

Ripped from the ROUNDUP

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

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The command ship "Kitty Hawk" splashed into the Pacific on Tuesday, February 9, at 3:05 Central Standard Time, nine days and two minutes after liftoff on January 31. Splashdown was right on target, 765 nautical miles south of American Samoa.

The crew entered a mobile quarantine facility on board the prime recovery ship, USS *New Orleans*, where they were examined by Crew Surgeon William R. Carpentier.

In Samoa, the astronauts transferred to a second MQF on board an Air Force C-141 transport. They were to have landed at Ellington Air Force Base at 12:30 a.m. this morning.

Although not without some problems and a few anxious moments, the flight of Apollo 14 was in all aspects a successful moon landing mission.

Scientists have been particularly pleased with the results of experiments set up on the lunar surface.

Dr. Gary Latham, principal investigator for the Passive Seismic Events, said at a press conference earlier this week, "I think my colleagues would agree that it's the best ALSEP to date. It has the fewest problems."

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The Apollo 14 ALSEP, one of five stations on the moon, was essential in providing scientists a lunar seismic network. With the Apollo 12 station and stations at Apollo sites 15 and 16 subsequently installed, the ALSEP 14 station provided geophysicists necessary data to locate moonquakes and begin the study of the moon's interior structure.

Originally designed for a life of one year, the ALSEP 14 has long outlived its specifications. It is the first of the ALSEPs to fail completely although it has had problems before. Almost one year ago, in March 1975, the ability of the station to receive commands from Earth was lost and never regained. However, in the meantime the 14 station continued to transmit data about the moon's seismic activity.

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As for the STS-1 launch, the window will open at sunrise plus 45 minutes. The Flight Readiness Firing as of press time is scheduled for no earlier than Feb. 17, and window opening time for that date is 6:43 a.m. CST.

The FRF pre-count will be picked up at T-53 hours with the powering up of the solid rocket boosters, orbiter, and ground support equipment. The STS-1 launch pre-countdown begins at T-68 hours. However, for the FRF, a number of events which would normally occur between T-68 hours and T-53 hours will have already been accomplished as part of earlier tests.

Mentors needed for Texas Aerospace Scholars

Texas Aerospace Scholars is currently accepting mentor applications to work with its Class of 2001. This program, a joint education effort between the State of Texas and the Johnson Space Center, is designed to encourage high school students to pursue a career in math, science, engineering or computer science through interaction with engineers at NASA. Mentors will be assigned a group of eight to 10 students to work with throughout the program, and will be asked to review their scholar's final projects, attend on-line discussions, and work with their team for one week this summer as they design a human mission to Mars. The deadline for applications is March 2.

Approximately 300 Texas high school juniors, including many from the Houston area, have already begun learning in-depth information about space shuttles, space stations and Mars exploration via Web-based assignments. While at JSC during the summer, the students will tour the center, attend briefings, and assemble a group project to present at a luncheon at the end of the week. Members of both the state legislature and JSC management will be invited to attend the luncheon to



Mentors are needed to work this summer with students as part of Texas Aerospace Scholars.

meet the program participants and hear about their educational experience.

"Texas is in the midst of a shortage of college graduates with technical degrees which can have a serious impact on the state's economy," said Mike Kincaid, chief of the Education and Student Programs Office at JSC. "Both JSC and the State of Texas see this program as a way to reach out to high school students and encourage them to consider technical

careers. Last year was the first year of our program, and many of the students that participated left with a new technical career goal in mind. The mentors played a significant role in helping these students see the realm of exciting possibilities that are out there for them."

More than 1200 high schools across Texas received information on the program along with a request to submit nominees from their school to their state legislator. Each legislator was then asked to compare the student applications, including high school transcripts and an essay, to the selection criteria given by the program, and select several students from their district as participants.

According to Rita Karl, education manager of the program, "Last year, we had such a great group. Each student brought something unique to the program, and each one left here with a new perspective on engineering. We're really looking forward to working with this year's class." ■

For additional information on the program, call 281-483-4112, or visit the Texas Aerospace Scholars Web site at aerospacescholars.jsc.nasa.gov.

GILRUTH CENTER NEWS

Sign-up policy:

All classes and athletic activities are on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign up in person at the Gilruth Center and show a yellow Gilruth or weight room badge. Classes tend to fill up two weeks in advance. Payment must be made in full, by cash or by check, at the time of registration. No registration will be taken by telephone. For more information, call x33345.

Gilruth badges:

Required for use of the Gilruth Center. Employees, spouses, eligible dependents, NASA retirees and spouses may apply for photo identification badges from 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. Cost is \$12. Dependents must be between 16 and 23 years old.

Open from 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 6:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Contact the Gilruth Center at (281) 483-3345. <http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/ah/exceaa/Gilruth/Gilruth.htm>

Nutrition intervention program: This is a free seven-week program designed to provide an understanding of the role diet and nutrition play in health. The program includes a series of lectures and private consultations with a dietitian. You will learn how to use dietary vitamins, minerals and herbal nutraceuticals for optimizing health. Classes are held on Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. For details call Tammie Labiche, registered dietitian, at (281) 483-2980.

Defensive driving: One-day course is offered once a month at the Gilruth Center. Pre-registration required. Cost is \$25. Call for next available class.

Stamp club: Meets every second and fourth Monday at 7 p.m. in Rm. 216.

Weight safety: Required course for employees wishing to use the Gilruth weight room. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$5. Annual weight room use fee is \$105. The cost for additional family members is \$58.

Exercise: Low-impact class meets from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost is \$24 for eight weeks.

Step/bench aerobics: Low-impact cardiovascular workout. Classes meet from 5:25-6:25 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$40 for eight weeks.

Cardio-Kickboxing: Medium impact. Learn basic kicking and punching. Tuesday and Thursday 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$40 for eight weeks.

Yoga stretching: Stretching class of low-impact exercises designed for people of all ages and abilities in a Westernized format. Meets Thursdays 5-6 p.m. Cost is \$40 for eight weeks. Call Darrell Matula, instructor, at x38520 for more information.

Ballroom dancing: Classes meet Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. for beginner, 8:30-9:30 p.m. for intermediate and 7:30-8:30 p.m. for advanced. Cost is \$60 per couple.

Fitness program: Health-related fitness program includes a medical screening examination and a 12-week individually prescribed exercise program. For more information call Larry Wier at x30301.

Aikido: Martial arts class for men and women. Beginners meet Monday 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. and Wednesdays 5 - 6 p.m. Advanced students meet Tuesday and Wednesday 5 - 6:30 p.m. No special equipment is needed. Aikido teaches balance and control to defend against an opponent without using force. Classes run monthly. Cost is \$45 per month. Visit a class for more information.

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	\$9.25
(JSC civil service employees free.)	
Postage Stamps (book of 20)	\$6.80

Jewelry Fair

**Valentine's Day • Wednesday, February 14
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. • Bldg. 3 Cafeteria**

Check out our new Web site on the JSC People page at: <http://hro.jsc.nasa.gov/giftshop/>

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.

