Tuesday, March 9, 2004

Vol. 9, No. 17

KSC COUNTDOWN

Expedition 8 crew make repairs on ISS, work on experiments

▲ ISS Update: Last week Expedition 8 Commander Michael Foale reestablished a vacuum between the two panes of optical-quality glass on Destiny Laboratory's science window. The continuing repairs follow a small pressure leak detected on the International Space Station in January. Foale, with help from Flight Engineer Alexander Kaleri, removed any condensation that might have accumulated between the glass panes during removal of a damaged flex hose used to keep the vacuum between the window panes. The final remaining steps in the repairs are construction of a cover to protect the hose against inadvertent contact, and installation of a new jumper hose delivered by the resupply ship Progress 13.

Kaleri continued to troubleshoot intermittent failures of the Elektron oxygen generation system in the Zvezda service module. While repairs are ongoing, the Station's atmosphere has been repressurized using oxygen from the Progress spacecraft.

The crew also worked with several science experiments, notably the PromISS protein crystal growth experiment. Crew members also stowed the experiment sample in the Aquarius incubator after a successful 30-day growth cycle. Details on Station science operations can be found on the Web at **http://scipoc.msfc.nasa.gov/**

▲ Think Safety: It's time to submit ideas for the Spaceport Super Safety and Health Day slogan. The winning slogan is used for advertisements, posters and giveaways. All participants receive a token of appreciation. The winner is named during SSSHD, Thursday, Oct. 28, and receives something very special! Submit your inputs to Bob Gerron, YA-B, by March 22.

Slogans sought for KSC Super Safety and Health Day

◆ **Expedition crew member to visit KSC –** Expedition 7 crew member Ed Lu is scheduled to be at KSC March 10 to talk about his mission aboard the International Space Station. His presentation to employees is 1 to 2 p.m. in the KSC Training Auditorium. Please join us in welcoming Ed back to KSC.

◆ **EEAW planning meeting** -- The Environmental & Energy Awareness Team is planning the activities for this year's EEAW in celebration of Earth Day. If you would like to participate in the planning activities, join the team at 1 p.m. March 12, in the O&C Building/Room 1055. Your help and new ideas will make this year another success! If you cannot make the meeting but would like to participate in the planning, call Barbara Naylor at 867-8452 or John Ryan at 867-8413.

◆ **The NASA College Scholarship Fund, Inc.**, a non-profit organization, awards scholarships to qualified NASA dependents who are pursuing a course of study in science and engineering fields. Five scholarships will be awarded this year. Information on the guidelines for applying for the scholarship can be found at the Web site **http://jscpeople.jsc.nasa.gov//ncsf.htm** . Applications are now being accepted and must be received by the corporation scholarship committee at JSC no later than **March 22**. For additional details, please contact Debbie Bitner at *Deborah.L.Bitner@nasa.gov* or at 867-0510.

◆ **Did You Know? The KSC Fitness Centers** present another seminar in the "Changing Weighs" Nutrition Lecture Series! This month's topic and date: *Getting Back On Track with Nutrition Basics,* with registered dietician Caryn Treder, on M**arch 10**. The hour-long session begins 11 a.m. in the O&C Mission Briefing Room (MBR).

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday. Deadlines are 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays.
E-mail news to Anita Barrett at *Anita.Barrett-1@ksc.nasa.gov* . For questions or information, e-mail or call 321-867-2815
Find KSC Countdown on the Internet at http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2003.htm