



Discovery's rollover to VAB moves to March 27

▲ **Shuttle Update:** Discovery's rollover milestone to the Vehicle Assembly Building is moving to March 27 (previously March 22) due to additional work needed on wiring in the payload bay and on the main and nose landing-gear doors. Because work is scheduled to end late that day, rollover could take place the morning of March 28. If the work is completed safely and correctly, the orbiter could be moved to the VAB earlier than March 27.

On **Atlantis**, preparations are in work for the installation of the new Orbiter Boom Sensor System (OBSS). Checkout and installation of the four Manipulator Positioning Mechanisms that will hold Atlantis' OBSS on the starboard side of the payload bay are under way.

Atlantis' External Tank arrived March 15 at the Launch Complex 39 Area Turn Basin at Kennedy Space Center and was transported to the VAB. On March 16, it was lifted into the checkout cell for final processing. Technicians are preparing for the aft hard-point closeout spray. Atlantis is being prepared to fly a second Return to Flight mission, STS-121, this summer.

▲ **ISS Update:** Two Control Moment Gyroscopes (CMGs) are maintaining the Station's orientation after a third gyroscope lost power on Wednesday. A circuit breaker, called a Remote Power Controller, failed and

removed power from that gyroscope. Attempts to reset the breaker were unsuccessful. There is no impact to current Station activities. Two gyros are adequate to maintain the orientation of the complex. (Discovery will deliver a replacement CMG on its Return to Flight mission STS-114.)

■ **Congressman Dave Weldon To Talk about Return to Flight** —

Employees are invited to attend a Town Hall Meeting from 1-2 p.m. at the Training Auditorium Thursday featuring Congressman Dave Weldon. The meeting is an Update on Return to Flight and the Vision for Space Exploration. A question-and-answer session will follow. For those interested in attending, please note that seating is limited. You are advised to coordinate with your NASA directorate administrative office or contractor office as applicable for information on available seats. The meeting will be broadcast live on NASA Television, Channel 7, and will also be available on the internal home page at <http://www.ksc.nasa.gov/nasa-only/internal.html>



■ **EEAW Kickoff** — A continental breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. April 20 in the SSPF cafeteria to kick off the Environmental and Energy Awareness Week celebration. This year we are

Space Station's orientation relies on two gyroscopes

celebrating the 35th Anniversary of Earth Day and will be hosting Laurilee Thompson and Dr. Ross McCluney as guests speakers.

Tickets are on sale through April 12 for \$4 each and can be purchased from the following: *Kim Osgood*, HQ, 867-2518; *Catherine Hope*, O&C, 867-3056; *Scott Scrupski*, SSPF, 867-8105; *Allison Moree*, ARF, 861-8063; *Steve Geis*, Visitor Complex, 449-4268; *Martha Pessaro*, PRF, 867-5405; *Laura Sardella*, EHF, 867-3556. Breakfast includes fresh fruit, low-fat muffins, bagels, danish, orange juice and coffee.

■ **NASA Science** — It's raining again in Southern California, even though most of the west is having a drought. JPL oceanographer Dr. Bill Patzert studies the ocean's role in climate and has some opinions about these recent deluges and how they fit into the big climate picture. He approaches this wet season with characteristic dry wit. Read his comments at the Web site <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/features.cfm?feature=756>.

■ **Did You Know?** You have one day left to register for the Chili Cook-Off. Chili rules are posted at <http://kscpicnic.ksc.nasa.gov/chili.html>. The deadline is March 23.

For additional chili information, contact Johnny Shamrock, 861-9185, or send an e-mail to Johnny.G.Shamrock@NASA.gov.