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STS-49 CREW INSIGNIA — The STS-49 mission patch, designed by its crewmembers, captures space flight's spirit of exploration which has its origins in early seagoing vessels. Endeavour, the sailing vessel depicted on the emblem, was the first ship commanded by Captain James Cook, the 18th century explorer, navigator and astronomer. In 1768, on Endeavour's maiden voyage, Cook sailed to the South Pacific on a mission to observe and record the important and seldom occurring event when the planet Venus passes between Earth and the Sun. Just as Captain Cook explored the uncharted reaches of Earth and its oceans, on Endeavour's first flight into space, its crew will expand the horizons of space operations. The week-long mission will be highlighted by a space walk to attach an upper stage to reboost an Intelsat VI communications satellite to its intended orbit, and two space walks to practice space station assembly concepts. The flags flying high on Endeavour's masts bear the colors of the two schools that won the nationwide contest when Endeavour was chosen as the name of NASA's newest Space Shuttle: Senatobia (Mississippi) Middle School and Tallulah Falls (Georgia) School. The seven-member crew of STS-49/Endeavour will be commanded by Chief Astronaut Daniel C. Brounstein and piloted by Kevin P. Chilton. Mission Specialists are Thomas D. Akers, Richard J. Hieb, Bruce E. Melnick, Kathryn C. Thornton and Pierre J. Thuot.