



# countdown

June 26, 2007

Vol. 12, No. 47

## KSC prepares orbiters for next two missions

◆ **Shuttle Update:** At NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base, **Atlantis** is being prepared for its ferry flight back to KSC that will occur later this week.

In Orbiter Processing Facility bay No. 2 this week, workers successfully completed the frequency response testing of **Endeavour's** flight control system. Pressurization of the nose landing gear and main landing gear struts has ended. Tile work around the payload bay door hinges is under way, and the main propulsion system valves have been configured for rollout.

The forward external tank/orbiter yoke (attach point) has been installed. The shuttle main engine covers are installed, and the engines are ready for the vehicle's rollover to the Vehicle Assembly Building, scheduled for July 2.

In the Vehicle Assembly Building, transfer of External Tank No. 117 from its checkout cell to the mobile launch platform in high bay No. 1 is complete. The hard mating of the external tank and solid rocket boosters is also complete. The shuttle interface test is under way, and other scheduled processing of the tank and booster stack continues.

In Orbiter Processing Facility bay No. 3, aft closeout work is under way on **Discovery**. The orbiter docking mechanism has been stowed for flight.

Checkout and servicing of water spray boiler No. 1 is scheduled for completion today. Modifications to **Discovery's** engine cutoff sensor wiring are complete, along with the installation of BRI tile around the main landing gear doors and external tank doors.

## Russian astronauts troubleshoot computer problems on ISS

◆ **ISS Update:** International Space Station Commander Fyodor Yurchikhin carried out troubleshooting efforts on the Russian segment's central computer and terminal computer on Thursday. This procedure will not impact operation of the two channels of each computer that have been in control of the Russian system's operation since the restart June 15.

The troubleshooting procedure is designed to help Russian mission managers further assess their plans for repairing the computer systems, including possibly replacing components with new hardware to be flown on the next Progress supply ship arriving on July 24.

■ **KSC Fitness Center Group Exercise Classes** — A new group fitness class schedule will begin July 2 and will run through Sept. 28. In addition to the usual aerobic, resistance training and yagalates classes, a Shotokan Karate class has been added from 5 to 6 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays courtesy of Sensei Carlos F. Maldonado, third degree black belt of the Puerto Rico Dento Karate-Do Dojo, a member of the ISKA. Karate is an effective method for achieving excellent physical condition, learning self defense, stress management, increasing motivation, and meeting new people. This class will feature some of the basics of Karate, from stances to some basic strikes.

■ **KSC Focus Groups Forming** — Results of a NASA Culture Survey conducted in October of last year showed three items needing further analysis: 1) I can rely on management to be honest. 2) Management is effective in taking issue up the chain of command. 3) NASA

management helps me get my job done.

NASA feels that these three issues are very important to achieving and maintaining a successful organization. As a result, the agency formed a team to explore these results.

KSC will conduct several employee focus groups on July 17 and 18. If you participated in the survey last October, you may receive an invitation to one of these groups. The focus groups will be meeting on site, with both morning and afternoon sessions. A private contractor will provide a facilitator and scribe to ensure all participants feel comfortable sharing their honest opinions.

If you have any questions regarding the agency team or the focus groups, or if you have any insights you would like to share regarding the above items, please contact Laura Gallaher via e-mail at [laura.c.gallaher@nasa.gov](mailto:laura.c.gallaher@nasa.gov) or call 321-867-6830.

■ **The KSC Telephone Directory** is being distributed,  but only one copy will go to each mail code to continue cost reductions. To obtain additional copies, a justification will be required to support management's decision. For your convenience, the KSC directory is online at <http://phonedirectory.ksc.nasa.gov/>.

*Countdown* is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. Deadlines are 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to [anita.barrett@jbsc.ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:anita.barrett@jbsc.ksc.nasa.gov). For questions or information, e-mail or call 321-867-2815. You can also find *Countdown* on the Web at [nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown-toc.html](http://nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown-toc.html).