Shuttle Small Payloads Program Office

Activities at Wallops

Mission 2000 related activities are indeed underway at Wallops in the Shuttle Small Payloads Program Office.

Space Experiment Module - SEM

The fifth flight of the Space Experiment Module Project (SEM 04) was launched on STS 95-Discovery, Oct. 29, 1998. The SEM canister, which carries up to 10 experiment modules, was mounted on the Spartan bridge in the Shuttle cargo bay.

The SEM 04 payload was returned to Wallops and the experiments were de-integrated during the week of Dec. 11, 1998.

SEM Technician, Barbara Justis returned “The Effects of Microgravity and Temperature on Mold Growth” experiment in SEM 04 to her alma mater, the West Richland Elementary School (WRES) in Noble, IL. The experiment, which was packed in the “Show and Tell” module, was opened with the help of WRES student scientists on Dec. 23, 1998.

Another SEM 04 experiment, from the University of Maryland, College Park to demonstrate a new ratcheting device for an Extra Vehicular Activity (EVA) tool was featured on a Discovery channel special which aired the day after Dec. 15, at Swales Aerospace, Beltsville, MD. The experiment, which investigated the effects of space on the American cockroach, was a full-scale artificial heart. The European Space Agency, Paris, France experiment was a thermal control experiment using heat pipe technology. The ALAA-National Section sponsored a DuVal High School, Lanham, MD experiment, “American Cockroach Experiment”, which investigated the effects of space on the American cockroach.

Dave Ward and Joe Ruffing, Carrier Systems Branch (CSB) supported pre-flight integration and testing at Wallops this spring. Chuck Brodell, CSB is the SEM-06 Mission Manager.

Get Away Special - GAS

The following four GAS payloads were on STS 95-Discovery: The Cosmic Dust Aggregation (CODAG), University of Bremen, Germany experiment was a simulation of the formulation of dust clouds in the early universe. Hearts in Space, Bellarmine College, Louisville, KY experiment was a full-scale artificial heart. The European Space Agency, Paris, France experiment was a thermal control experiment using heat pipe technology. The AIAA-National Section sponsored a DuVal High School, Lanham, MD experiment, “American Cockroach Experiment”, which investigated the effects of space on the American cockroach.

One GAS payload flew on STS-88-Endeavour: The “Vortex”, University of Michigan experiment was an investigation of liquid surface tension effects in microgravity. Dave Ward and Charlie Lipsott (CSB) supported pre-flight integration at KSC in August 1998. The payload was de-integrated at Wallops during the week of Jan. 25.

For more information on the Shuttle Small Payloads Program visit the web site: http://sspp.gsfc.nasa.gov

Barbara Justis, Carrier Systems Branch (CSB) operates the overhead crane while Bill Sidell, Orbital (left) and Charlie Lipsott, CSB, guide the SEM-04 structure, with the ten modules already mounted, into the flight canister.
**Upcoming Training**

**Strategic Business Management**

*Date:* Feb. 7-12, 1999

*Place:* Wallops

This program is to enhance strategic and tactical management skills through the use of a computer simulated business. Students will explore the essence of a business by analyzing its management, market, financial and operations information to make complex trade-off decisions.

The course is for Management Education Program (MEP), Managing the Influence Process (MIP), Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program or Senior Executive Service Leadership program graduates. To sign up, contact Andrea Ables on x66-4919.

**Executive Service Leadership program**

**Executive Service Candidate**

The course is for Management Planning, people with money in the C-fund during that period have seen their money double, at least. During 1998, the F-fund (bond index) return was 8.7%. The G-fund (super-safe Treasury securities) return was 5.74%. All are good, considering that one of the primary goals is to outpace inflation. For 1998 the inflation rate was about 1.3%.

**Support Requested for Engineers Week**

National Engineers Week is Feb. 21 to 27. The Public Affairs Office needs engineers, technicians and scientists who will speak to students at local schools about careers in science, technology and math.

A short information session is being planned for 9 a.m., Feb. 9, in the first floor conference room, Bldg. F-6. The session is to help potential speakers prepare and to demonstrate simple hands-on activities that can be used.

Exhibits, videos and other materials are available through the Visitor Center. National Engineers Week information packages are available in the Public Affairs Office.

For additional information or to volunteer call Tony Goodyear, x1681 or Betty Flowers, x1584.

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**GSFC 40th Anniversary Logo**

A logo to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Goddard Space Flight Center (below) was recently unveiled.

The logo will be featured on materials and products developed for Goddard’s 40th Anniversary. A week-long celebration will begin Sunday, May 2 with a special Community Day event commemorating four decades of scientific and engineering excellence at Goddard.

Black and white, 2-color and full-color versions of the logo in .jpg format are available on the Goddard internal web page: [http://internal.gsfc.nasa.gov](http://internal.gsfc.nasa.gov) Employees can use it on official Goddard publications.

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**Exhibit Support Needed**

Wallops will have an exhibit at the Wicomico County Education Fair, Jan. 22. Anyone that would like to help support this event may call Tony Goodyear, x1681.

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**CFC Surpasses Goal**

Thanks to the generosity of lower Eastern Shore federal and contractor employees, the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) goal of $40,000 was surpassed.

This year’s theme, “Create Hope and Opportunity — Reach Out for Love” became a reality. A special thanks goes to the Wallops employees for their contributions and to the CFC keyworkers for their time and effort in making the campaign a success.

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**Community Day event commemorating four decades of scientific and engineering excellence at Goddard.**