8) Baker monitors Strekalov during a treadmill run.
- 9) From left, NASA Administrator Daniel S. Goldin talks with Gibson, Precourt, Dunbar, Harbaugh and Russian Space Agency Director Yuri Kopev under *Atlantis* after landing.
- 10) Gibson removes the docking target that was on the Kristall module.
- 11) A close-up view of the Mir reveals each of its modules. The bottom portion is the Soyuz spacecraft attached to the Mir core module, the right-side of the station houses the Spektr module, the upper section is the Kristall module and the left-side section is the Kvant-2 module. □



NASA names first rover to explore the surface of Mars

On the 30th anniversary of robotic exploration of Mars, NASA has selected the name "Sojourner" for the first rover slated to explore the red planet.

The 25-pound, six-wheeled robotic explorer is now being readied for launch, and will be deployed to roam across an ancient Martian flood plain after the Mars Pathfinder lander touches down on the planet's surface on July 4, 1997.

The U.S. spacecraft Mariner 4 initiated humanity's study of the red planet 30 years ago when it flew by Mars at a distance of about 6,000 miles on July 14, 1965, taking the first close-up images of another planet.

The name Sojourner was chosen for the Mars Pathfinder rover after a year-long, worldwide competition in which students up to 18 years old were invited to select a heroine and submit an essay about her historical accomplishments. The students were asked to address in their essays how a planetary rover named for their heroine would translate these

accomplishments to the Martian environment.

Initiated in March 1994 by The Planetary Society of Pasadena, Calif., in cooperation with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the contest got under way with an announcement in the January 1995 issue of the National Science Teachers Association's magazine "Science and Children," which is circulated to 20,000 teachers and schools across the nation.

Valerie Ambroise, 12, of Bridgeport, Conn., submitted the winning essay about Sojourner Truth, an African-American reformist who lived during the Civil War era. An abolitionist and champion of women's rights, Sojourner Truth, whose legal name was Isabella Van Wagener, made it her mission to "travel up and down the land," advocating the rights of all people to be free and the rights of women to participate fully in society. The name Sojourner was selected because it means "traveler."

JPL scientists and engineers working on the Mars Pathfinder project and Planetary Society staff members reviewed the 3,500 total entries

received from all over the world, including essays from students living in Canada, India, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Poland and Russia. Nearly 1,700 of the essays were submitted by students aged five to 18 years old.

The selection of winners from this group by representatives from JPL and NASA Headquarters was based on several factors: the quality and creativity of the essay; taking into consideration the age of each contestant; the appropriateness of the name for a Mars rover and the knowledge of the heroine and the understanding of the Pathfinder rover's mission conveyed in the essay.

The second place prize winner was Deepti Rohatgi, 18, of Rockville, Md., who proposed naming the rover after Marie Curie, a Polish-born chemist who won the Nobel Prize in 1911 for her discovery of the elements radium and polonium. The third place prize went to Adam Sheedy, 16, of Round Rock, Texas, who chose the late astronaut Judith Resnik as his namesake for the new rover.

Other popular names included Sacajewea, who explored North America with Lewis and Clark; Amelia Earhart, one of the first female aviators; Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom; Harriet Tubman, a 19th-century African-American writer and political reformist; and Thumbelina, the tiny fairy tale character created by Hans Christian Andersen.

The Mars Pathfinder lander and rover will be launched in December 1996 aboard a Delta rocket and then will spend seven months cruising to Mars. The mission will demonstrate a new, low-cost way of entering a planetary atmosphere and landing, through a combination of parachutes, rockets and shock-absorbing airbags designed to slow the spacecraft's descent and place it safely on the surface.

Once Mars Pathfinder lands and opens its exterior panels, the solar-powered rover will be sent off to explore the chemistry of rocks in the area and other features of the planet's rocky surface.

Need aerobic test subjects for study

By Barbara Tomaro

Interested in donating your body to science? Employees may not be ready for a permanent donation, but how about a loan? The Exercise Physiology Lab is seeking male athletes with established aerobic routines for an Aerobic/Anaerobic Capacity and Power Study.

According to Physiologist Steve Siconolfi, "Astronauts who do not exercise during space flight have a decrease in aerobic capacity. However, effects of space on anaerobic power or anaerobic capacity is unknown. The relationship among aerobic capacity, anaerobic power and anaerobic capacity is not clearly understood even in earth bound athletes. One factor that may relate these measures of performance is blood volume. Decreases in blood volume lowers aerobic capacity. The relationship to anaerobic power also remains a mystery. This study will examine the relationship among these variables in athletes who train for anaerobic power, anaerobic capacity and aerobic capacity."

The aerobic capacity of test subjects will be assessed using a graded supine bicycle test. Subjects will pedal a stationary bike from a reclining position with a constant increase. Anaerobic testing will include a Wingate Anaerobic Power test and a treadmill test. Blood and plasma volume testing will be conducted at University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. A non-invasive BERS test for plasma volume will also be conducted using electrodes attached to the subject.

"The MIR 18 crewmembers completed the aerobic test. We would like to examine the data and predict the amount of decrement in anaerobic power. This has been done with treadmills but not with cycles. The information from this study will help develop the technique for cycling testing and reduce the work load on astronauts," Siconolfi said.

Potential test subjects can contact registered nurses Beth Johnson, or Linda Byrd at x37284.



Rocky Medina, a SHARP participant, works with David Altermir of the Manufacturing Process Development Branch in the model and plastic shop in Bldg. 9.

Kids get 'elbow's eye-view'

By Howard Bruce

Eleven energetic students from nine area high schools were given the opportunity to work along-side NASA engineers at JSC for eight weeks this summer.

Each of the students were selected to participate in an eight-week intensive science and engineering program, the Summer High School Apprenticeship and Research Program. SHARP is designed to give students an "elbow's eye-view" into careers with NASA. Interns include, Remicha Carter from Forest Brook High working in navigation control and aeronautics, Christopher Cerf from Washington High working in the structures and mechanics, Jamal Fontenot from Forest Brook High in avionics process engineering, Clarissa Hernandez from Channelview High assisting in simulator operations and technology, Corey McGowen in technology computer systems, Rocky Medina from Austin High learning in manufacturing process development, Thuan Nguyen from South Houston High interning

in life support and thermal systems, Salil Patel from Clear Lake High assisting in earth science and solar system exploration, Joseph Peters from Milby High in propulsion and power, Sherry Sendelbach from Mt. Carmel High in space biomedical research and Rodney Wimberly from LaMarque High in facility development.

The SHARP Program is designed for high school students who have demonstrated an interest in space, science or engineering. The 1995 SHARP class was matched based upon science interest with a JSC engineer mentor. Students will work closely with their mentors on a variety of technical and space science projects. Students will complete a research paper and make oral presentations to the SHARP group and mentors. They receive instruction in technical presentations using viewgraphs and diagrams. The action-packed summer concludes with a banquet for the students, their parents and mentors. For information call Nancy Garrick 483-3076.

Fellowship program participants sought

Human Resources is now taking nominations for participants in the JSC Fellowship Program.

JSC employees—primarily in the grade 13 to Senior Executive Service levels—are invited to apply. Participants in the NASA fellowship programs are selected from across the agency on the basis of their educational and developmental records, significant recognition and accom-

plishments, reasons for participating in the program and supervisor and management endorsements.

Directorate nominations are due to the Human Resources Office by Aug. 21, employees interested are encouraged to immediately talk to their supervisors, who must recommend nominees to each organization's director. For more information, call Erica Vandersand at x31999.

Station employees 'Adopt a Kid'

Space Station Program Office employees are organizing a first ever "Adopt-A-Kid" night at Space Center Houston.

This grass roots team of volunteers is organizing an evening space camp, Aug. 11, for 100 inner-city youth, to provide them a night of growth, fun and learning about space. These young people are part of Houston's poverty structure.

Participants will lead the kids through space experiences including eating; brushing teeth; showering; picking up rocks with space gloves; building a glider and other space activities. The film "Discovering Life

in Space" will add to their insight into everyday life on the final frontier of space. Space Center Houston is providing the program, skits, projects, movies, demonstrations, food and drink.

JSC community volunteers are needed, to work as mentors, donate space memorabilia for souvenirs and bake cookies. Cash donations are also needed for the "Adopt-A-Kid" program. A donation of \$25 sponsors one child for an evening of growth, fun and learning.

If you are interested in participating in this effort, or would like to donate time or money contact Steve Berry at x48568.

JSC tool aids cosmonauts

(Continued from Page 1)

available on-site and thermally capable of the job. Roy Mayfield of Dynacorp, supporting aircraft operations, supplied a cable necessary for operation of the tool. The team called on Raul Zepeda and Brenda Lotz of crew and thermal systems, to provide a cover to keep the cutting edge from damaging a suit. William Spenny of crew and thermal systems evaluated whether the Russian suit would be able to perform motions to operate the tool. As fabrication progressed, Dave Elmore of Loral provided quality assurance to build two flight units. After manufacturing, the team quickly moved to thermal testing. David Staat of Lockheed provided test necessary to ensure the tool could work in space. With a

successful test at minus 150 degrees, the tool was prepared for shipping. A second tool was shipped to Russia for evaluation.

The final test was to brief the cosmonauts, Mir 19 Commander Anatoly Solovyev and Flight Engineer Nikolai Budarin on the assembly and operation of the cutter. The tool was then shipped to be stowed on *Atlantis*. During their space walk on July 14, Solovyev and Budarin had a choice to use the JSC developed tool or one made in Russia. The cosmonauts chose to try the U. S. made tool and successfully cut the tubing and unfurled the solar array.

Many others contributed to the success of the project and allowed JSC personnel to show their ability to respond when called upon.

Probe's fate will be determined by Jupiter's atmospheric pressure

(Continued from Page 1)

probe for its mission. These included programming the probe's coast timer, an onboard clock that will "wake up" the probe's systems and scientific instruments six hours before it enters Jupiter's atmosphere. After completing checks of command, data, power and other subsystems, a built-in cable cutter severed the umbilical between the atmospheric probe and Galileo. Before deployment, small explosive charges on nuts that secured the probe to Galileo detonated to free the probe. Three small springs then gently pushed the probe away from the main spacecraft, sending it on the last leg of its voyage to Jupiter.

The probe mission is likely to end when the main Galileo spacecraft passes beyond radio contact with the probe as the spacecraft enters Jupiter orbit. The ultimate fate of the probe may be determined by its battery lifetime, or it may first succumb to the immense pressure of Jupiter's atmosphere and be crushed. Galileo, meanwhile, will begin two years of close-up studies of Jupiter, its moons, rings and powerful magnetic environment.

Galileo was launched in October 1989 aboard the Space Shuttle *Atlantis*, and has flown by Venus, Earth (twice), and two asteroids during its trip to the outer solar system.

Space News Roundup

The Roundup is an official publication of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas, and is published every Friday by the Public Affairs Office for all space center employees.

The Roundup office is located in Bldg. 2, Rm. 181. The mail code is AP2. The main Roundup telephone number is x38648 and the fax number is x45165.

Electronic mail messages should be sent to the editor, khumphri@gp301.jsc.nasa.gov or the associate editor, kschmidt@gp301.jsc.nasa.gov.

Editor Kelly Humphries
Associate Editor Karen Schmidt

STS-69 to launch in August

(Continued from Page 1)

As the STS-70 mission drew to a close, the STS-69 astronauts spent the week at the Kennedy Space Center conducting a dress rehearsal for their launch early next month.

Commander Dave Walker, Pilot Ken Cockrell and Mission Specialists Jim Voss, Jim Newman and Mike Gernhardt climbed aboard *Endeavour* on Thursday for the final hours of a simulated countdown like that which will lead to their liftoff on an 11-day mission to deploy and retrieve two science satellites and to conduct a space walk to test space station construction techniques.

On Tuesday, NASA managers met at KSC and set Aug. 5 as the official launch date for *Endeavour*. The shuttle is expected to blastoff at

9:45 AM CDT at the opening of a 2 1/2 hour launch window. Gernhardt will deploy the SPARTAN solar science satellite from the end of *Endeavour's* robot arm and will retrieve the boxy satellite two days later. Operations with the saucer-shaped Wake Shield Facility will begin the day after SPARTAN is placed back in the cargo bay.

Newman will man the robot arm to lift WSF out of its truss platform in the bay and will deploy it after it has had a chance to be oriented into a position to "cleanse" itself of atomic oxygen present in low Earth orbit.

Once it is released, a small nitrogen gas thruster on WSF will propel it away from *Endeavour* to prevent it from being contaminated by shuttle jet thruster firings.