

# Ripped from the ROUNDUP

Ripped straight from the pages of old Space News Roundups, here's what happened at JSC on this date:

**1 9 6 6**

**T**he "world's smallest manned spacecraft," the Air Force - developed astronaut maneuvering unit (AMU), last week underwent extensive testing in Chamber B of the Space Environment Simulation Laboratory in Building 32. Gemini IX Pilot Charles A. Bassett will use the AMU for extensive extravehicular maneuvering during the mission. In the chamber tests, Maj. Edward Givens, USAF AMU project officer, was taken to a simulated altitude of more than 200,000 feet above sea level. The AMU performed successfully under high-vacuum conditions while integrated with the chest pack life support system, the tether line and the Gemini pressure suit. The AMU-propelled extravehicular activities in Gemini IX and XII are part of a series of DOD experiments being conducted during the Gemini program.

**1 9 7 1**

**M**any people have known the pride of accomplishment in constructing a model airplane, auto, or boat. The engineers of the Habitability Technology Section within the Spacecraft Design Office know regularly the fulfillment of assembling a model. However, this work not only involves building the model, or mockup, but designing concepts for it, too. And their finished products are full size!

The space station module, which took approximately seven weeks to design and construct, is compartmentalized lengthwise into three areas. The mockup, located in Building 13, houses the wardroom, kitchen facilities and a personal hygiene unit. The 12 by 15 foot wardroom will serve as a dining room, conference room, movie theater, recreation area and chapel (that's right, a chapel), among other uses. There are two windows which will allow crewmembers to stargaze at leisure.

**1 9 8 6**

**A**"dress rehearsal" of the first space shuttle mission takes place in February to clear the way for launch of the shuttle's first orbital flight.

This 11-day test series will involve operations at KSC, JSC, Dryden Flight Research Center, and the White Sands Missile Range. The Wet Countdown Demonstration Test/Flight Readiness Firing, all part of the Mission Verification Test, will exercise all elements of the nation's new Space Transportation System, including personnel, facilities, space vehicle, and computer programs in a demanding, real-time environment to demonstrate the proper integration of all elements prior to the STS-1 mission, now scheduled for mid-March.



## NASA space station chief receives Leadership Award

**I**n recognition of his demonstrated leadership excellence and his contributions to human space flight and the future of space exploration, David Thelen, NASA division chief, Space Station Division, Safety, Reliability, and Quality Assurance Office (SR&QA), recently received the Space Flight Awareness Leadership Award.

"It's an honor to receive this award, but I also want to acknowledge the joint leadership team (Safety & Mission Assurance Program Office and SR&QA), because they understood the challenge and held the keys to success," said Thelen.

Thelen was noted for initiating and supporting a series of "win-win" discussions with the International Space Station Program Safety and Mission Assurance Office, defining roles and responsibilities between that office and the SR&QA Office. He established the joint Commit to Flight Readiness Review in preparation for the ISSP flight readiness review process. In addition, he has led efforts to improve communication among the four SR&QA divisions in order to integrate all views into one consistent safety and mission assurance position for discussions concerning real-time flight issues and other concerns.

His leadership has led to more technical oversight and better support to the ISSP through new initiatives, including

the development of a new "Integration Lead" which has added real-time support on the Mission Management Team during ISS missions, and the implementation of a new software pilot program with the ISSP Safety and Mission Assurance Office to improve the quality assurance of ISS flight software.

Thelen leads 24 civil servants and 87 contractor personnel. He appreciates that the diversity of his staff leads to greater opportunities for all.

Thelen served as a flight controller and operations engineer after receiving a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Houston in 1983. He began his NASA career as a safety engineer in 1987. In May 1989 he was assigned to the Orbit Project Office as a Mission Evaluation Room manager. In 1991 he was selected as a section head within SR&QA and has held a number of management positions within the directorate. ■



John Casper, right, director, Safety, Reliability, and Quality Assurance, presents the Space Flight Awareness Leadership Award to David Thelen, SR&QA division chief, as Rob Kelso, deputy director, SR&QA, looks on.

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## Shuttle Delay

Specialist Marsha Ivins, now on her 5th flight, will be inside the shuttle performing robotic operations to remove the lab from the payload bay and dock it to the station, with the help of Curbeam and Mission Specialist Tom Jones.

The second EVA will install the future connection point for the station's robotic arm to Destiny's exterior, preparing for the launch of that arm on shuttle mission STS-100 later this year.

The third EVA will be the 100th in U.S. space walk history and the 60th based out of the shuttle. It will conclude

with a trial of incapacitated crewmember tests, in which Curbeam and Jones will take turns playing the incapacitated crewmember and the active crewmember will use different methods to evacuate him back to the shuttle.

With three weeks of added time until the arrival of *Atlantis*, the residents of the International Space Station, Expedition One, will be using the time to review documents and procedures on installation and activation of the Destiny Lab. They will continue conducting an inventory of items on board, packing and

stowing equipment and supplies and taking part in conferences with numerous technical specialists. Their stay on orbit will likely be elongated three weeks because their ride home, STS-102, will be postponed due to the rescheduling of this mission.

Upon hearing news of the delay, ISS Commander William Shepherd responded, "It doesn't matter if they launch this week, this month or this year, we [humankind] are in space to stay." ■

## AIAA seeks Sperry Award candidates

The AIAA Houston Section is seeking nominees for the Lawrence Sperry Award, a national award for outstanding contributions to the field of aeronautics or astronautics by an AIAA member under 35 years of age.

As a majority of the nominations are submitted from academia and the

military, the National Young Professional Committee would like to see an increase in nominations from industry as well.

The award is named after Lawrence B. Sperry, a pioneer aviator and inventor. Past recipients of the Sperry Award include many prominent members of the aerospace community such as Eugene

Kranz, Sally Ride, and Daniel Tellep.

The nominee must be under the age of 35 on December 31 of the year preceding the presentation to be eligible for consideration. The deadline for nominations is July 1.

For details on nominations, contact Nicole Smith Mullins, (281) 244-7145.

# TICKET WINDOW

### The following discount tickets are available at the Exchange Stores

AMC Theaters	\$5.00
Moody Gardens (2 events) (does not include Aquarium Pyramid)	\$10.75
Moody Gardens (Aquarium only)	\$9.25
Space Center Houston	adult .. \$11.00 .. child (age 4-11) .... \$7.25
(JSC civil service employees free.)	
Space Center Houston annual pass	\$18.75
Postage Stamps (book of 20)	\$6.60
Entertainment Books	\$20.00
Franklin Planner refills (Classic Style)	\$25.50
Franklin Planner refills (Seasons and Montecello)	\$30.25

### Exchange Store hours

Monday-Friday  
Bldg. 3 7 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Bldg. 11 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

- All tickets are nonrefundable.
- Metro tokens and value cards are available.
- Sweetwater Pecans ..... \$6.25 per lb.
- Chocolate-covered Pecans .... \$8.00 per lb.

**For additional information, please call x35350.**

Please bring your driver's license to pay by personal check.

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