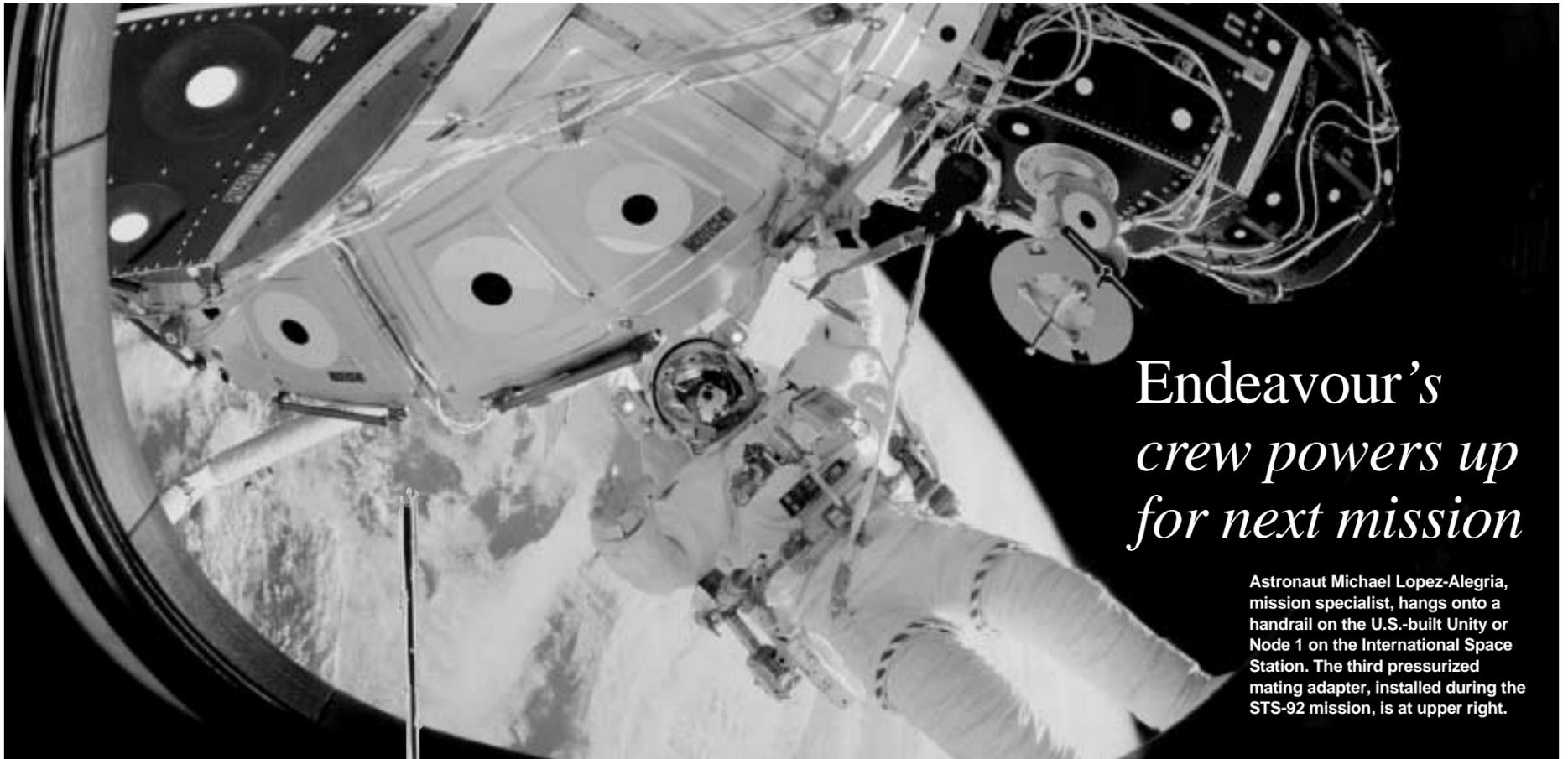


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# SPACE CENTER Roundup

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## STS-92 delivers two major station components



*Endeavour's crew powers up for next mission*

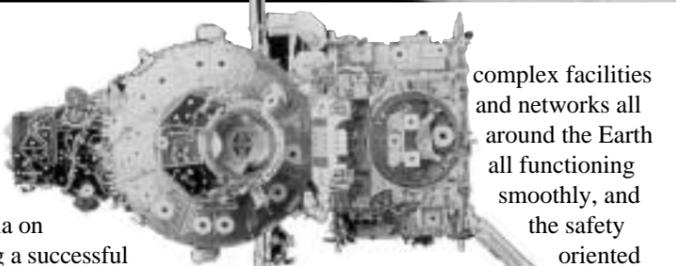
Astronaut Michael Lopez-Alegria, mission specialist, hangs onto a handrail on the U.S.-built Unity or Node 1 on the International Space Station. The third pressurized mating adapter, installed during the STS-92 mission, is at upper right.

NASA Photo STS092-367-035

The Space Shuttle *Discovery* glided to a textbook landing under sunny skies at Edwards Air Force Base in California on October 24, completing a successful mission to the International Space Station. The STS-92 crew spent more than two extra days in space because of unfavorable weather at Kennedy Space Center in Florida and at Edwards.

The landing brought to a successful close the 100th mission in Space Shuttle Program history on a flight that paved the way for the first residents of the orbiting ISS.

"The accomplishment of all the assembly mission objectives for a mission this complex required the integrated efforts of hundreds of people both pre-mission and in real time," said STS-92 Lead Flight Director Chuck Shaw. "To do this required a lot of effort by folks in the pre-flight planning activities over the last three years, and then the situational awareness to be able to apply this planning to the several instances in the mission where problems arose. Add to all of these the support provided by the hundreds of unseen heroes who keep the



complex facilities and networks all around the Earth all functioning smoothly, and the safety oriented

preparation of the launch vehicle, and the sum of all of these things is the real highlight/success of STS-92/ISS Mission 3A: teamwork. The synergy created by teamwork has been and continues to be the hallmark of the Human Space Flight Program, and STS-92 demonstrated how well it continues."

Commander Brian Duffy, Pilot Pam Melroy and Mission Specialists Leroy Chiao, Bill McArthur, Jeff Wisoff, Mike Lopez-Alegria and NASDA Astronaut Koichi Wakata spent 6 days, 21 hours and 23 minutes docked to the ISS during which they added two major elements to the station and completed four consecutive days of space walks to complete those elements' linkup to the orbiting laboratory.

The two major components added to the ISS – the Z1 Truss and the Pressurized

Please see **STATION**, Page 2

## First station crew initiates new era in space

Lifting off from Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan in the early hours of October 31, the sleek Russian Soyuz spacecraft carried with it the first residents of the International Space Station – christening a new era in space flight.

At 1:53 a.m. CST, American Astronaut Bill Shepherd, and Cosmonauts Yuri Gidzenko and Sergei Krikalev, branded as the Expedition 1 crew for their historic role with the ISS, departed for their four-month stay aboard the station, orbiting 240 miles above the Earth.

Two days later, the team docked and entered the modular space station, which will be their home for the next 115 days.



Although the Expedition 1 crew is the first of many that will reside on the station to conduct long-term science, medical, astronomy and Earth science research, Shepherd and his team will be busy with assembly tasks as new elements, including the U.S. Laboratory, are added to the orbiting outpost. Expedition 1 is scheduled to leave the station in February when the three-member Expedition 2 crew arrives on STS-102.

When complete in 2006, the International Space Station will be about the size of a three-bedroom house and will be home to up to seven astronauts at a time, who will work on experiments running the gamut of scientific disciplines.



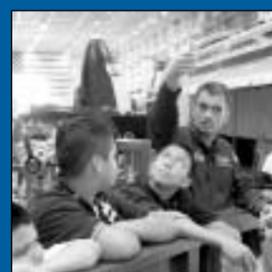
STS-97 readies to deliver station's wings.

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Employees rush to see everything at S&TH Day.

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Webcast newest tool to bring space to kids.

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