



Inside Wallops

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University of Virginia Undergrads Ready for Launch - Isabel Has Other Plans

After two years of planning and preparation, undergraduate students from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, are ready for the launch of their experiments aboard a NASA rocket early tomorrow morning, September 16.

The 6 a.m. launch from Wallops Island has been postponed due to the weather conditions created by the approach of Hurricane Isabel.

The payload section has been moved from the Island back to the Wallops Main Base. It includes two remote sensing instruments in the payload section of the rocket will give the students a look at methane gas in the Earth's atmosphere and a view of chlorophyll in Atlantic Ocean coastal water shortly after launch.

During the suborbital flight of the Orion sounding rocket, a remote sensing instrument will measure the absorption of infrared radiation by methane gas.

A second instrument will provide video images and measurements of the distribution of chlorophyll along the coast of the Eastern Shore of Virginia.



NSROC photo.

The University of Virginia payload undergoes environmental testing.

A student and NASA scientist will be collecting water samples in the area at the same time from a boat to allow accurate calibration of the sensor.

In addition to gathering science data, the project also has provided engineering undergraduate students the opportunity to obtain valuable hands-on experiences in the development of science experiments for flight.

"I could not have participated in any student project that would have prepared me better for my future career," said Christina Haden, a student project leader. "I have learned to manage large projects and become a better public speaker, as well as a leader."

"The Orion project has not only tied together many of the classes I have taken; it added in the real world experience that makes me feel prepared for what I will be asked to do beyond graduation," she said.

In addition to the Virginia experiments, the payload will be carrying an experiment for seventh grade students from St. Andrew's School in Waynesboro, Pa.

The students will be studying the impact of the flight, which includes gravitational forces 15 times greater than normal on Earth, on seeds and brine shrimp eggs and the eggs ability to hatch after recovery.

The rocket will carry the experiments to an altitude of 40 miles (64 kilometers). Following descent by parachute and recovery from the Atlantic Ocean, the experiments will be returned to the students later in the day.

The launch is the second of three launches incorporated into the university's engineering curriculum. The first launch was in April 2001 and the third launch is slated for 2005.

NASA; its sounding rocket program contractor Northrop Grumman Information Technology; the Virginia Space Grant Consortium, Hampton; University of Virginia; and George Mason University, Fairfax, Va., are supporting the project.

When the launch is rescheduled it will be webcast on NASA Wallops' web page at: www.wff.nasa.gov

NASA Honor Awards

During NASA's Annual Honor Awards ceremony held August 27 at Goddard Space Flight Center, Group Achievement Awards were presented to:

NASA Sounding Rockets Project Team, NASA and NSROC

"For outstanding group achievement in support of the NASA Sounding Rockets Project and the NASA mission (41 straight mission successes)."

"Big 60" Balloon Team

"For outstanding team work, technical initiative, management and the significant contribution to the accomplishment of the mission of NASA."

Hurricane Isabel -- Are you prepared to evacuate or stay?

AS ISABEL APPROACHES

Cut dead trees and limbs that could fall on your home. Bring in garbage cans, lawn furniture and other items.

Take pictures of your property now to help validate any insurance claim you may have after the storm and remember to take policies with you if you need to evacuate.

Pack a three-day supply of water, non-perishable food, first-aid kit, battery-operated radio and extra batteries, and other essential items.

Fill the gas tank on your vehicle and be prepared to evacuate if told to do so.

If you are told to evacuate, do so immediately and take the safest route to your destination. Remember, public shelters and many motels don't allow pets in their facilities.

Listen to local radio and TV stations for updated storm information. A hurricane watch means possible danger; if the danger increases, a hurricane warning will be issued.

If you do not evacuate, remain indoors, away from windows.

Be prepared to do without power, telephone or any outside services.

Visit the National Hurricane Center's web site for maps, advisories and forecasts: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>

**American Heritage Week Celebration
October 6 – 9
“Celebrating our Eastern Shore Heritage”**

Monday, October 6

8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Morning Coffee and Open House in Building F-7

Several workshops will be held throughout the day from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Programs with the times and places will be available at the morning coffee and in the Cafeteria.

Workshops scheduled to date include:

- Native American Artifacts – Mark Greenley
- GHOTES, Family Tree Workshop – Terry Ewell and Tammy Elvenia
- Cape Charles Railroad History – Bill and Jan Neville
- Assateague Indians of Virginia
- African American History – Francis Bibbens-Latimer
- Eastern Shore Railroad – Wayne Parsley
- Salisbury History – Mike Hitch
- African American History of Worcester County – Diane Purnell
- Reiki – Pat Dworske
- Tai Chi – John Brinton
- Quilting – Pam Taylor
- Panel Discussions by Wallops Exchange Students
- Panel Discussions by Local Women Pioneers

**Schedule for WebTADS
Transition**

**POCs and Supervisors
September 16, 17, and 25**

These sessions will provide POCs and Supervisors a general background on WebTADS and specific training on how to communicate this transition to other employees. This session does not include system training.

September 16: 9 to 11 a.m. in the Building 3 Auditorium
(WFF – Building F-6 Rm 213, ViTS Room)

September 17: 9 to 11 a.m. in the Building 8 Auditorium
(WFF- Building F-6 Rm 213 ViTS Room)

September 25 at Wallops: 1 to 3 p.m. Building E-104, Assateague Room

Points of Contact and Supervisors

September 29 to October 31
POCs and Supervisors will select one two-hour WebTADS training session during this period. This instructor-led, hands-on classroom training will cover: entering time, performing prior period adjustments, setting up work schedules for employees, and completing electronic approvals.

Training for all employees

October 27 to November 26

A website address will be available to take the WebTADS overview. POCs will provide WebTADS user and quick reference guides to all employees who will use WebTADS. POCs will be available to answer questions from employees and supervisors.

**Director's
Discretionary Fund**

The FY04 Director's Discretionary Fund (DDF) Call for Proposals is out. The DDF program supports innovative, but risky ideas at Goddard Space Flight Center that do not necessarily fit into other technology programs.

The hope is to have a number of small projects with 1-year completion targets and one or two large (up to \$250K) and/or multi-year projects.

Extension requests to existing DDF proposals are due by COB September 18. New DDF proposals are due by COB September 25.

A copy of the solicitation is available at <http://ddf.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

IFMP Work Shops

Kevin Tesler has returned to Wallops to provide assistance and training in the continuing transition to NASA's Integrated Financial Management Program. Tesler is located in Building D-1 and may be reached on x1321 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Tesler also will be conducting a series of workshops. This week's are listed below.

September 16 – 9 a.m. to noon
Bldg. D-1, Room S-214
Purchase Requisitions; BW and P-Card issues will be addressed as needed.

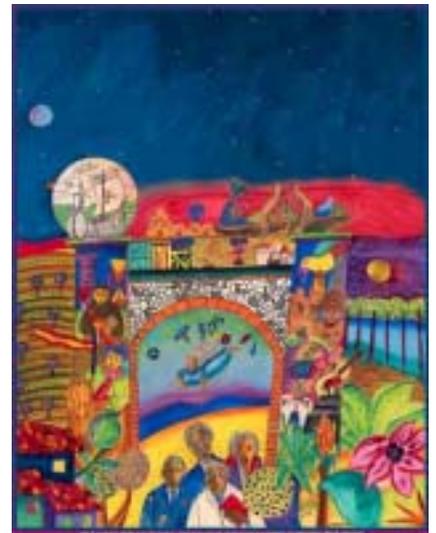
September 18 – 9 a.m. to noon
Bldg. D-1, Room S-214
BW and SAP Reports; SAP and P-Card issues will be addressed as needed.

Lester Lynch Dies

Lester H. Lynch, (Les), a Northrop Grumman Information Technology Safety and Quality Assurance Engineer on the NSROC, (Bldg F-10) passed away peacefully at his Delaware home on Monday, September 9. His outstanding character, sharp wit and attention to detail will be sorely missed by the NSROC team.

Lynch is survived by his wife, Kim, three sons, a brother, a sister, and five granddaughters.

Hispanic Heritage Month



Monday, September 15, marks the beginning of a month of celebration and recognition activities among five Latin American countries and the United States, known as Hispanic Heritage Month.

This year's theme is, 'Honoring our Past, Surpassing our Present and Leading our Future.'

**Wallops Shorts.....
In the news**

NavNews

"First Combined U.S., Spanish Navy CSSQT a Success"

For Sale

2000 Mercury Cougar
47,500 miles current, DEALER WARRANTY UNTIL 65,000 MILES, V-6, Dark green color, automatic, power windows and sunroof, 4 brand-new Firestone Firehawk performance tires, tan leather interior, keyless entry, driver and passenger airbags, CD player, AM & FM radio, very clean, service record available. Call 757-336-6632

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* may be found on the NASA Wallops Flight Facility homepage: www.wff.nasa.gov

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