

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

After two holds, a scrub and a scrub of a scrub, Saturn/Apollo 201 lifted off Launch Complex 34 at Kennedy Space Center last Saturday at 10:12 am CST for a near perfect flight some 5000 miles down the Eastern Test Range to landing 35 miles from the prime recovery ship.

The unmanned suborbital development flight for qualifying the Apollo command module heatshielding, service module prime propulsion system, and first flight trial for the Saturn IB was postponed twice from its scheduled launch date of February 23 because of poor weather in the launch area.

The first hold in Saturday's launch occurred when the count went all the way to zero, but the automatic sequencer called for a shutdown at T-04 seconds when first stage nitrogen sphere pressures dropped below acceptable limits.

1 9 7 6

Water hyacinths are "bustin" out all over the vicinity of a NASA laboratory and show real promise of providing the raw material for many useful products. That is the opinion of the NASA scientists who have spent the past year in experimentation centered on the aquatic plants as a filtration system for purification of polluted waters, as the source of bio-gas for fuel, as a protein and mineral additive to cattle feed, and as a soil fertilizer and conditioner.

The investigative program is carried out at NASA's National Space Technology Laboratories, Bay St. Louis, Miss., under the direction of biochemist Bill Wolverton, who states in a preliminary report that results substantiate theoretical data, and that "an expanded research effort might be the start of a permanent solution to present problems such as natural gas shortages, pollution control and control of excessive plant growth in certain waters, in addition to producing large quantities of fertilizer from the methane gas production process."

1 9 8 6

For the first time scientists have used a team of two spacecraft in the far outer reaches of our solar system to provide major planetary information. The two spacecraft, Voyager 2 and Pioneer 11, conducted operations about two billion miles away from Earth. Voyager 2 scientists are studying the planet Uranus' magnetosphere, which is shaped by the solar wind. Pioneer 11, located about 558 million miles outside Uranus' orbit, monitored the planet's solar environment to provide a background for interpreting the findings of Voyager 2.

Braddy, Sasser earn Secretarial Excellence Awards

Beverly Braddy of the Space Shuttle Program Office and Carol Sasser of the Center Operations Directorate each recently received the Marilyn J. Bockting Secretarial Excellence Award in recognition of their exceptional contributions, professional competence, and personal dedication.



NASA JSC 2000e00115 by James Blair
Beverly Braddy

Beverly Braddy was recognized in December for her contributions as the lead secretary in the Space Shuttle Vehicle Engineering Office. The office had been without a lead secretary for more than four months during a period of management transition. Through hard work and dedication, she was quickly able to establish a new action tracking database for the office, synchronize the schedules of the manager and two deputies, and organize and implement a new filing system, including employee performance appraisals, training and technical issues. The action-tracking database Braddy developed is Web-based and found on the SSVEO homepage and enables employees and its customers to track and see the status of all SSVEO actions.

Braddy's efforts have gone a long way in making the SSVEO run more efficiently during a very dynamic time, including new management for the office, reorganization and hiring of new employees.

Carol Sasser was recognized in January for her contributions as secretary to the director of center operations. She was selected to this position in 1998 as the only secretarial support in the directorate suite supporting seven directorate-level staff personnel. In the short span of slightly more than two years, Sasser has supported four different managers in the high-level position of director, as well as a major reorganization of the entire directorate, and has managed to maintain great functional stability throughout.



Sasser has been actively involved in helping lead a Continuous Improvement Team to decide the best use of existing secretarial resources, which has led to a teaming concept requiring another reorganization of the COD secretarial personnel. Sasser has been instrumental in working with the secretaries to affect a smooth transition in this endeavor. ■

NASA JSC 2000e00116 by James Blair
Carol Sasser

JSC to observe St. Patrick's Day



On Friday, March 16, the JSC St. Patrick's Day Observance will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Bldg. 3 cafeteria. Come hear the St. Thomas Episcopal School Pipe Band perform.

Founded in 1962 by then rector, T. Robert Ingram, to provide a unique signature for the school, the St. Thomas Episcopal School Pipe Band began quite humbly. Its first instructor was an itinerant and not a very good piper. But gradually, over the years, the quality of instruction and play increased. Now the band is a popular performer at local and national events, having played for presidents and the Queen of England.

In 1998, the band won its third Juvenile World Pipe Band Championship, establishing it as one of the premier pipe bands in the United States.

The band is very active in the Houston community. As a band and as individuals, the pipers and drummers perform three to four times a month. The band has played for the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, the M.D. Anderson Christmas Card Campaign Kickoff Parade, Houston Grand Opera, the Houston Ballet's Christmas Tree Celebration at the Wortham Center and the Galveston Historical Society's Dickens on the Strand Festival. The band is also the unofficial pipe band of the Harris County Sheriff's Department.

The band's largest local performance is its annual Scottish Festival held at the Compaq Center. Held in March, the band, along with about 150 Scottish dancers from St. Thomas, puts on a two-hour Edinburgh Tattoo-style extravaganza.

Last summer the band went on a five-week competition tour of Canada and Scotland where it won five first-place prizes out of six contests, including the Grade III North American Championship, the Juvenile World Championship, and the prestigious Cowal Championship, established in the early 1900s.

Having mastered traditional Scottish music, the band is now embarking into new territory combining keyboards, guitars and world beat percussion with the pipes and drums to create exciting new music while not forgetting the old.

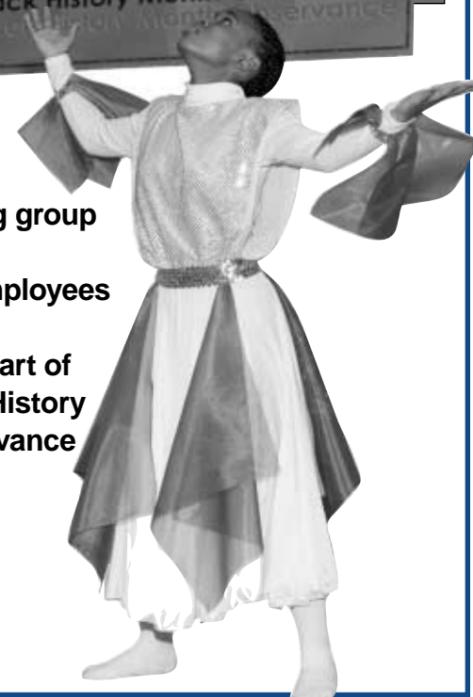
Don't miss this special St. Patrick's Day performance by this outstanding band! ■

JSC observes Black History Month

NASA JSC 2001-00414-418 Photo by David DeHoyos



The recording group For the Lord entertains employees in the Bldg. 3 cafeteria as part of JSC's Black History Month Observance held Feb. 14.



TICKET WINDOW

	JSC Price	Gate Price (includes tax)
AMC Theaters.....	\$ 5.00	\$ 7.50
Astroworld Early Bird (purchase by June 17)	\$19.50	\$38.96
Astroworld One Day Admission.....	\$20.50	\$38.96
Astroworld 2 Day Admission.....	\$31.00	\$43.29
Fiesta Texas Adult.....	\$21.50	\$38.82
Fiesta Texas Child (under 48").....	\$18.75	\$19.42
Moody Gardens (2 events).....	\$10.75.**	\$27.01 all day
** ticket does not include Aquarium Pyramid		
Moody Gardens - Aquarium only.....		\$ 9.25
Sea World adult.....	\$30.00	\$36.75
Sea World child (ages 3-11).....	\$20.50	\$25.93
Space Center Houston.....	\$ 9.25	\$16.18
JSC civil service employees free.		

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.

