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NASA's Space Shuttle Crew in Washington, Available for Interviews

WASHINGTON -- NASA Headquarters in Washington will welcome space shuttle Endeavour's STS-130 astronauts for a visit from Tuesday, April 20, through Friday, April 23. The crew wrapped up a 14-day journey in space of almost 5.7 million miles on Feb. 21.

Commander George Zamka, Pilot Terry Virts and Mission Specialists Kathryn Hire, Stephen Robinson, Nicholas Patrick and Robert Behnken will share mission highlights with NASA employees, school children, college students and the general public while in the nation's capital. Reporters interested in covering the events or interviewing a crew member should contact NASA's Office of Communications at 202-358-1100.

To kick off the visit, the crew will give a postflight presentation to NASA employees, their families and reporters at 1 p.m. EDT, Tuesday, at NASA Headquarters' James E. Webb Auditorium, 300 E. St. SW. The crew's presentation will air on NASA Television's education channel. If space shuttle Discovery's landing coverage precludes live coverage, NASA TV will replay the presentation later in the day.

The crew also will attend the Washington Nationals game against the Colorado Rockies on Tuesday at Nationals Park. The astronauts will participate in pregame activities and view the game, which is scheduled to begin at 7:05 p.m. Virts will throw out the ceremonial first pitch and be available for interviews upon request.

The STS-130 mission to the International Space Station included three spacewalks and the installation of the Tranquility node, a module that provides additional room for crew members and houses many of the space station's life support and environmental control systems. Attached to Tranquility is a cupola with seven windows that offers a panoramic view of Earth, celestial objects and visiting spacecraft. Tranquility and its cupola are the final major U.S. portions of the station. The orbiting laboratory now is approximately 90 percent complete.

For NASA TV schedule information and links to streaming video, visit:

<http://www.nasa.gov/ntv>

For more information about the STS-130 mission, visit:

<http://www.nasa.gov/shuttle>

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