



Looking more like an architectural model than the real thing, the new NASA Goddard Visitor Center gleams like a jewel in the Maryland sunshine just prior to its opening on May 13. Building 3/14, an area included on a self-tour for visitors, can be seen in the background behind the Delta Rocket.

## NEW VISITOR CENTER OPENS

The general public can now see the U.S. Space Program in action right here at Goddard with the opening of the NASA Goddard Visitor center on May 18. Using a public entrance off Soil Conservation Rd., visitors can drive to and park at the new facility without clearance badges.

The main Visitor Center building houses a complex of unique exhibits and live demonstrations designed to involve the visitor rather than just show him many of NASA's applications and science programs.

A working weather station here daily collects and displays satellite photos of the meteorological systems in the western hemisphere. And for several hours a day, the visitor can transmit his voice some 45,000 miles roundtrip through space via the Applications Technology Satellite-3. A more detailed look at the exhibits in the main building area is included inside this issue.

The Visitor Center is currently open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily, except Monday and Tuesday.

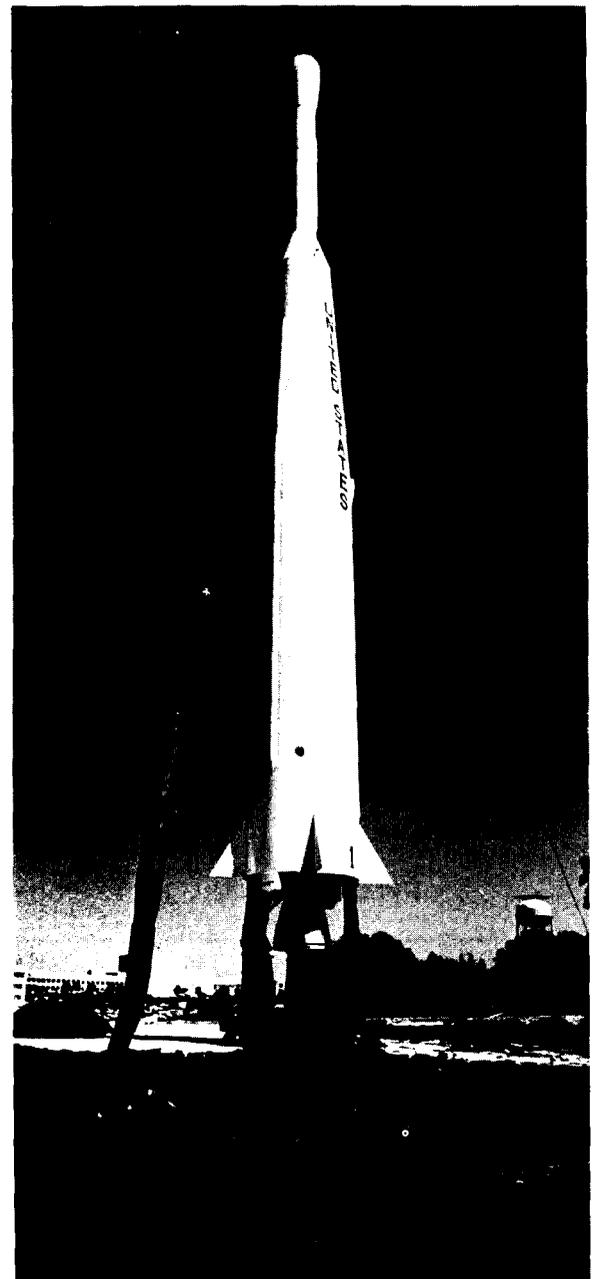


The National Bureau of Standards' former timing facility, WWV, provided the basic structure for the Visitor Center.

Below: The new Visitor Center takes shape.



The inside of the timing facility is gutted to make way for NASA exhibits.



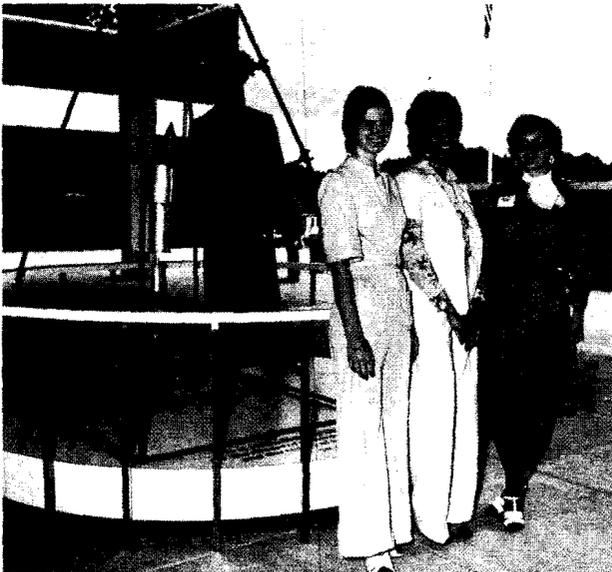
Final touches are added to the walkway around the Delta Rocket behind the Visitor Center.

# BEFORE AND AFTER . . . .

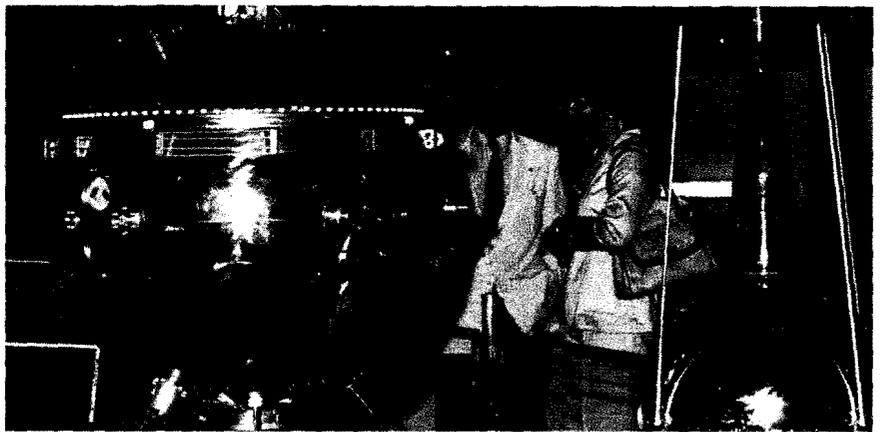
It started out as a National Bureau of Standards Timing Facility—WWV. After NBS moved out, the building housed maintenance equipment for the Center. Today, it is a brand new Visitor Center, designed to show the Face of NASA. These photos show some of that transition.



A youthful visitor eyes space goodies in the Visitor Center gift shop.



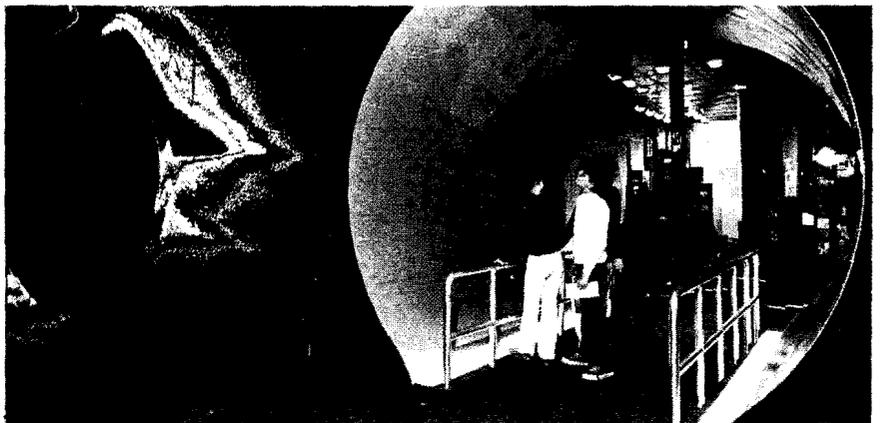
Goddard lovelies Debora McCallum, Cheryl Council, and Joyce Eaton pose in front of the Dr. Robert H. Goddard exhibit.



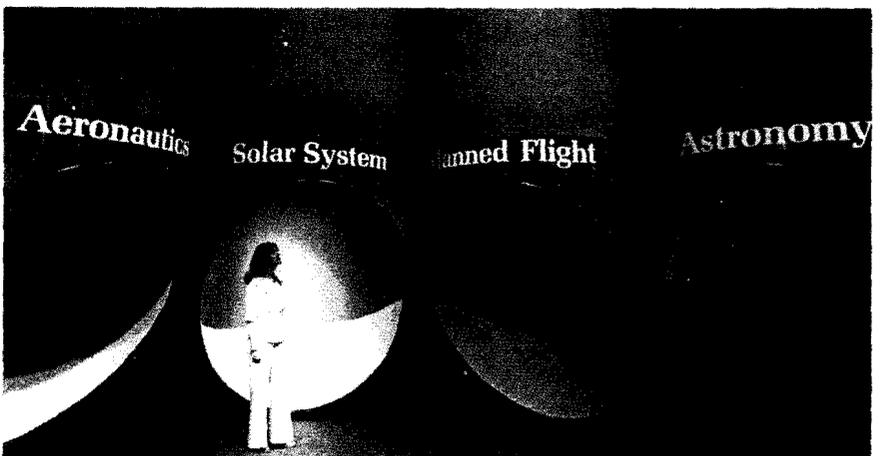
GSFC's George Abid explains workings of the Atmospheric Explorer to a visitor.



Barry ZeVan, the weatherman on Washington TV #7, gets a refresher in weather photos by GSFC's Chuck Vermilion at the Visitor Center weather station. Mrs. Clark looks on.



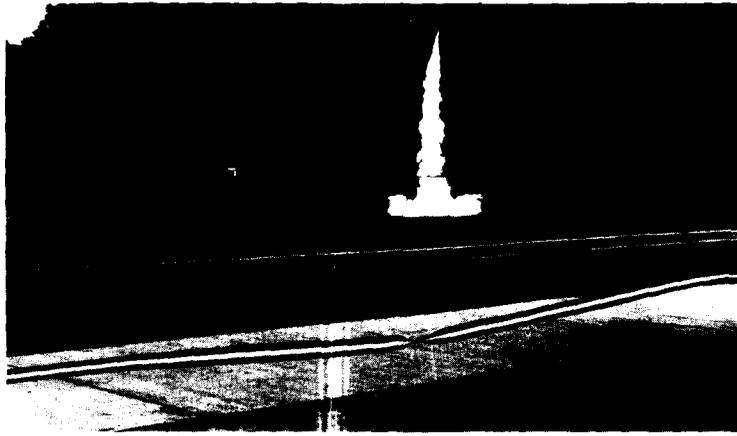
Visitors eye map of NASA's global activities.



Joanne Milazzo of Goddard takes a trip through the solar system.



Sherman Urquheart and Sgt. Billy Carr raise the U.S. flag, Jaunita Kinney assists.



The ribbon to the Visitor Center is neatly snapped by a string tied to the launched rocket, a replica of Dr. Goddard's first liquid fuel system.



Elmer S. Groo, Bill Mecca, and Bill O'Leary compare notes.



Left to right. Jim Mundy, GSFC Equal Opportunity Officer, Lois Hamilton, Md. State Conference, NAACP, Dr. William Rutherford, NASA Hq. Consultant for EEO, Dr. Harriett Jenkins, Asst. Administrator for NASA Equal Opportunity Programs, Miss Georgia Washington, P.G. NAACP.

## The Grand Opening

With all of the excitement of a Fourth of July Parade in Smalltowne, U.S.A., the new NASA Goddard Visitor Center had its grand opening on May 13. There were speeches, band music, dignitaries, and press cameras!

William P. O'Leary of the Office of Public Affairs, kicked it off as moderator. He was followed with speeches by William A. Mecca, Jr., GSFC Director of Administration and Management, and Center Director, Dr. John F. Clark.

NASA Associate Administrator for Center Operations, Elmer S. Groo, wrapped up the opening festivities with a "well done" statement. He then presided over the ribbon-cutting ceremony which was executed in a fashion unique to Goddard: a replica of Dr. Robert H. Goddard's first liquid rocket was launched, pulling after it a string attached to the ribbon.



PAO's Pat Ratkewicz, Flo Safrit, and Shirley Deremer (left to right) handle the coffee.



First group to tour the Visitor Center poses in front of the Orbiting Astronomical Observatory.



DuVal High School Band provided the opening day music.

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Left to right: Bill Mecca looks on as Elmer S. Groo congratulates Dr. Clark. Dr. Cooper and Dr. Glen D. Wilson, staff member of Senate committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences smile their approval.