



KSC Countdown

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KSC celebrates 40 years of crawler use

GlobalFlyer lands at KSC today to prep for flight record

◆ Crawler Celebration:

Throughout 40 years of service, the two crawlers have moved more than 3,500 miles and carried seven vehicles. Friday marks the 40th anniversary of the use of crawler transporters in advancing space flight.

The crawler completed its first successful move in January 1966 carrying a 10.6-million-pound launch umbilical tower. It moved three-quarters of a mile in about nine hours.

Invited media representatives will have the opportunity to tour one of NASA's two crawlers. This will include the driver cab and engine room, with a chance to speak to current drivers and operators, as well as drivers from the Apollo Program.

◆ **GlobalFlyer:** The arrival of the Virgin Atlantic Airways GlobalFlyer aircraft at NASA's Kennedy Space Center is set for 4 p.m. **today**. The aircraft, piloted by Steve Fossett, is being relocated from Salina, Kan., to Kennedy's Space Shuttle Landing Facility to begin preparations for an attempt to set a new world record for the longest flight made by any aircraft.

An exact takeoff date for the record-setting flight has not been determined and is contingent on weather and jet-stream conditions. The window for the attempt opens in mid-January, making the flight possible anytime between then and the end of February.

NASA agreed to let Virgin Atlantic Airways use Kennedy's

Space Shuttle Landing Facility as a takeoff site. The facility use is part of a pilot program to expand runway access for non-NASA activities.

■ **Help KSC/CCAFS Save Energy Dollars on Monday's Holiday** — It takes commitment from everyone at the Spaceport to help KSC and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station save energy dollars; therefore, please remember to:

- Turn off your computer, monitor and printer (if not needed to stay on).
- Turn off the lights in your office when you are the last person to leave.
- Turn off the hall and hall closet lights on your way out if you are the last person to leave your area in the building.
- Turn off displays and decorative lights.
- Turn off or unplug any appliances in the office, such as coffee makers, desk lamps, fans and radios.
- Turn off the copier machines (including in hallways) and scanners.
- Close the blinds on all windows.

■ **Brevard Regional Science Fairs Need Judges** — Engineers, scientists, technical and medical employees **ONLY** are needed to judge the Brevard Regional Science Fairs for the NASA Recognition Awards, taking place at:

- ◆ Melbourne Square Mall (Brevard South Regional Fair), Feb. 3
- ◆ Merritt Square Mall (Brevard Intracoastal Regional Fair), Feb. 10
- ◆ Merritt Square Mall (Brevard Mainland Regional Fair), Feb. 17

(NOTE: This is different from being a category judge. If you've already signed up to be a category judge, please do NOT volunteer to be a NASA judge as well – this makes for a very difficult day for you!)

If interested in judging, please be sure to clear it with your supervisor first, then contact: helen.p.kane@nasa.gov, with a copy to your administrative officer.

■ **Stardust Returns** — At 12:57 a.m. Sunday, Stardust will release its sample return capsule. Four hours later, the capsule will enter Earth's atmosphere 410,000 feet over the Pacific Ocean. The capsule will release a drogue parachute at approximately 105,000 feet, and at 10,000 feet, the main parachute will deploy. The capsule is scheduled to land at the U.S. Air Force Utah Test and Training Range, southwest of Salt Lake City, at 5:12 a.m. EST.

■ **Did You Know?** A new Weight Watchers session will start in the OSB on **Tuesday**. It will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in conference room 2301C. If you have any questions, contact the leader, Marilyn Clark, at 504-2979 or Jan Buker at 861-4719.

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday. Deadlines are 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays.

E-mail news to Anita.Barrett@jbosc.ksc.nasa.gov. For questions or information, e-mail or call 321-867-2815.

Find KSC Countdown on the Internet at <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown-toc.html>