



STS-121 mission to bring third crew member to Space Station

Russian ISS commander achieves longest time in space

▲ **Shuttle Update:** With turnaround processing operations now running ahead of schedule at NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center in Southern California (see Space Shuttle Discovery being towed, below), Discovery could be back at its home at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida later this week.



Inspections of Discovery's thermal protection system will continue until the orbiter is ready to be mounted on its modified 747 carrier aircraft for the flight back to KSC. The narrow section of thermal blanket that ballooned out under the left-side window was removed for laboratory failure analysis and a protective ramp was installed in its place to protect that portion of the orbiter for the ferry flight.

Removal of monomethyl hydrazine fuel from the Orbital Maneuvering System valves and plumbing was slated to occur Saturday night and Sunday morning.

Departure of the Discovery atop one of NASA's modified Boeing 747 Shuttle Carrier Aircraft on its ferry

flight back to Florida is expected to occur no earlier than today although it could be later in the week.

▲ **ISS Update:** On their upcoming spacewalk this week, ISS Commander Sergei Krikalev and NASA Science Officer John Phillips will change out a Russian biological experiment, retrieve some radiation sensors, remove a Japanese materials science experiment, photograph a Russian materials experiment, install a television camera and relocate a grapple fixture. The six-hour spacewalk begins at 2:55 p.m. Thursday. Live coverage on NASA TV will begin at 1:30 p.m.

At 1:44 a.m. today, Krikalev's time spent in space will surpass that of any other human being. Krikalev's record will pass the one now held by Cosmonaut Sergei Avdeyev, who spent 748 days in orbit. Krikalev is a veteran of six space flights, two long-duration flights to the Soviet Union Space Station Mir; two flights on the Space Shuttle; and, counting this mission, two flights to the International Space Station.



■ **August Cardiovascular Disease Screening** — The screening is available 7-8 a.m. at the

Occupational Health Facility on Wednesday, and the Launch Area Clinic/MFF Cafeteria on Thursday. No appointment is necessary. You

must fast for 12 hours prior to screening (water only). If you take prescription medications, ask your doctor how to manage these medications during your fasting.

The 2-page questionnaire can be picked up at any medical facility. The form can also be downloaded from the SGS home page/forms at: <http://ksbcocforms/KSCForms2/ref/KSC28-1010.itr>. This form can be filled out online and then printed (single-sided on two sheets of paper). A PDF version is also available by accessing the SGS home page at: <http://sgs.ksc.nasa.gov/sgs/sites/other/chs/omehs/occmcd/home/files/KSC28-1010.pdf>.

■ **Reminder** — The Information Technology Directorate is sponsoring a technology exposition from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. **today and tomorrow** in the O&C Building Mission Briefing Room.

■ **Did You Know?** Nominations for the KSC Bi-Annual Environmental & Energy Awards Program are due by close of business on **Friday**. The award is given to an individual or team to recognize their contributions and/or successful operations in preserving the environment, conserving energy, and reserving natural resources while reaching for the stars.

For nomination forms, contact Barbara Naylor at 867-8452 or e-mail Barbara.A.Naylor@nasa.gov.