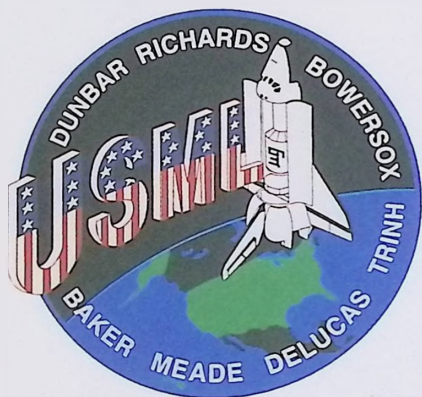
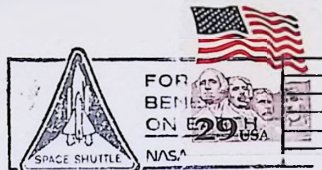
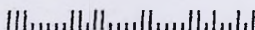


SPACE SHUTTLE
STS-50/COLUMBIA



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SPACE SHUTTLE (STS-50/COLUMBIA)

STS-50 CREW INSIGNIA — The crew patch for STS-50, designed by the flight crew, captures a Space Shuttle traveling above Earth while trailing the USML-1 banner. The Space Shuttle Columbia is scheduled to remain in space nearly two weeks while a seven-member crew conducts advanced microgravity research on the U.S. Microgravity Laboratory-1 (USML-1). The Shuttle orbiter is oriented vertically in a typical attitude for microgravity science and its position represents the numeral "1" in the mission's abbreviated title. Visible in the payload bay are the Spacelab module and the extended duration orbiter "cyro" pallet which will be making its first flight. The small "g" and Greek letter "mu" on the module symbolize the microgravity environment being used for research in the areas of materials science and fluid physics. The Stars and Stripes of the USML block letters and the U.S. landmass in the Earth scene below reflect the crew's pride in the U.S. origin of all onboard experiments. American industry, academia and NASA have teamed together to sponsor USML-1, the first in a planned series of flights. The flight of STS-50 represents the longest Shuttle mission to date, and the longest dedicated to microgravity research. Commander of STS-50 is Richard "Dick" N. Richards, making his third space flight. Pilot Kenneth D. Bowersox is making his first trip into space. Payload Commander and Mission Specialist-1 is Dr. Bonnie J. Dunbar, making her third space flight. Mission Specialists Carl J. Meade and Dr. Ellen S. Baker each have made one previous flight into space. The two payload specialists are Dr. Lawrence J. DeLucas and Dr. Eugene H. Trinh, also making their first trips into space.