

Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2002

Columbia being prepped for rollover to VAB and stacking



HESSI Jan. 24 launch from CCAFS may be delayed



▲ **Shuttle Update:** **Columbia** – In the Orbiter Processing Facility (OPF), aft closeout operations were completed over the weekend and forward closeouts are in progress in preparation for rollover Wednesday to the Vehicle Assembly Building for space vehicle mate. The orbiter will be checked for weight and balance and center of gravity today. **Atlantis** – The Shuttle main engines were installed yesterday. Removal of the left hand Orbiting Maneuvering System (OMS) pod to inspect the fittings of attach point No. 5 was delayed due to additional requirements to verify the weight of OMS propellants onboard. **Endeavour** – Post-flight servicing continues on Endeavour in the OPF. The vehicle's Forward Reaction Control System (FRCS) was removed to replace and retest a forward firing thruster that failed during the recently completed STS-108 mission. Preparation work is under way for removal of the heat shields and main engines next week. **Discovery** – The orbiter is in temporary storage in a high bay of the Vehicle Assembly Building awaiting a decision for the structural inspection and modification down period. Discovery is scheduled to return to the OPF in mid-January.

▲ **HESSI Launch Tentative:** The High Energy Solar Spectroscopic Imager (HESSI), scheduled to be launched aboard a Pegasus XL vehicle from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station Jan. 24, could be delayed 7-10 days. No details were available at press time. Check the Web site <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/schedule/mixfleet.htm> for updates as they occur. The primary mission objective of HESSI is to explore the basic physics of particle acceleration and energy release in solar flares.

◆ **Road Closure Notice:** A section of 5th street, between B and C Avenues in the KSC Industrial Area will be closed starting 8:30 a.m. Jan. 21 until 8 a.m. March 23 due to an environmental remedial action. Please note the road is closed both for traffic **and** pedestrians. Please make arrangements for alternate routes – such as 4th street (recommended). For more information, send e-mail to Rosaly.Santos-Ebaugh-1@ksc.nasa.gov.

◆ **FEW Scholarships** -- The Space Coast Chapter of Federally Employed Women (FEW) is awarding scholarships for high school and/or college students who are currently attending college or enrolling in the Fall semester 2002. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to be considered. Applications should be received by March 15, 2002. For additional information or an application, please contact Jane Eitel/GO2-SEB (QA) at 867-8340; Christy Vanasse/VA-1 at 867-4886 or 476-3620; or Karin Biega/XA-A at 867-6382.

◆ **Did You Know?** The Black Employee Strategy Team (BEST) encourages employees to wear BEST polo shirts every Friday during the month of February in celebration of African-American History Month. Contacts are Barbara Brown (barbara.brown-2@ksc.nasa.gov or 867-1720); Kelvin Manning (kelvin.manning-1@ksc.nasa.gov or 861-9104); Wanda Petty (yvonne.petty-1@ksc.nasa.gov or 867-9165); Stacie Smith (stacie.smith-1@ksc.nasa.gov or 867-5298); and Michele Taylor (michele.taylor-1@ksc.nasa.gov or 867-3402). Shirts are also available from the BEST Web site at <http://www-BEST.ksc.nasa.gov/BEST/ShirtOrder2002.xls>. You can view the shirts and print the order form. ★

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.

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

◆ E-mail – Anita.Barrett-1@ksc.nasa.gov ◆ Telephone – 867-2815

Internet -- <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2001/2001.htm>