



National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center

Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia

Inside Wallops

Volume XX-01

Number: 03

February 12, 2001

Kentucky Students to Get a New Look at Space with NASA Antenna

Students from across Kentucky will get a new tool with which to explore space with the relocation of a NASA satellite tracking antenna to Morehead State University.

Morehead President Ronald Eaglin said "Transfer of the satellite tracking station from NASA will revolutionize the science curriculum at Morehead

system also will allow Morehead to compete for the opportunity to support future NASA satellite missions.

While located at Morehead, the antenna will be shared statewide by researchers at the University of Louisville, University of Kentucky and the regional universities, Malphrus said. He added, "In addition to supporting research, it will be part of a state-of-the-art laboratory for students in astrophysics, satellite telecommunications, electrical engineering and software development."

Representatives from Morehead began training on the operation of the antenna at Wallops Flight Facility in January. Disassembly and shipping from Wallops to Morehead State is expected to begin in the summer and take three to four months.



NASA Satellite Tracking Antenna

NASA WFF Photo

State University. We also are very excited about this project's potential impact on high-tech economic development related to satellite telecommunications. The long-term impact that this project will have on a region desperate for high-tech training opportunities is immeasurable."

Steve Currier, manager of the Ground Network Project Office for NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, said, "NASA is extremely pleased to see new life breathed into the antenna system. It has served NASA well for more than 30 years and now it will be used to train a new generation of space scientists and engineers."

The antenna system stands approximately nine stories tall and the tracking dish is 60-feet (18 meters) in diameter. In recent years, its primary mission was to provide tracking and control for the International Ultraviolet Explorer (IUE) satellite. NASA decommissioned the antenna system after the IUE mission ended in 1997.

According to Dr. Benjamin Malphrus, director of the Morehead State Astrophysics Laboratory, the NASA antenna will provide a replacement for the Morehead Radio Telescope. The

The transfer of the NASA antenna was made possible through the Kentucky National Science Foundation Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NSF EPSCoR) program.

Wallops Shorts.....

Balloon Program Records

A NASA scientific balloon has broken the previous record flight time for a zero pressure balloon by 44 hours. The 29.47 million cubic foot balloon was launched on January 4 from McMurdo, Antarctica and had a total flight time of 644 hours, terminating on January 31. The balloon carried a Submillimeter Astrophysics experiment (TopHat) for Dr. Edward Cheng, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. The 500-pound TopHat experiment was on the top of the balloon and was a record for weight on the top of the balloon.

This recent campaign marked the second time in two years, NASA and the National Scientific Balloon Facility, Palestine, Texas have supported two concurrent long duration balloon missions in Antarctica. The second flight launched Dec. 28, 2000, also was a 29.47 million cubic foot balloon carrying a cosmic ray astrophysics experiment for Drs. John Wefel and Greg Guzik, Louisiana State University that flew for 385 hours.

Vehicle Pass Requests

Written requests for vehicle passes to view Space Shuttle launches within the restricted perimeter of Kennedy Space Center (KSC) are being accepted. These passes grant visitors permission to drive through several designated guard stations to a public viewing site on the causeway between KSC and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station without the requirement of an escort.

Anyone is welcome to make a request, including members of the general public worldwide, educators, and representatives from groups or organizations wishing to attend the launch together.

Only requests for passes for the following Space Shuttle missions currently targeted for launch in the year 2001 are being accepted:

STS-102	(March)
STS-100	(April)
STS-104	(May)
STS-105	(June)
STS-107	(Aug.)
STS-108	(Oct.)
STS-109	(Nov.)

Specific Space Shuttle mission launch assessment dates can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/schedule/schedule.htm>.

Since the number of vehicle passes is limited, requests will be accepted on a first come first served basis. All requests should be submitted in writing to:

Car Pass Request
PA-PASS
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899

Letter and postcard requests are allowed. No e-mail or telephone requests will be accepted. The request must be for one mission only. The mission must be specified in the request letter. The request must also specify which of the following category of vehicle pass is required: car, motor home, bus, or disabled.

Only those selected will be notified by mail. The passes will then be mailed to the recipient's address approximately three weeks prior to the launch. Only one request per person will be honored. Only one pass will be issued per request.

For more information, visit the following Web site:
<http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/carpass/carpass.htm>

Black History February 2001 Month

In 1915, historian Carter G. Woodson proposed a "Negro History Week" to honor the history and contributions of African Americans. In 1926, his dream became reality. Woodson chose the second week of February for Negro History Week because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly impacted the American black population, Abraham Lincoln (February 12) and Frederick Douglass (February 14). The week-long observance officially became Black History Month in 1976.

February has much more than Lincoln and Douglass to show for its significance in black American history. For example:

Feb. 23, 1868

W. E. B. DuBois, important civil rights leader and co-founder of the NAACP, was born.

Feb. 3, 1870

The 15th Amendment was passed, granting blacks the right to vote.

Feb. 25, 1870

The first black U.S. senator, Hiram R. Revels (1822-1901), took his oath of office.

Feb. 12, 1909

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded by a group of concerned black and white citizens in New York City.

Feb. 1, 1960

In what would become a civil-rights movement milestone, a group of black Greensboro, N.C., college students began a sit-in at a segregated Woolworth's lunch counter.

Feb. 21, 1965

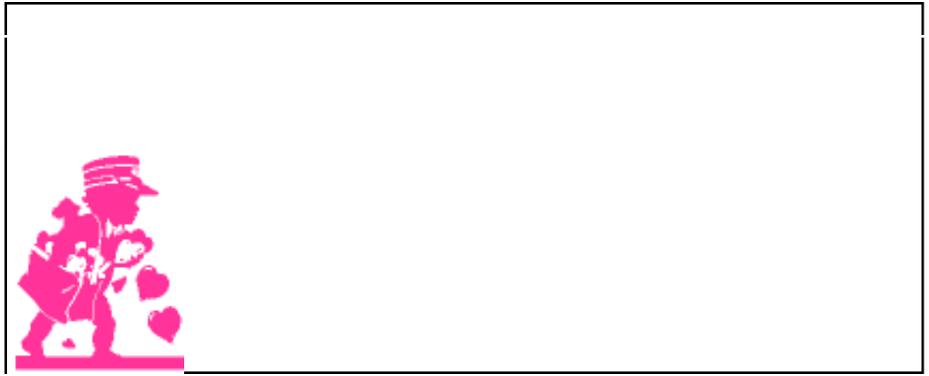
Malcolm X, the militant leader who promoted Black Nationalism, was shot to death by three Black Muslims.

Wallops Basketball League

The Wallops Basketball League 2000-2001 season has come to an end with Cortez III winning first place during the regular season. Under the direction of Coach Chico Ayers, they finished the regular season with a 9-0 record.

Ocean Deli, coached by Mersha Bailey and Milton Johnson, came in second. The Navy team and the Coast Guard team finish out the ranking.

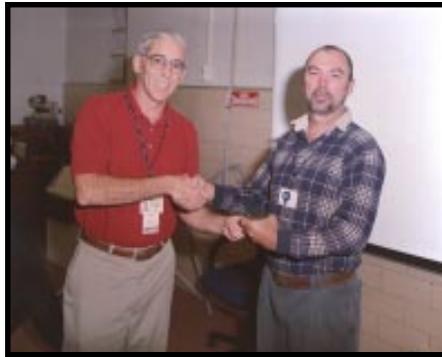
The Navy team with Chief Johnson as coach prevailed during the tournament and won first place. Ocean Deli again placed second, Cortez III placed third, and the Coast Guard finished in last place vowing revenge next season.



GHG Employees Receive ISO Awards



Carl "Skip" Bowman (top left), Bill Wallace (top right), and Ralph Wooten (bottom) recently received individual ISO 9001 awards from Steve Jones, GHG, Wallops CSOC ISO representative. The award was presented in recognition of exceptional support to CSOC ISO 9001 certification.



Uneventful January

by Bob Steiner, Meteorologist

January 2001 came and went with only one new record being set. A new high of 66 degrees was recorded on January 30, breaking the old record set in 1989 by three degrees. Temperatures were just slightly warmer, .7 degrees, than average. The low temperature was a reading of 17 degrees on January 5.

Measurable precipitation totaling 1.77 inches fell on 8 days during January. Ten days with measurable precipitation totaling 3 inches is the norm. Snow watchers observed a trace of snow on January 21. This hardly compares with the average of two days with measurable snow accumulation of less than an inch.

Daily temperatures will begin to increase to nearly 50 degrees by the first of March, climbing to the upper 50s by the end of the month. Overnight lows will still average near the freezing mark the first to the month and warm to the lower 40s heading into April. The record high for the month of 86 degrees was set on March 13, 1990. The extreme low for March was reached twice, March 1, 1980 and March 9, 1996. Historically, March is the wettest month of the year averaging nine days with measurable precipitation for a monthly average of 4 inches.

For the snowbirds, normally there's still an opportunity for a bit of snow in March. The average is at least a day with a little less than an inch.

Scaffold Training Course

February 26 - 28

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bldg. F-3

The 20-hour hands-on training session is for those who will erect, dismantle, modify, move, operate, repair, maintain and supervise the use of scaffolding and work platforms to include aerial lifts.

To enroll contact Curtis Oakley, x2290.

Daytona 500 Party

February 18

Bldg. F-3

Doors open at Noon



Admission: A covered dish of your favorite food to share with everyone.

Exchange Store News

The Exchange Store currently has wall space available for consignment items. If your hobbies include framed photography, sketches, needlepoint and paintings and you would like to display and sell them through the Exchange Store, contact Pam Milbourne, x2020 for details.

The Exchange Store also is offering dry cleaning service and film processing.

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees.

Editor
Printing

Betty Flowers
Printing Management Office

<http://www.wff.nasa.gov>