



March 23, 2001

# SPACE CENTER Roundup

VOL. 40, NO. 6 LYNDON B. JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

## From the Desk of Acting Director Roy Estess

This has been a tremendous couple of weeks for JSC, and NASA as a whole. The end of February brought news of not only the President's intentions for NASA budgeting, but also news about a change in the Center's leadership. JSC is a Flagship of NASA's centers and has a vital role in human exploration of space. George Abbey's absence leaves remarkable shoes to fill, and while the search is underway, Mr. Goldin has asked me to serve as Acting Director. I am very humbled to have been asked to fill this role, and look forward to working with the JSC team while the search goes on.

I want you to know that I have a tremendous amount of respect for the men and women of JSC. This Center has a long history of outstanding contributions to human space flight, and is without doubt one of the finest organizations in the government. JSC has an endless list of accomplishments over the years, but many, many more are yet to come. Our launch March 8 of Discovery was nearly flawless, and was a perfect testimony to the technical and managerial excellence of the entire JSC team. As we continue to fly the Shuttle and build the ISS, we will have many more successes to celebrate.

As far as the budget is concerned, the budget blueprint proposed by the new administration is going to mean some changes for NASA and the human space flight program. The budget is a work in progress - and although it has given us some policy direction, we must look forward to the President and Congress to work out the final budget numbers to see where exactly that will lead us. It is clear that we have some challenges ahead of us, and also clear that we will have to re-direct some of our resources. At times like this, we need to take a long-term view. Do we have some challenging times ahead? Yes. But are there prospects for a strong and healthy space program present also? Yes. I am confident from what I've seen in the past couple of weeks that JSC will continue to be the strong, vibrant focal point for human space flight that it has always been.

As Acting Director, I intend to maintain an open stream of communication, and I will continue to keep you informed of developments through all available means. Let me end with this final thought. The best thing we can do at this particular time is focus on the challenges of our central mission. We have three people on-orbit right now, and they are counting on us to keep our eye on the ball. Let's all do our very best.

## Stellar employees receive Rotary awards

The Rotary National Award for Space Achievement Foundation recently honored several government and industry employees for their outstanding achievements in space. Among those highlighted for their dedication and commitment at the March 2 black-tie event was International Space Station Program Manager Tommy Holloway, who was presented with the National Space Trophy for his remarkable role in the international program.

A veteran engineer, an expert in flight activities and planning, and a senior NASA manager, Holloway has left his mark on the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, Skylab, space shuttle and space station programs. As manager of the International



Tommy Holloway was presented with the National Space Trophy. He is shown here with wife, Shirley, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson-Lee and Mayor Lee Brown.

Space Station Program, Holloway directs all aspects of the International Space

infrastructure components and welcomed the first full-time resident crew to orbit.

Station design, development, test and operations. His responsibilities include the integration and delivery of elements that will use five different launch vehicles in four countries. Under his leadership, the program has successfully launched and assembled several key

Holloway began his four-decade career after earning his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Arkansas. He joined NASA as a flight planner in Project Mercury in 1963. Later, he created flight plans, flight data file processes and flight crew procedures critical to the success of the Gemini and Apollo programs.

In 1978, Holloway was named a space shuttle flight director, where he helped to resolve critical orbit and ascent flight operation issues and ensure the success of the initial shuttle flights. Selected as chief of the Flight Director Office in 1984, he guided all aspects of shuttle flight operations. After the Challenger accident, he headed an investigation of mission planning and operations analysis activities and led the revision, updating, and validation of all

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A glimpse at the leader of Space Station. **Page 2**



Students focus on an out-of-this-world challenge. **Page 4 & 5**



Astronaut Ellen Ochoa honored. **Page 7**