

Employees of the month



HONORED IN JANUARY are, from the left: Jim Neff, Installation Operations Directorate; Kim Cochran, Administration Office; Donna Winchell, Comptroller's Office; James Fowler, Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate; Ember Smith, Deputy Director's Office; James Shaver, Payload Operations Directorate; Peggy Parrish, Procurement Office; Mark Shugg, Shuttle Operations Directorate; Scott Colloredo, Engineering Development Directorate; and Marcia Groh-Hammond, Logistics Directorate.



MAXINE JOHNSON, secretary to Launch Director Jim Harrington, was installed Jan. 13 as president of the Titusville Drove No. 183 of the Benevolent Patriotic Order of Does. Handing the gavel over to Johnson is past president Beverly Finn. The installation was held at the B.P.O. Elks Lodge in Titusville.



EUGENE HATTEN, JR., workforce diversity director for the Chrysler Corp., sponsor of the Medalla De Oro award, stands with winners, from left, Oscar Gamboa, Hispanic program manager, NASA-KSC; Margaret Gonzalez, publisher, GWR agency; and Keith Marrocco, Texas A&M student chapter faculty adviser. Not pictured is Richard Navarro, Northrop Grumman corporate employment director.

Gamboa honored at MAES conference

Oscar Gamboa, the Hispanic program manager for the Equal Opportunity Program Office, was recently honored by the Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists (MAES) for his accomplishments within the Hispanic community.

Besides dramatically increasing the percentage of minority engineers at Kennedy Space Center, Gamboa has served on a Brevard County Commission task force to increase the participation of women and minorities in the county, and worked with the Brevard County School

District to develop hiring practices that include minorities.

The Medalla De Oro award which Gamboa received was accompanied by a \$2,000 scholarship which was presented to Albert Meza of the University of Houston.

KSC played an active role in the conference, sponsoring four booths and hosting participants for the night launch of STS-72 on Jan. 11. The conference, with the theme "Today's Hispanics: Opening Minds Through Science and Engineering," was held Jan. 9-13 in Lake Buena Vista.



PRELAUNCH preparations for the Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous (NEAR) mission have been proceeding smoothly at Cape Canaveral Air Station. In the photo above, NEAR is transported from NASA Hangar AE to the Spacecraft Encapsulation and Assembly Facility (SAEF-2) at Kennedy Space Center on Jan. 25. There the spacecraft was scheduled to be fueled with its control propellant, the solar arrays attached and the mating to the solid propellant upper stage completed. At the left, the second stage is hoisted onto the gantry at Launch Complex 17 in preparation for mating with the Delta II first stage. NEAR is scheduled for launch Feb. 16 at 3:53 p.m.