



Milky Way's Black Hole

1
00:00:07,040 --> 00:00:12,889
This Week at NASA...

2
00:00:12,889 --> 00:00:17,020
Following the docking of their Soyuz capsule,
the newest residents of the International

3
00:00:17,020 --> 00:00:22,170
Space Station were welcomed to the place they'll
call home for the next five months.

4
00:00:22,170 --> 00:00:27,970
Expedition 33/34 Soyuz Commander Oleg Novitskiy
of the Russian Federal Space Agency, NASA

5
00:00:27,970 --> 00:00:33,220
Flight Engineer Kevin Ford and Russian Flight
Engineer Evgeny Tarelkin were warmly greeted

6
00:00:33,220 --> 00:00:39,220
by station Commander Suni Williams of NASA,
Flight Engineer Aki Hoshide of the Japan Aerospace

7
00:00:39,220 --> 00:00:44,140
Exploration Agency and Russian Flight Engineer
Yuri Malenchenko.

8
00:00:44,140 --> 00:00:49,440
The Expedition crew will continue to expand
the scope of research aboard the ISS, taking

9
00:00:49,440 --> 00:00:55,730
advantage of its unique microgravity environment,
performing experiments that cover human research,

10
00:00:55,730 --> 00:01:01,980
biological and physical sciences, technology
development, Earth observations and education.

11

00:01:01,980 --> 00:01:09,939

"We don't know exactly where the leak is, it's possible the leak is in the PVR

12

00:01:09,939 --> 00:01:15,220

itself, the radiator itself it could be in the pump system or it could be in any one

13

00:01:15,220 --> 00:01:16,260

of the lines."

14

00:01:16,260 --> 00:01:21,650

A station spacewalk by Suni Williams and Aki Hoshida is scheduled for November first.

15

00:01:21,650 --> 00:01:26,670

ISS program managers met with the media at the Johnson Space Center to discuss repairs

16

00:01:26,670 --> 00:01:33,240

the duo will perform to close an ammonia leak on one of the station's port-side radiators.

17

00:01:33,240 --> 00:01:37,130

Ammonia circulated through the station's external thermal control system keeps cool

18

00:01:37,130 --> 00:01:40,810

the orbiting laboratory's electronics and other equipment.

19

00:01:40,810 --> 00:01:47,280

The November first EVA is scheduled to begin at 8:15 a.m Eastern and last approximately

20

00:01:47,280 --> 00:01:50,420

6-and-a-half hours.

21

00:01:50,420 --> 00:01:55,451

Several days before the spacewalk, on October

28, the ISS crew will send off the visiting

22

00:01:55,451 --> 00:01:58,690

Dragon spacecraft for its return to Earth.

23

00:01:58,690 --> 00:02:03,590

The SpaceX cargo craft has been attached to the station since October 10, when it delivered

24

00:02:03,590 --> 00:02:05,850

about a half-ton of supplies.

25

00:02:05,850 --> 00:02:10,509

The successful return of Dragon this Sunday with more than 12-hundred pounds of scientific

26

00:02:10,509 --> 00:02:15,380

material and station hardware will confirm that the nation once again has the ability

27

00:02:15,380 --> 00:02:20,180

to transport supplies between Earth and the orbiting laboratory.

28

00:02:20,180 --> 00:02:24,709

Same day splashdown and recovery of Dragon is expected to happen in the Pacific Ocean

29

00:02:24,709 --> 00:02:26,840

off the coast of southern California.

30

00:02:26,840 --> 00:02:35,849

Dragon's CRS-1 mission is the first commercial cargo resupply mission to the station by SpaceX.

31

00:02:35,849 --> 00:02:45,170

Ferrying astronauts to and from the ISS is a step closer for Blue Origin.

32

00:02:45,170 --> 00:02:50,409

NASA's commercial crew program partner conducted a successful pad escape test at the company's

33

00:02:50,409 --> 00:02:56,450

West Texas Launch Site, firing its pusher escape motor and launching a full-scale suborbital

34

00:02:56,450 --> 00:02:59,939

crew capsule from a propulsion module simulator.

35

00:02:59,939 --> 00:03:04,269

NASA is working with commercial companies to develop space transportation systems that

36

00:03:04,269 --> 00:03:11,709

can carry humans to low Earth orbit and the International Space Station by 2017.

37

00:03:11,709 --> 00:03:16,980

Those watching Hurricane Sandy down here on the ground have been helped by views like

38

00:03:16,980 --> 00:03:19,439

these from up there in space.

39

00:03:19,439 --> 00:03:24,650

Here's the storm as it's appeared to the Expedition 33 crew aboard the ISS.

40

00:03:24,650 --> 00:03:29,969

And data collected by GOES satellites allow animators at the Goddard Space Flight Center

41

00:03:29,969 --> 00:03:34,640

to create movies like this/these of how the storm tracked through the Caribbean and up

42

00:03:34,640 --> 00:03:41,540

the East Coast of the U.S. These space-based

assets help forecasters and emergency personnel

43

00:03:41,540 --> 00:03:47,430

assess a storm's strength and prepare for any eventuality

44

00:03:47,430 --> 00:03:52,480

The aftermath of a rare, massive storm on Saturn has caught the infrared eye of NASA's

45

00:03:52,480 --> 00:03:54,549

Cassini spacecraft.

46

00:03:54,549 --> 00:04:00,540

Data captured during the storm from January 2011 to March 2012 reveal record-setting disturbances

47

00:04:00,540 --> 00:04:05,900

in the planet's upper atmosphere long after the visible signs of the storm abated, indicating

48

00:04:05,900 --> 00:04:09,970

that the storm was more forceful than previously thought.

49

00:04:09,970 --> 00:04:15,760

Cassini's composite infrared spectrometer, the CIRS, revealed the storm's powerful discharge

50

00:04:15,760 --> 00:04:24,810

sent the temperature in Saturn's stratosphere soaring 150 degrees Fahrenheit above normal.

51

00:04:24,810 --> 00:04:29,910

NASA's newest set of X-ray eyes in the sky, the Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array

52

00:04:29,910 --> 00:04:35,400

(NuSTAR), has caught its first look at the giant black hole parked at the center of our

53

00:04:35,400 --> 00:04:36,700

galaxy.

54

00:04:36,700 --> 00:04:42,480

The observations show the usually-quiet Sagittarius
A star in the middle of a flare-up.

55

00:04:42,480 --> 00:04:47,160

That happens when a black hole gobbles up
stars and other fuel around them.

56

00:04:47,160 --> 00:04:52,680

Sagittarius A is thought only to nibble or
not eat at all, a process that is not fully

57

00:04:52,680 --> 00:04:54,180

understood.

58

00:04:54,180 --> 00:05:00,061

Launched June 13, NuSTAR is the only telescope
capable of producing focused images of the

59

00:05:00,061 --> 00:05:02,540

highest-energy X-rays.

60

00:05:02,540 --> 00:05:08,200

Among other telescopes contributing to these
observations was NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory,

61

00:05:08,200 --> 00:05:09,200

and the W.M.

62

00:05:09,200 --> 00:05:13,210

Keck Observatory atop Mauna Kea in Hawaii.

63

00:05:13,210 --> 00:05:18,710

Hi, I'm Nina Lanza, I'm a post-doc on the
ChemCam instrument and this is your Curiosity

64
00:05:18,710 --> 00:05:20,700
rover update.

65
00:05:20,700 --> 00:05:23,890
This has been a very exciting week for the
Curiosity rover.

66
00:05:23,890 --> 00:05:28,070
It delivered its 3rd sample to the CHIMRA
to complete its cleaning regimen and also

67
00:05:28,070 --> 00:05:32,480
we've done our first CheMin analysis and
we've got a second one on the way.

68
00:05:32,480 --> 00:05:36,200
In its spare time, Curiosity has also been
making measurements with other instruments,

69
00:05:36,200 --> 00:05:38,840
including the ChemCam instrument, which is
what I work on.

70
00:05:38,840 --> 00:05:41,010
ChemCam is actually two instruments in one.

71
00:05:41,010 --> 00:05:45,810
It includes a camera with a telephoto lens
and it also has a laser that vaporizes a very

72
00:05:45,810 --> 00:05:49,430
small amount of rock so we can tell what its
chemical composition is.

73
00:05:49,430 --> 00:05:54,550
And as of this week, we will have done 10,000
shots with the ChemCam laser.

74

00:05:54,550 --> 00:05:59,240

This week we've been analyzing rocks in an area called Rocknest, and I'll tell you

75

00:05:59,240 --> 00:06:02,240

in particular about one called Zephyr.

76

00:06:02,240 --> 00:06:05,710

This one is interesting because it appears to be made of 2 different types of materials.

77

00:06:05,710 --> 00:06:10,800

It's got this harder, more resistant material on the top, capping it, and then beneath it

78

00:06:10,800 --> 00:06:15,000

has a lighter colored softer material that appears to erode more easily.

79

00:06:15,000 --> 00:06:19,700

It's actually eroded into a set of natural arches, so some of our team members have taken

80

00:06:19,700 --> 00:06:22,490

to calling it, "Stonehenge."

81

00:06:22,490 --> 00:06:28,030

This feature is really only an inch long and we're shooting this from about 8 feet away,

82

00:06:28,030 --> 00:06:29,510

making the pointing very difficult.

83

00:06:29,510 --> 00:06:33,860

So that's why we decided to do 9 points instead of just 2, just to make sure we would

84

00:06:33,860 --> 00:06:35,630

hit the material of interest.

85

00:06:35,630 --> 00:06:39,950

We ended up hitting both the dark and the light material and we found that there was

86

00:06:39,950 --> 00:06:42,050

indeed a compositional difference.

87

00:06:42,050 --> 00:06:45,750

In addition to composition, we've also been able to make a three-dimensional model of

88

00:06:45,750 --> 00:06:50,430

the surface of this target using images from the Remote Micro-Imager part of ChemCam.

89

00:06:50,430 --> 00:06:53,920

We've also used ChemCam to measure soils, such as cretaurum.

90

00:06:53,920 --> 00:06:57,830

Here you can see a before image, and then after image where you can see the crater left

91

00:06:57,830 --> 00:06:59,310

by the laser.

92

00:06:59,310 --> 00:07:03,990

This week ChemCam did its very first depth profile, in which we shot the laser 600 times

93

00:07:03,990 --> 00:07:07,100

in a single location, in order to tunnel through the surface of the rock.

94

00:07:07,100 --> 00:07:10,889

Now, this only tunnels about one millimeter in depth, but it can help us understand how

95

00:07:10,889 --> 00:07:15,120

the composition of the sample changes from the surface to the interior.

96
00:07:15,120 --> 00:07:18,800
Coming up, we'll be able to use this information that we've learned from ChemCam in order

97
00:07:18,800 --> 00:07:22,520
to decide which targets we should hit next with other instruments.

98
00:07:22,520 --> 00:07:25,370
This has been your Curiosity rover report.

99
00:07:25,370 --> 00:07:32,450
Please check back for more updates.

100
00:07:32,450 --> 00:07:38,970
Inspired by Curiosity was this 200-foot mural dedicated at P.S. 328 in New York City.

101
00:07:38,970 --> 00:07:44,610
The "Red Road to Mars" was created by artist Pansum Cheng and New York CITYarts

102
00:07:44,610 --> 00:07:50,720
staff, interns and volunteers based on the ideas, drawings and poems of the elementary

103
00:07:50,720 --> 00:07:54,210
school students' shared dreams of reaching for the stars.

104
00:07:54,210 --> 00:07:58,300
"Our goal at NASA is more than just the engineering and science.

105
00:07:58,300 --> 00:08:01,780
Our goal is to also to inspire people and change lives.

106

00:08:01,780 --> 00:08:08,060

Your mural captures this time in history along with your future dreams and possibilities.

107

00:08:08,060 --> 00:08:13,680

Keep dreaming, work hard and yes, education is very important for you to get there.”

108

00:08:13,680 --> 00:08:18,960

Helping produce the “Red Road to Mars” mural was the P.S. 328 after-school center,

109

00:08:18,960 --> 00:08:26,470

with support from NASA, Benjamin Moore Paints and the Michael Tuch Foundation.

110

00:08:26,470 --> 00:08:31,310

The Michoud Assembly Facility played host to SLS Industry Day to help suppliers and

111

00:08:31,310 --> 00:08:36,010

other businesses better acquaint themselves with NASA's acquisition strategies.

112

00:08:36,010 --> 00:08:41,849

More than 90 companies and 40 government entities explored partnership opportunities with the

113

00:08:41,849 --> 00:08:44,540

Space Launch System Program.

114

00:08:44,540 --> 00:08:49,950

Joining SLS Program manager, Todd May at the event was Marshall Space Flight Center Director,

115

00:08:49,950 --> 00:08:51,490

Patrick Scheuermann.

116

00:08:51,490 --> 00:08:57,589

Scheuermann, who directed Michoud's Hurricane Katrina recovery while center director at

117

00:08:57,589 --> 00:09:04,480

Stennis, also was guest at a MAF all-hands meeting.

118

00:09:04,480 --> 00:09:09,110

The final "roll" of Space shuttle Atlantis from Kennedy Space Center's Orbiter Processing

119

00:09:09,110 --> 00:09:13,589

Facility 2 to the Vehicle Assembly Building is complete.

120

00:09:13,589 --> 00:09:21,930

Atlantis has been undergoing preparations for public display.

121

00:09:21,930 --> 00:09:26,249

The orbiter is scheduled to move to its new home at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex

122

00:09:26,249 --> 00:09:27,579

on November 2.

123

00:09:27,579 --> 00:09:35,110

A grand opening is planned for Atlantis at the Visitor Complex next July.

124

00:09:35,110 --> 00:09:40,990

Solar System Exploration @ 50, a two-day symposium about the past, present and future of solar

125

00:09:40,990 --> 00:09:46,610

system exploration was held at the Lockheed Martin Global Vision Center outside Washington.

126

00:09:46,610 --> 00:09:51,800

The event commemorated the 50th anniversary of the first successful planetary mission,

127

00:09:51,800 --> 00:09:57,740

Mariner 2's voyage to Venus in 19-62, and highlighted the subsequent half-century of

128

00:09:57,740 --> 00:09:58,740

achievements.

129

00:09:58,740 --> 00:10:06,050

"There are countries in this world that dream about the stuff that NASA does.

130

00:10:06,050 --> 00:10:12,839

And it's because we do some of these things that are absolutely astounding because we

131

00:10:12,839 --> 00:10:16,899

need to make progress in the science questions that we want to answer."

132

00:10:16,899 --> 00:10:22,460

Solar System Exploration @ 50 was sponsored by NASA's History Program Office, Science

133

00:10:22,460 --> 00:10:27,990

Mission Directorate, Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the Smithsonian National Air and Space

134

00:10:27,990 --> 00:10:31,570

Museum.

135

00:10:31,570 --> 00:10:36,839

Kennedy Space Center employees, their families and the community across Florida's Space Coast

136

00:10:36,839 --> 00:10:39,829

got a taste of Hollywood Oct. 13.

137

00:10:39,829 --> 00:10:45,190

Turner Classic Movies presented the 1956 sci-fi classic, "Forbidden Planet," at the Kennedy

138

00:10:45,190 --> 00:10:47,470

Space Center Visitor Complex.

139

00:10:47,470 --> 00:10:52,300

NASA astronaut Mike Massimino, along with astronaut and Kennedy Space Center Director

140

00:10:52,300 --> 00:10:57,059

Bob Cabana, were joined by Turner Classic Movies host Ben Mankiewicz.

141

00:10:57,059 --> 00:11:02,310

The event was part of the network's Road to Hollywood tour, giving communities across

142

00:11:02,310 --> 00:11:06,850

the country the chance to enjoy timeless movies in a film-festival atmosphere.

143

00:11:06,850 --> 00:11:10,990

"We picked "Forbidden Planet" because I think it's one of the sci-fi movies from that

144

00:11:10,990 --> 00:11:17,420

sort of seminal age of sci-fi movies that is taken seriously, that's not, you know...

145

00:11:17,420 --> 00:11:18,660

you don't laugh at "Forbidden Planet."

146

00:11:18,660 --> 00:11:20,209

It's kind of a highbrow movie.

147

00:11:20,209 --> 00:11:21,930

It's pretty sophisticated.

148

00:11:21,930 --> 00:11:26,749

And I think that our fascination with science fiction, unquestionably, had a lot to do with

149

00:11:26,749 --> 00:11:32,809

the country's willingness to fund and grow the space program in the seminal years of

150

00:11:32,809 --> 00:11:35,050

the space program in the 50s and 60s.”

151

00:11:35,050 --> 00:11:44,319

The nationwide tour leads up to the Classic Film Festival in Hollywood in April 2013.

152

00:11:44,319 --> 00:11:50,930

Six years ago, on October 26, 2006, NASA released the Solar Terrestrial Relations Observatory

153

00:11:50,930 --> 00:11:55,930

into the heavens to stereographically image the sun and its emissions.

154

00:11:55,930 --> 00:12:02,400

The two identical spacecraft, Stereo A, and Stereo-B, orbit our star, one ahead of the

155

00:12:02,400 --> 00:12:04,540

Earth, the other trailing.

156

00:12:04,540 --> 00:12:10,040

Together, they provide scientists with a better view of how solar storms begin and evolve

157

00:12:10,040 --> 00:12:17,660

as they move from the sun into space.

158

00:12:17,660 --> 00:12:34,649

And a year ago on October 28, NPP, the National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite

159

00:12:34,649 --> 00:12:40,399

System Preparatory Project was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

160

00:12:40,399 --> 00:12:45,970

The NOAA weather satellite, since renamed for meteorologist, Verner Suomi, is part of

161

00:12:45,970 --> 00:12:51,610

NASA's Earth Observing System, a series of satellites providing new insight into our

162

00:12:51,610 --> 00:12:54,709

planet's ecosystem.

163

00:12:54,709 --> 00:12:56,999

And that's This Week @NASA.

164

00:12:56,999 --> 00:13:02,119

For more on these and other stories, or to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and other social