

Thursday, July 13, 2000

## Successful Russian launch keeps KSC on track for future missions



## New KSC facility opens with ribbon cutting July 18



▲ **Space Station Looks to Future:** The International Space Station program successfully launched the Zvezda Module to orbit on Wednesday, July 12, at 12:56 a.m. EDT from the Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan.

The module will serve as living quarters for the early Space Station crews. Zvezda will orbit the Earth for two weeks as flight controllers prepare for its rendezvous and docking with the International Space Station, which is scheduled for 8:44 p.m. EDT July 25. Once docked, Zvezda will become the third major component of the Station. KSC's Shuttle mission STS-106 will begin outfitting Zvezda and prepare the Station for its first resident crew, due to arrive at the Station in the fall after launch from Russia. STS-106 is scheduled to launch from KSC Sept. 8 at 8:31 a.m. EDT.

▲ **New Facility Opens:** KSC will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony July 18 at 10 a.m. for its latest new addition – the Vapor Containment Facility (VCF). Located next to the Space Station Processing Facility, the VCF contains ammonia servicing equipment, used in connection with flight hardware for the International Space Station. The construction of the VCF involved a partnership of many organizations including the Boeing Company, Speegle Construction, United Space Alliance and the KSC civil service team. The ceremony will feature a welcome by Center Director Roy Bridges and remarks by ISS Program Deputy Manager Jay H. Greene, ISS/Payloads Processing Director Tip Talone Jr., and Boeing's Payload Ground Operations Contract Program Manager James R. Schofield.

◆ **Cats Not Native Wildlife:** The KSC Space Cats Club will be trapping in the LC-39 area this week and requests your help. First, please do not feed cats. Second, for your safety, if you see a cat or other animal in the trap DO NOT RELEASE IT. Volunteers will be checking the traps and will handle the situation as needed. The KSC Space Cats Club comprises KSC volunteers who trap and care for the feral cats. When a cat is trapped it is taken to a local veterinarian for examination. The animal is spayed or neutered and given a rabies vaccine. Adult cats and kittens over 3 months of age are relocated and taken care of by volunteers. Kittens less than 3 months of age are cared for by volunteers who tame them and prepare them for adoption. For more information, please visit the Web site at <http://www.spacecats.com>. You can also contact Lisa Fowler, 867-1883 or Debi Williams, 861-7811.

◆ **Fall Registration at BCC:** Brevard Community College (BCC) Fall 2000 schedules and new catalogs are in. Schedules will be available in the lobbies of larger buildings. Registration for fall classes will begin July 24. Office hours for registration are Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Anyone who needs to stop by after hours should call 449-5046 in advance to make an appointment. Registrations will also be available at various cafeterias – check upcoming issues of *Countdown* or the *10 O'Clock News* for a schedule.

◆ **Did You Know?** The latest photographs of Shuttle and payload processing activities here at KSC, as well as other events, can be found on the Web at <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/captions/hotpics.htm>.

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>