

Tuesday, August 29, 2000

## 10 days to targeted launch date for STS-106 mission



## Station elements coming together in SSPF



### ▲ Shuttle Update:

The Flight Readiness Review for mission STS-106 is today. Shuttle managers will confirm the official launch date and time, so far targeted for Friday, Sept. 8, at 8:45 a.m. EDT. Orbiter Discovery was lifted into High Bay 3 of the Vehicle Assembly Building early

Friday morning and mated to the external tank and solid rocket boosters on the Mobile Launcher Platform (MLP). The photo shows Discovery as a crane lifts it in the transfer aisle.

▲ **Space Station** hardware for mission STS-97 is being mated before the Nov. 30 launch. Workers in the Space Station Processing Facility are mating the second solar array with the Integrated Electronic Assembly (IEA) today. The Station's electrical power system (EPS) will use eight solar arrays to convert sunlight to electricity. Each of the arrays will be 112 feet long by 39 feet wide. The solar arrays are mounted on a "blanket" that can be folded like an accordion for delivery. Once in orbit, astronauts will deploy the blankets to their full size. Gimbals will be used to rotate the arrays so that they will face the Sun to provide maximum power to the Space Station.

◆ **SPACE CAMP Discount:** For the first time, SPACE CAMP Florida and California are offering NASA employees and contractors a special rate on fall camp sessions. The discount of \$200 lowers the tuition to \$499 for the week. SPACE CAMP programs are endorsed by school systems throughout the United States and students may obtain approved absences and sometimes complete science or math projects for extra class credit. During the 5-day program, children ages 9 to 12 can train like astronauts, learning math and science through high-technology programs, astronaut training activities, space station design and simulated Space Shuttle missions. For reservations or information on SPACE CAMP Florida, call 1-888-831-6302.

◆ **September's Health Education and Wellness Program** focuses on men and women learning to take responsibility for their own health. A few simple skills and subtle lifestyle changes can make a big difference. Separate health packets are available.

◆ **Cafeteria Specials:** Lackmann Culinary Services invites employees to "Be A Couch Potato" this week, Aug. 28 – Sept. 1. The menus have been altered to fit this promotion. Also, enter to win a 19" Philips Magnavox TV. Check your cafeteria for details.

◆ **Did You Know?** The area code for this area and much of Brevard County is changing to 3-2-1 on Oct. 1. Correspondence should reflect the new number.★

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.

Deadlines: 10 a.m. the day before. Send information, comments or questions to:

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Countdown on the Internet -- <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2000/2000.htm>