



WIRE

Take an In-person Virtual Tour of a
NASA Robotics Facility

@NASAGoddard

1
00:00:07,029 --> 00:00:13,620
This Week at NASA...

2
00:00:13,620 --> 00:00:18,480
The next three humans in space are now at their launch site in Kazakhstan after finishing

3
00:00:18,480 --> 00:00:22,590
their final training and prelaunch activities outside Moscow.

4
00:00:22,590 --> 00:00:28,099
NASA Flight Engineer Chris Cassidy, and Soyuz Commander Pavel Vinogradov and Flight Engineer

5
00:00:28,099 --> 00:00:33,140
Alexander Misurkin of the Russian Federal Space Agency are scheduled to liftoff from

6
00:00:33,140 --> 00:00:38,260
the Baikonur Cosmodrome this Thursday, Mar. 28, U.S. time, and head for the International

7
00:00:38,260 --> 00:00:40,969
Space Station on Expedition 35/36.

8
00:00:40,969 --> 00:00:46,100
“We all really love what we do, to fly in space and it’s a really special opportunity

9
00:00:46,100 --> 00:00:50,899
that we get to have as individuals and we wish we could share the whole great experience

10
00:00:50,899 --> 00:00:53,949
with everybody that loves space like we do.”

11
00:00:53,949 --> 00:00:58,670
There, they’ll join Station Commander Chris

Hadfield of the Canadian Space Agency and

12

00:00:58,670 --> 00:01:04,250

Flight Engineers Tom Marshburn of NASA and Roman Romanenko of the Russian Federal Space

13

00:01:04,250 --> 00:01:05,600

Agency.

14

00:01:05,600 --> 00:01:10,300

Some 150 scientific and research experiments are being conducted in the world's only

15

00:01:10,300 --> 00:01:15,909

laboratory in microgravity to benefit our lives here on Earth.

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00:01:15,909 --> 00:01:19,840

"This is not an American issue.

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00:01:19,840 --> 00:01:22,780

Anything that we do protects the planet."

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00:01:22,780 --> 00:01:27,940

Administrator Charles Bolden told a House hearing on Capitol Hill that NASA is working

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00:01:27,940 --> 00:01:34,090

to better identify and track meteors and asteroids that pose a potential threat to Earth.

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00:01:34,090 --> 00:01:38,830

Appearing with Bolden were White House Science Advisor John Holdren and General William Shelton,

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00:01:38,830 --> 00:01:41,039

Commander of the U.S. Air Force Space Command.

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00:01:41,039 --> 00:01:45,229

“Consistent with NASA’s role, as established by Congress and prescribed in the President’s

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00:01:45,229 --> 00:01:51,960

National Space Policy, NASA has taken a leadership role to pursue capabilities to detect, track

24

00:01:51,960 --> 00:01:57,439

and characterize Near Earth Objects to reduce the risks of harm to humans from an unexpected

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00:01:57,439 --> 00:01:59,079

impact on our planet.”

26

00:01:59,079 --> 00:02:03,759

The hearing comes following the passage of Earth by several Asteroids – the closest,

27

00:02:03,759 --> 00:02:09,690

Asteroid 2012 DA14 -- passed just 17-thousand miles from our planet on February 15.

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00:02:09,690 --> 00:02:17,459

It was preceded that same day by the surprise explosion of a meteor over Russia.

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00:02:17,459 --> 00:02:22,080

NASA Deputy Administrator Lori Garver was among the honored guests of the Italian Embassy

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00:02:22,080 --> 00:02:27,690

in Washington, DC as representatives of Italy and the United States signed an agreement

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00:02:27,690 --> 00:02:32,120

extending the two nation’s 50 years of cooperation in space.

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00:02:32,120 --> 00:02:37,190

Garver spoke about the many Italian Space

Agency contributions to NASA missions, including

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00:02:37,190 --> 00:02:42,370

Cassini and the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer
aboard the International Space Station.

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00:02:42,370 --> 00:02:46,950

Throughout the 50-year partnership, NASA has
signed nearly 200 agreements with various

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00:02:46,950 --> 00:02:49,221

space and aeronautics organizations in Italy.

36

00:02:49,221 --> 00:02:54,450

“But I guess it shouldn’t be at all surprising
that the people that brought us the renaissance

37

00:02:54,450 --> 00:02:59,700

are also bringing us these remarkable discoveries
in space.

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00:02:59,700 --> 00:03:05,549

Fifty years of exploring space with you has
brought us a tremendous amount, but we really

39

00:03:05,549 --> 00:03:11,890

continue to look forward to that next renaissance
in space exploration.”

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00:03:11,890 --> 00:03:17,099

Garver also highlighted the contributions
of Italy’s five flown astronauts, as well

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00:03:17,099 --> 00:03:23,430

as Samantha Cristoforetti, scheduled to become
the first Italian woman astronaut, on Expedition

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00:03:23,430 --> 00:03:24,629

42/43.

43
00:03:24,629 --> 00:03:33,599
“So at any time on the space station we have between 130 and 150 experiments running.”

44
00:03:33,599 --> 00:03:39,720
Astronaut Luca Parmitano is slated to be the sixth Italian in space when he, NASA astronaut

45
00:03:39,720 --> 00:03:44,780
Karen Nyberg, and cosmonaut Fyodor Yurchikhin of the Russian Federal Space Agency launch

46
00:03:44,780 --> 00:03:47,800
to the International Space Station later this spring.

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00:03:47,800 --> 00:03:53,430
The three members of the Expedition 36/37 crew were at the Johnson Space Center to preview

48
00:03:53,430 --> 00:03:57,760
their mission and its focus on scientific research aboard the space station.

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00:03:57,760 --> 00:04:01,140
“We’ve seen a lot of astronauts come back with blurred eyesight.

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00:04:01,140 --> 00:04:07,209
They’re doing a study now to really look deep into that – and so, I volunteered to

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00:04:07,209 --> 00:04:10,980
get into that because I think that’s very important especially as we start traveling

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00:04:10,980 --> 00:04:11,980
further out.”

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00:04:11,980 --> 00:04:15,500

The trio is scheduled to launch from Kazakhstan on May 28.

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00:04:15,500 --> 00:04:21,100

When they arrive at the station, Nyberg, Parmitano and Yurchikhin will join NASA astronaut Chris

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00:04:21,100 --> 00:04:27,030

Cassidy and Russian cosmonauts Pavel Vinogradov and Aleksandr Misurkin onboard the world's

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00:04:27,030 --> 00:04:30,300

only laboratory in microgravity.

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00:04:30,300 --> 00:04:38,090

Meanwhile, NASA Astronaut Suni Williams and Aki Hoshide of the Japan Aerospace Exploration

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00:04:38,090 --> 00:04:45,150

Agency, both of whom spent 125 days aboard the station on Expedition 32/33, made several

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00:04:45,150 --> 00:04:51,630

appearances in the National Capitol region to share their extraordinary spaceflight experiences.

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00:04:51,630 --> 00:04:56,590

During a visit to Goddard Space Flight Center, the pair met with Center Director Chris Scolese

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00:04:56,590 --> 00:05:00,780

and Senate Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Barbara Mikulski.

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00:05:00,780 --> 00:05:05,660

They also delighted Goddard employees with mission highlights and a question-and-answer

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00:05:05,660 --> 00:05:06,660

session.

64

00:05:06,660 --> 00:05:08,340

“This is not just about us and our vacation.

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00:05:08,340 --> 00:05:15,650

It’s about the future astronauts and space explorers and the future of human kind exploring.

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00:05:15,650 --> 00:05:21,060

And I think Goddard is a huge part of that and so for that matter we’d just like to

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00:05:21,060 --> 00:05:25,250

say thank you to you too for giving us that opportunity and letting us share it with you.”

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00:05:25,250 --> 00:05:29,990

The duo also visited the Goddard Child Development Center, where they chatted with the youngsters

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00:05:29,990 --> 00:05:32,590

about their jobs and the fun they’ve had in space.

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00:05:32,590 --> 00:05:34,100

“Alright, come on back.

71

00:05:34,100 --> 00:05:36,889

There’s more to show you.”

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00:05:36,889 --> 00:05:42,139

The weeklong visit also included a Women in Aerospace event on Capitol Hill celebrating

73

00:05:42,139 --> 00:05:43,880

Women’s History Month.

74

00:05:43,880 --> 00:05:46,440

Williams was the featured speaker at the gathering.

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00:05:46,440 --> 00:05:51,410

Also speaking to members of Congress, WIA Board Members, college students in area STEM

76

00:05:51,410 --> 00:05:56,950

programs and others in attendance was Deputy Administrator Lori Garver.

77

00:05:56,950 --> 00:06:02,810

Williams and Hoshide capped off their visit with a Google Plus Hangout at NASA Headquarters.

78

00:06:02,810 --> 00:06:08,919

"We've got this unique environment that kids see as something they'd like to do

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00:06:08,919 --> 00:06:09,919

when they grow up."

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00:06:09,919 --> 00:06:15,080

Also at Headquarters, space station Program Scientist Julie Robinson was among the featured

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00:06:15,080 --> 00:06:19,930

speakers at an all-day workshop at which members of the NASA family learned more about the

82

00:06:19,930 --> 00:06:26,039

ISS, how it enables exploration and improves life on Earth and how to share that knowledge

83

00:06:26,039 --> 00:06:27,270

with others.

84

00:06:27,270 --> 00:06:33,990

Like it has previously at NASA centers, "ISS Research 101" highlighted significant accomplishments

85
00:06:33,990 --> 00:06:38,360
of the orbiting laboratory and the benefits
of research and technology development underway

86
00:06:38,360 --> 00:06:42,130
on the ISS.

87
00:06:42,130 --> 00:06:46,940
The Planck space mission has released the
most accurate and detailed map ever made of

88
00:06:46,940 --> 00:06:52,729
the oldest light in the universe, revealing
new information about its age, contents and

89
00:06:52,729 --> 00:06:54,020
origins.

90
00:06:54,020 --> 00:06:59,690
The results suggest the universe is expanding
more slowly than scientists thought, and is

91
00:06:59,690 --> 00:07:04,520
13.8 billion years old, 100 million years
older than previous estimates.

92
00:07:04,520 --> 00:07:10,250
The data also show there is less dark energy
and more matter, both normal and dark matter,

93
00:07:10,250 --> 00:07:12,569
in the universe than previously known.

94
00:07:12,569 --> 00:07:16,660
Dark matter is an invisible substance that
only can be seen through the effects of its

95
00:07:16,660 --> 00:07:20,199
gravity, while dark energy is pushing our

universe apart.

96

00:07:20,199 --> 00:07:22,889

The nature of both remains a mystery.

97

00:07:22,889 --> 00:07:30,919

Planck is a European Space Agency mission with significant participation by NASA.

98

00:07:30,919 --> 00:07:35,849

Another first: remember that new Landsat satellite launched last month?

99

00:07:35,849 --> 00:07:38,889

Here is the first pair of images it's taken.

100

00:07:38,889 --> 00:07:44,120

The natural-color images show the intersection of the United States Great Plains and the

101

00:07:44,120 --> 00:07:48,110

Front Range of the Rocky Mountains in Wyoming and Colorado.

102

00:07:48,110 --> 00:07:52,449

Green coniferous forests in the mountains stretch down to the brown plains with Denver

103

00:07:52,449 --> 00:07:55,361

and other cities strung south to north.

104

00:07:55,361 --> 00:08:02,009

The Landsat Data Continuity Mission, or LDCM spacecraft acquired the images on March 18

105

00:08:02,009 --> 00:08:08,620

using two sensors collecting data simultaneously over the same ground path.

106

00:08:08,620 --> 00:08:14,180

“Success Through Interdependence” was the theme of this year’s Robert H. Goddard

107

00:08:14,180 --> 00:08:17,009

Memorial Symposium held in Greenbelt, Maryland.

108

00:08:17,009 --> 00:08:22,520

The annual event brings together leaders in government, industry and academia to discuss

109

00:08:22,520 --> 00:08:26,500

the space program in general and NASA’s strategic plan.

110

00:08:26,500 --> 00:08:30,699

One of this year’s keynote speakers was NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden.

111

00:08:30,699 --> 00:08:32,570

“We’re heading in the right direction.

112

00:08:32,570 --> 00:08:35,160

We have destinations.

113

00:08:35,160 --> 00:08:40,220

You know I can’t tell you which asteroid, but there is going to be an asteroid in 2025.

114

00:08:40,220 --> 00:08:41,640

I can tell you Mars.

115

00:08:41,640 --> 00:08:48,590

I can’t tell you what landing site when we finally fly a crew-ed mission to the surface.

116

00:08:48,590 --> 00:08:50,220

But I can tell you Mars.”

117

00:08:50,220 --> 00:08:56,040

Goddard Center Director Chris Scolese served as the Symposium's Honorary Chairperson.

118

00:08:56,040 --> 00:09:01,380

This was the Fifty-First annual Goddard Memorial Symposium, held in honor of Dr. Robert H.

119

00:09:01,380 --> 00:09:06,600

Goddard, the father of modern rocketry.

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00:09:06,600 --> 00:09:12,450

This year's lineup at the South by Southwest festival in Austin, Texas had an entry never

121

00:09:12,450 --> 00:09:18,900

before seen here; the full scale model of the next great observatory, the James Webb

122

00:09:24,070 --> 00:09:20,340

Space Telescope.

123

00:09:24,070 --> 00:09:28,890

Some of the major components will go down to Johnson Space Center to be tested in the

124

00:09:28,890 --> 00:09:30,130

huge Chamber A facility."

125

00:09:30,130 --> 00:09:34,310

"And the whole idea that we can learn about our own history from the beginning of time

126

00:09:34,310 --> 00:09:35,820

until now.

127

00:09:35,820 --> 00:09:39,010

People are thrilled that we can do this and they're thrilled that we are doing this."

128

00:09:39,010 --> 00:09:42,440

The tennis-court sized spacecraft didn't come alone.

129

00:09:42,440 --> 00:09:47,720

NASA with its partners including Northrop Grumman set up a tent that hosted a number

130

00:09:47,720 --> 00:09:51,360

of activities designed to educate and enlighten.

131

00:09:51,360 --> 00:09:55,470

"It's a great way to show the kids what they can be when they grow up."

132

00:09:55,470 --> 00:09:58,780

"Welcome to our South by Southwest NASA Social"

133

00:09:58,780 --> 00:10:01,400

"All different kind of walks of life..."

134

00:10:01,400 --> 00:10:05,500

all gathering based on science and NASA.

135

00:10:05,500 --> 00:10:06,630

It's genius!"

136

00:10:06,630 --> 00:10:11,310

"Actually being able to talk with the person is really a way to connect and actually feel

137

00:10:11,310 --> 00:10:15,500

like it's real like they're a part of it."

138

00:10:15,500 --> 00:10:20,350

What else some attendees could be a part of ... the finale to NASA's 3-day exhibit.

139

00:10:20,350 --> 00:10:25,720

“We decided that one way to reach out to kids and the community and really bring them

140

00:10:25,720 --> 00:10:30,760

into this event and teach them about astronomy and science would be to attempt to break a

141

00:10:30,760 --> 00:10:35,410

Guinness World Record for the largest outdoor astronomy lesson.”

142

00:10:35,410 --> 00:10:42,700

With 526 people staying for the 30 minute astronomy class, the record was broken.

143

00:10:42,700 --> 00:10:47,830

Not only were they a part of history, they also learned about light and color...

144

00:10:47,830 --> 00:10:58,770

giving them a window into how astronomers will use Webb to explore the universe.

145

00:10:58,770 --> 00:11:08,790

My name is Barbara Janoiko and I'm a project manager for NASA's analog missions.

146

00:11:08,790 --> 00:11:12,810

An analog is an environment that is similar to space flight.

147

00:11:12,810 --> 00:11:17,040

It has similar characteristics whether it be environment or terrain.

148

00:11:17,040 --> 00:11:22,890

We conduct these missions in the field or simulations here onsite at NASA to simulate

149

00:11:22,890 --> 00:11:26,030

operations for exploration missions.

150

00:11:26,030 --> 00:11:31,450

No matter what the destination is that NASA goes to explore, we can use the analog missions

151

00:11:31,450 --> 00:11:32,450

to get there.

152

00:11:32,450 --> 00:11:36,250

We test out the operations concepts and hardware that would go to space.

153

00:11:36,250 --> 00:11:42,710

We learn our lessons early in the design before the hardware gets too far along in its development

154

00:11:42,710 --> 00:11:45,270

and so we save costs later on.

155

00:11:45,270 --> 00:11:51,700

The past 2 years, we have done an asteroid mission study which included both undersea

156

00:11:51,700 --> 00:11:54,420

missions as well as simulations here onsite.

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00:11:54,420 --> 00:12:00,290

I started off a cooperative education student and got a lot of different experiences both

158

00:12:00,290 --> 00:12:02,760

in mission operations as well as engineering.

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00:12:02,760 --> 00:12:08,820

And started off my career with NASA in a spacesuit in extravehicular activity tools group.

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00:12:08,820 --> 00:12:11,320

My job is really exciting.

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00:12:11,320 --> 00:12:16,490

The team included the astronauts and all of the engineers are great.

162

00:12:16,490 --> 00:12:17,910

Everybody comes from a different discipline.

163

00:12:17,910 --> 00:12:24,360

We have folks with operations experience and engineering experience and we all work together

164

00:12:24,360 --> 00:12:28,630

to train the astronauts to conduct realistic missions.

165

00:12:28,630 --> 00:12:32,110

My advice would be to do what you love.

166

00:12:32,110 --> 00:12:37,300

Study what you enjoy and if you love your job, then it's not a job.

167

00:12:37,300 --> 00:12:42,550

You enjoy going there every day and it's not a chore.

168

00:12:42,550 --> 00:12:47,130

So just have fun.

169

00:12:47,130 --> 00:12:51,610

Stennis Space Center hosted a daylong Women's History Month event for high school girls

170

00:12:51,610 --> 00:12:57,940

in Mississippi and Louisiana to foster a discussion

about pursuing educational opportunities in

171

00:12:57,940 --> 00:13:00,550

science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

172

00:13:00,550 --> 00:13:06,360

The GEMS event – Girls Excited About Math and Science – included activities such as

173

00:13:06,360 --> 00:13:13,050

speed mentoring, a cryogenics demonstration, a dress for success fashion show, and a college

174

00:13:13,050 --> 00:13:15,970

and career expo.

175

00:13:15,970 --> 00:13:27,000

More than 60 teams of American and international high school students took part in the Orlando

176

00:13:27,000 --> 00:13:33,140

Regional FIRST Robotics Competition to see who could best design, build and operate a

177

00:13:33,140 --> 00:13:37,950

robot capable of accurately throwing a Frisbee and climbing a pyramid.

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00:13:37,950 --> 00:13:42,190

Held at the University of Central Florida Arena, the privately funded event included

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00:13:42,190 --> 00:13:45,280

several teams that used NASA help to develop their machines.

180

00:13:45,280 --> 00:13:49,830

“This is what NASA does, if you look at where we're going as we explore into the future,

181

00:13:49,830 --> 00:13:51,360

what do we do first?

182

00:13:51,360 --> 00:13:53,030

We send robots as precursors.

183

00:13:53,030 --> 00:13:58,680

Many of the same skills you use in developing your robots are the same skills that go into

184

00:13:58,680 --> 00:14:04,290

the Mars Science Lab Curiosity, they're just a little more refined than what we're using

185

00:14:04,290 --> 00:14:06,200

on the floor today."

186

00:14:06,200 --> 00:14:11,010

Among the teams mentored by Kennedy Space Center employees were the Horsepower and Bionic

187

00:14:11,010 --> 00:14:17,140

Tigers squads, both of whom used NASA expertise to rebuild their robots overnight after their

188

00:14:17,140 --> 00:14:19,910

transport carriers were involved in a traffic accident.

189

00:14:19,910 --> 00:14:24,430

The Kennedy-assisted Pink Team finished second.

190

00:14:24,430 --> 00:14:29,140

The competition continues in St. Louis, where the regional finishers will compete for the

191

00:14:29,140 --> 00:14:33,550

national title next month.

192

00:14:33,550 --> 00:14:36,600

NASA celebrates two anniversaries this week.

193

00:14:36,600 --> 00:14:43,940

48 years ago, on March 23, 1965, the first manned Gemini mission was launched from Cape

194

00:14:43,940 --> 00:14:46,200

Canaveral's Complex 19.

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00:14:46,200 --> 00:14:52,950

Piloted by astronauts Virgil "Gus" Grissom and John Young, the three-orbit Gemini 3 mission

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00:14:52,950 --> 00:14:58,380

tested spacecraft and launch vehicle systems for future long-duration flights; how the

197

00:14:58,380 --> 00:15:03,810

capsule could be maneuvered in orbit, then controlled for reentry and landing.

198

00:15:03,810 --> 00:15:10,770

The Gemini program helped set the stage for NASA's moon landings.

199

00:15:10,770 --> 00:15:17,640

And 21 years ago, on March 24, 1992, space shuttle Atlantis launched from the Kennedy

200

00:15:17,640 --> 00:15:19,670

Space Center on STS-45.

201

00:15:19,670 --> 00:15:26,860

The nine-day mission brought to orbit a variety of instruments for conducting scientific research,

202

00:15:26,860 --> 00:15:34,210

including atmospheric chemistry, solar radiation,

space plasma physics and ultraviolet astronomy.

203

00:15:34,210 --> 00:15:39,570

The seven-member crew was commanded by none other than future NASA Administrator, Charlie

204

00:15:39,570 --> 00:15:40,570

Bolden.

205

00:15:40,570 --> 00:15:43,070

And that's This Week @NASA.