



countdown

July 3, 2007

Vol. 12, No. 48

Atlantis returns to KSC, Endeavour rolls to VAB



Science, maintenance fill ISS crew's days

◆ **Shuttle Update:** The orbiter **Atlantis** left California atop a shuttle carrier aircraft on Sunday about 8:55 a.m. After an overnight refueling stop at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska, it reached Ft. Campell, Kentucky on Monday where it stayed until this morning. As of press time, Atlantis was expected to return at 8:30 a.m. today. After its return, processing will begin to ready the orbiter for mission STS-122 in December.

On Monday, the orbiter **Endeavour** rolled to the VAB (see photo below), where it will be stacked with the external tank and solid rocket boosters for launch on mission STS-118 Aug. 7.



In Orbiter Processing Facility bay No. 3, aft closeout work on **Discovery** is under way for mission STS-120. Check-out of the hydraulic system for water spray boiler No. 1 is finished. Testing is in progress on the auxiliary power units as well as the external tank doors for proper closure and fit.

◆ **ISS Update:** Last week, Flight Engineer Clay Anderson began working

with a nutrition experiment. He collected blood and urine samples and began logging all of the food and drinks he consumed. The experiment tracks many vitamins and minerals essential for good health. It is the most comprehensive in-flight study to date of human physiological changes during long-duration spaceflight. Also, Anderson and Flight Engineer Oleg Kotov did a medical emergency exercise, and Commander Fyodor Yurchikhin replaced one of three transmitters on the Russian Regul communications system.

The crew inspected the lights and power systems and performed a routine examination of the windows on the Russian Zvezda service module on June 26.

The next day was filled with science. Each crew member completed medical tests and periodic fitness evaluations, and worked with a variety of Russian experiments. Kotov spent about two hours using a multimeter to do resistance checks on the computer system in the Zvezda service module. The two major computer systems there continue to function well, with two of three "lanes," or data paths, of each system operating.

Anderson wore an acoustic dosimeter on June 28 to check station noise levels. He also worked with the Microgravity Science Glovebox in an unsuccessful effort to complete a leak check. Troubleshooting continues. Yurchikhin and Kotov spent more than two hours with the Russian Profilaktika experiment, which looks at measures to counteract the long-term effects of microgravity. Yurchikhin also worked with the Matryoshka radiation detection experiment and Kotov inventoried medical equipment.

On June 29, Anderson did a routine cleaning of spacesuit cooling loops while Yurchikhin and Kotov worked in the Russian segment, replacing current converter units in the Zarya module.

■ **Mission Briefing** — NASA will discuss the next space shuttle mission, STS-118, during a series of media briefings beginning at 9 a.m. July 10-11 at NASA's Johnson Space Center. The briefings will be broadcast live on NASA Television.

■ **Education Opportunity** — Warner Southern College in Melbourne and Titusville is offering a bachelor degree program in organizational management at its Titusville location beginning in early September. The format of the program is for adult students who apply their professional learning to the coursework. Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings and one Saturday per month for 16 months. Warner Southern also offers associate and master's degree programs. For details, please call 254-4096 or 751-4665.

■ **Please Note** — NASA Exchange retail stores will close at 3 p.m. **today**, so please visit the stores before then for your last-minute Fourth of July items.

■ **Mark Your Calendars** — The 2007 InterCenter Run is scheduled for Sept. 18 at 5 p.m.

Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. Deadlines are 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to anita.barrett@jbsc.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.

Did You Know? The *Countdown* will not be published on Thursday due to the July 4 holiday. Look for it again on July 10.