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SPACE SHUTTLE (STS-39/DISCOVERY)

STS-39 CREW INSIGNIA — The crewmembers of Space Shuttle Mission 39 have chosen this emblem as their official crew patch. The arrowhead shape of the STS-39 design represents a skyward aim to learn more about our planet's atmosphere and space environment in support of the Department of Defense. Our national symbol is represented by the star constellation Aguila (the eagle) as its brightest star, Altair, lifts a protective canopy above Earth. The Space Shuttle encircles the spectrum which represents x-ray, ultra-violet, visible and infrared electromagnetic radiation to be measured by a variety of scientific instruments. Experiments will be operated within the payload bay and aboard a free-flying satellite which will be deployed and retrieved during the 8-day mission. STS-39 astronauts are Michael L. Coats, commander; L. Blaine Hammond Jr., pilot; and mission specialists Guion S. Bluford Jr., Gregory J. Harbaugh, Richard J. Hieb, Donald R. McMonagle and Charles Lacy Veach.