



Checks underway for Thermal Protection System installation

▲ **Shuttle Update:** Workers have rigged **Discovery's** recently installed lower Rudder Speed Brake panels for a standard optics shoot. This test ensures the panels are reinstalled properly and function correctly during the mission.

Dome Heat Shield (DHS) No. 1 is removed, while DHS No. 2 installation for fit check is complete. The DHS comprises two semi-circle sections of Thermal Protection System tile mounted on an aluminum structure that are installed to make a ring around each of the three Space Shuttle Main Engines.

Chin panel installation on **Atlantis** is complete (photo below).



The chin panel is the smile-shaped section of RCC that is installed directly below the nose cap to provide a thermal barrier during re-entry.

▲ **ELV Update:** MESSENGER (Mercury Surface, Space Environment, Geochemistry and Ranging) was mated to the Delta II

MESSENGER complete, ready to move to launch pad



Payload Assist Module, or third stage, on Monday (photo at left).

The Boeing Delta II rocket is ready and waiting on Pad 17-B at

Cape Canaveral Air Force Station for the spacecraft. Launch is scheduled no earlier than Aug. 2 at 2:16 a.m. EDT. A press briefing from NASA Headquarters in Washington, D.C., at 1 p.m. today will be broadcast live on NASA TV.

■ **Education Opportunity** — Registration is currently underway at **Webster University** for the fall term, Aug. 14 to Oct. 15. Classes meet evenings and weekends on Merritt Island and are also offered at KSC for badged employees. Current students can register by telephone, fax, e-mail, or online through the University Web site (www.webster.edu), or by visiting the Merritt Island campus.

Applications for new students are also being accepted at this time for a variety of programs. New students are advised to call and schedule an appointment with an academic

advisor. If you are interested in pursuing this degree, send an e-mail to Carol Marx at marxc@webster.edu with your name, address and phone number, or call 449-4506. For further information about Webster University, call 321-449-4500 or go to www.webster.edu/spacecoast.

■ **Reminder — July 27 Is Take Our Children to Work Day.** This special day targets children ages 9 to 15. KSC/CCAFS employees are invited to bring a son or daughter, niece or nephew, grandchild or a neighbor's child to work with them to share the work experience and encourage them to set goals for the future and to build on these goals during their years in school.

Children must be **at least 9 years old** to participate and must be accompanied by a responsible, badged employee. Hours are 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Children are not allowed in operational areas.

Event details and badging information are available at <http://childrenatwork.ksc.nasa.gov>.

■ **Did You Know?** Massages are available Tuesdays through Fridays from Valerie Jaramillo, Licensed Massage Therapist #MA 19362. You can also purchase a massage therapy gift certificate! And, on-site chair massage is available. Call 321-543-1047 to schedule your appointment.