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Countdown resumes for Atlantis

Fifth attempt at liftoff scheduled for this morning

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — The countdown resumed Sunday for the nighttime launch of shuttle Atlantis after technicians fixed a computer problem that caused a fourth postponement of the secret military mission 31 seconds before liftoff.

But forecasters said a cold front was expected to bring clouds and high winds, reducing to only 40 percent the chances that weather would be good enough to launch the shuttle with its spy satellite early Monday.

Despite the gloomy forecast, shuttle managers in midafternoon gave the go-ahead for the launch team to pump 528,000 gallons of liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen into Atlantis' cavernous fuel tank for another try.

Contributing to the decision was the fact that Monday offered the best weather odds of the

next three days. The odds drop to just 20 percent on Tuesday and Wednesday, forecasters said.

The computer is one of two used by the Air Force to provide information on the shuttle's course after liftoff. If the vehicle strayed off track and threatened a populated area, a range safety officer would send a radio signal to blow it up so pieces would fall harmlessly into the Atlantic.

Mission rules require that both computers be operating for a launch, the one that failed acts as the backup.

Capt. Ken Warren, an Air Force spokesman, reported Sunday that the trouble had been traced to bad software.

"The computer is up, and we're ready to support a launch," Warren said.

The astronauts, who spent three hours in the

spacecraft before Sunday's scrub, went to bed about noon.

The commander is Navy Capt. John O. Creighton, who was felled two days last week by a sore throat and nasal congestion. His all-military crew is Air Force Col. John H. Casper, the pilot, and mission specialists Marine Lt. Col. David C. Hilmers, Air Force Col. Richard Mullane and Navy Lt. Cmdr. Pierre J. Thuot.

Because the mission is classified, neither NASA nor the Pentagon will identify its purpose. But sources who spoke on condition of anonymity reported that the astronauts were to deploy on the second day a 37,300-pound, \$500 million satellite capable of taking super-sharp photos and listening in on military and diplomatic communications around the world.

Rec Sports Highlights

sponsored by



McDonald's® Mickey D's Arcade™
Now open at the Univ. Dr. Location

IM GAME PLAN

Entries Open: February 26 Entries Close: March 6

Swim Meet

No Entry Fee!

Corps and Fish Prelims: March 21
Divisionals (all Divisions): March 26

Innertube Water Polo

Entry Fee: \$20 Play Begins: March 22

Badminton Singles

No Entry Fee! Play Begins: March 20

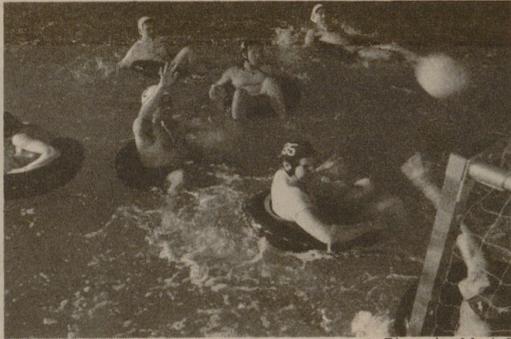


Photo by Mark Figart

Innertube Water Polo entries open today, so come sign up!

Don't miss

the

Rockets vs. Lakers

Tuesday, March 6, 1990

Leave your keys at home and ride a chartered bus to the Summit in Houston, Texas, to see the Houston Rockets take on the L.A. Lakers. Tickets are \$22.

Ticket price includes round trip transportation via B/C.S. Charters (depart Read Bldg. at 4:30) and game tickets. Trip is open to students, faculty, staff, spouses, and a limit of one guest each. All dependants must be accompanied by parent. Sign up by March 2 in 159 Read, or call Carrieann or Holly at 845-7826 for more information.

\$ REC SPORTS NOW HIRING \$

ARTIST

Rec Sports needs a student with artistic ability to provide drawings, cartoons, flyer artwork, and t-shirt designs. Applications will be taken through Feb. 28 in 159 Read. For more information call P.J. Miller at 845-2302.

PUBLICITY ASSISTANT

Do you have good writing skills and a knowledge of page layout on Macintosh? Augment your skills making cash and gaining experience in the area of public relations. Applications taken through Feb. 28. Call P.J. Miller at 845-2302 for more information.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

If you have black-and-white darkroom experience as well as an understanding of the fundamentals of photography, you might have what it takes to be a Rec Sports photographer. Applications taken through Feb. 28. Call P.J. Miller at 845-2302.

CLUB NOTES . . .

Catch **TAMU Men's Rugby** Saturday and Sunday, March 3 and 4, as they host the Collegiate Tournament on East Campus. The tournament will run 9am to 4pm both days.

The **TAMU Gymnastics Team** will compete Saturday, March 3 in the Read Building beginning at 7 pm.

Don't miss **TAMU Lacrosse** Sunday, March 4 as they take on LSU at 11am on Simpson Drill Field.

CHAMPIONS !!

The Department of Recreational Sports congratulates winners of the **Slam Dunk Competition!**

First Place	Wally Reid	275 points
Second	Jay Hoage	267 points
Third	Mike Madden	239 points

Acknowledgements: McDonald's Rec Sports Highlights is sponsored by your local McDonald's Restaurant at University Drive, Manor East Mall, Hwy 21, Texas Ave. at SW Parkway and Post Oak Mall. This ad is a creation of Mark Figart and P.J. Miller. Photographs are by Rec Sports photographers.

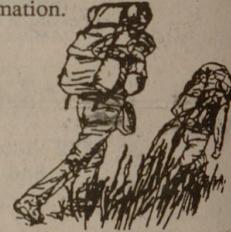
TAMU OUTDOORS

JOIN TAMU OUTDOORS IN . . .

COPPER CANYON, MEXICO!

Tired of the same old Spring Break vacation? Sure, everybody loves the beach, but why not get away to the mountains, see some of the most beautiful scenery in North America, and share a meaningful experience with nine other participants who, like yourself, are seeking new adventure. We'll begin our journey from Presidio, Texas on the border, where we'll take a bus to Chihuahua, Mexico. From there it's the famous "Train Ride in the Sky," the Chihuahua/Pacific Railway, known to many as the Eighth Wonder of the World.

Our Indian guide (interpreter will be on hand to answer your questions) will lead us in our descent into Copper Canyon, where we'll camp and backpack three or four days in this beautiful Mexican wilderness in the Sierra Madre Mountains. See ad for registration information.



Canoe Big Bend Canyons

Enjoy Spring Break on the Rio Grande River in Big Bend National Park, paddling the scenic wilderness of West Texas. We'll hike the side canyons, explore the desert, and sleep under the stars. See ad for info.

TAMU OUTDOORS sponsors camping trips, kayak workshops, backpacking excursions, as well as other programs for rock climbers, scuba divers, and general outdoor enthusiasts. All programs are conducted by experienced personnel, and offer participants an opportunity for personal growth through challenge and group fellowship.

Registration opens February 5th for:

	Date	Rating*	Fee**
Rock Climbing, Hueco Tanks	March 10-18	B/I	232/245
Canoe Big Bend	March 10-18	B/I	235/250
Backpacking Copper Canyon	March 10-18	B/I	399/425

Registration opens February 19th for:

	Date	Rating*	Fee**
Diving in Cozumel	May 14-18	B/I	550/570
Cozumel (non-divers)	May 14-18	B	455/475

Registration opens February 26 for:

	Date	Rating*	Fee**
Mountain Biking	March 25	B/I	6

*B=Beginner, I= Intermediate

**Second price is for non-A&M participants

REC SPORTS WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY February 26	TUESDAY February 27	WEDNESDAY February 28	THURSDAY March 1	FRIDAY March 2	SATURDAY March 3	SUNDAY March 4
<p>Entries Open:</p> <p>Swim Meet Innertube Water Polo Badminton Singles</p>			<p>Entries Close:</p> <p>Rock Climbing</p>	<p>3-Point Shootout Finals Halftime, Men's B-Ball Game</p>	<p>Men's Rugby Collegiate Tournament 9 am-4pm, E. Campus</p>	<p>Men's Rugby Collegiate Tournament 9 am-4pm, E. Campus</p> <p>TAMU Lacrosse 11am, Drill Field</p>