



countdown

Inspiration + Innovation + Discovery = Future

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Endeavour crew seeks to land at KSC today



◆ Mission Update:

Endeavour and its crew of seven are scheduled to land at KSC today. The

first landing opportunity is at 12:32 p.m., with the deorbit burn occurring at 11:25 a.m. A second opportunity is available at 2:06 p.m. The deorbit burn would occur at 1 p.m. Mission managers continue to monitor Hurricane Dean.

◆ **NASA News:** NASA has awarded more than \$17 million to institutions nationwide to help make significant contributions to the research and technology priorities of the agency.

The selections are part of NASA's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, or EPSCoR. The program is designed to assist states in establishing an academic research enterprise directed toward a long-term, self-sustaining and competitive capability that will contribute to the economic viability and development of the states. EPSCoR enables continuing education, training and workshops important to NASA's mission. The program assists in developing partnerships between NASA research assets, academic institutions and industry.

A total of 23 proposals were selected for funding in Puerto Rico and the following states: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Nevada, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont and West Virginia. Winning proposals were selected through a merit-based, peer-reviewed competition.

NASA primes education sources for future

■ **Pioneering NASA Spacecraft Mark 30 Years of Flight** — NASA's two venerable Voyager spacecraft are celebrating three decades of flight as they head toward interstellar space. Their ongoing odysseys mark an unprecedented and historic accomplishment.

Voyager 2 launched on Aug. 20, 1977, and Voyager 1 launched on Sept. 5 that year. They continue to return information from distances more than three times farther away than Pluto.

During their first dozen years of flight, the spacecraft made detailed explorations of Jupiter and Saturn and their moons and conducted the first explorations of Uranus and Neptune. These planets were previously unknown worlds. The Voyagers returned never-before-seen images and scientific data, making fundamental discoveries about the outer planets and their moons.

For the past 19 years, the twin Voyagers have been probing the sun's outer heliosphere and its boundary with interstellar space. Both Voyagers remain healthy and are returning scientific data 30 years after their launches.



■ **KSC Fitness Centers' 2007 Intercenter Walk/Run** — The KSC Fitness Centers are sponsoring the Inter-

center Walk/Run on Sept. 18 at the Shuttle Landing Facility. The 2-mile walk/run, 5k run and 10k run are FREE for all spaceport employees. Stop by either fitness center by Sept. 14 to preregister. Late registration takes place at the race. T-shirts may be ordered at any NASA Exchange store through Sept. 7. The ap-

proximate delivery/pickup date is Sept. 17. If you are interested in being a volunteer, please call 867-7829 or e-mail Debra.L.Orringer@nasa.gov with any questions.

■ **Reminder** — The fourth annual KSC Diversity Event, themed Altogether Different, is scheduled from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Sept. 8 at the Radisson Resort at the Port Pavilion in Cape Canaveral. Dr. Arden Bercovitz will be the honored guest speaker. Tickets are on sale for \$25 per person at HQ/Room 2327.

■ **Toastmasters** — Two on-site Toastmasters clubs meet from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Wednesday. Are you interested in becoming a competent speaker? Are you looking for a comfortable, fun, supportive environment to develop your speaking skills? Are you interested in becoming an effective leader? If you answered **yes** to any of these questions, then joining one of the KSC Toastmasters clubs is something you should consider. KSC Toastmasters club 3695 meets in HQ 2254 (for more information, contact Rodney Krienke at William.R.Krienke@nasa.gov or 867-6304). The LC-39 Toastmasters club meets in OSB 1 3303B (for more information, contact Bradley Carlson at bradley.j.carlson@nasa.gov or 861-0507).

Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. 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. You can also find *Countdown* on the Web at nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown-toc.html.