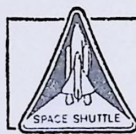


SPACE SHUTTLE  
STS-90/COLUMBIA



FOR  
BENEFITS  
ON EARTH

NASA



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## SPACE SHUTTLE (STS-90/COLUMBIA)

The spotlight will be on life sciences research targeting the complex neurological system of humans and animals during Mission STS-90 aboard Space Shuttle Columbia. The "test subjects" of the planned 17-day Neurolab mission will include the seven crew members, as well as mice, crickets, fish, snails, and rats. Neurolab will examine the effects of space flight on the neurological system, including the brain and spinal cord in the human body. The goals of Neurolab are to conduct basic research in the neurosciences and to increase understanding of the mechanisms involved in neurological and behavioral changes in space.

**THE STS-90 CREW** – Columbia will be commanded by two-time space flier **Richard A. "Rick" Searfoss**, selected as a pilot astronaut in 1990. **Scott D. Altman** will be pilot on STS-90. This is his first space flight since becoming an astronaut candidate in 1994. Mission Specialist **Richard M. "Rick" Linnehan**, a veterinarian, will serve as payload commander. This will be his second trip into space since becoming an astronaut in 1993. **Kathryn P. "Kay" Hire**, another mission specialist on her first space voyage, will serve as the flight engineer on STS-90. In 1993, she became the first female in America assigned to a combat aircrew. Mission Specialist **Dafydd "Dave" Rhys Williams**, a medical doctor, will be a first-time space flier. He was selected as an astronaut by the Canadian Space Agency in 1992 and later joined the 1995 NASA astronaut class. Serving as payload specialists will be **Jay Clark Buckey Jr.**, a medical doctor, and **James A. "Jim" Pawelczyk**, a co-investigator for experiments on Neurolab and two Shuttle-Mir flights.

**THE STS-90 CREW INSIGNIA** – The STS-90 crew patch reflects the dedication of the mission to the neurosciences in celebration of the Decade of the Brain. The Earth is revealed through a neuron-shaped window and the Orbiter Columbia is depicted with its open payload bay doors revealing the Spacelab-Neurolab within. The seven crew members and two alternate payload specialists are represented by the nine major stars of the constellation Cetus (the whale) in recognition of the International Year of the Ocean. The distant stars illustrate the far reaching implications of the mission science to the many sponsoring agencies, helping prepare for the long duration space flight aboard the International Space Station.