

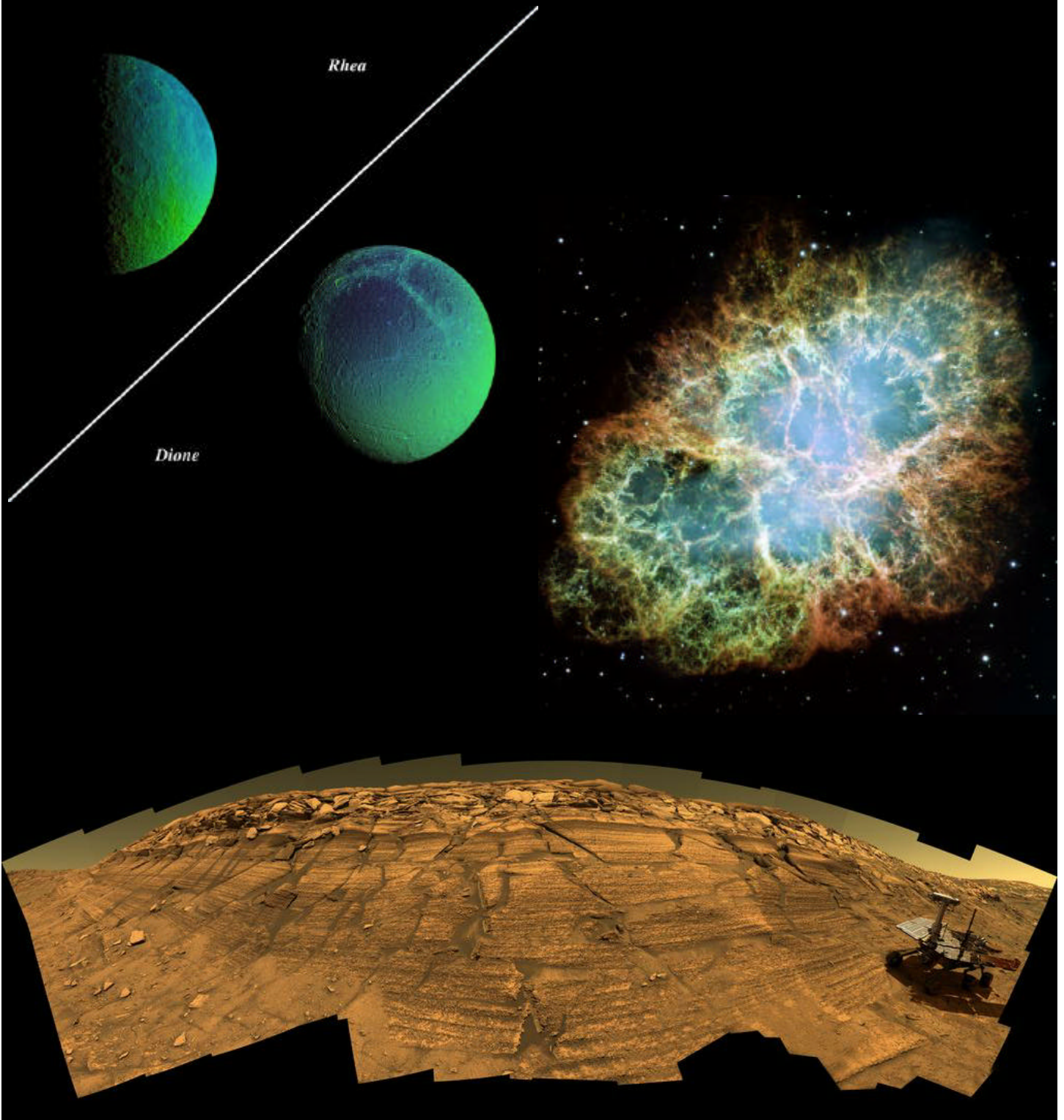
# THE WRIGHT STUFF



Vol XVI ♦ No 6

The Official Newsletter of the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk ♦ NCC-1659

Nov / Dec 2005





# THE WRIGHT STUFF

Volume 16 - Number 6

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Publisher ..... J.R. Fisher  
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**TOOL BOX:** Pentium IV-3.0GHz; HP LaserJet 1200 & DeskJet 722C; Lotus WordPro; Adobe Acrobat.

**IMAGES - Title Banner**

Wright Flyer from NASA/Ames PAO photo archive; *U.S.S. Kitty Hawk* (USN CV-63) from [navicp.navy.mil](http://navicp.navy.mil); *Constitution* class cruiser from [gwu.edu/~rljones/khawk](http://gwu.edu/~rljones/khawk).

**IMAGE - Featured Front Page**

Saturn moons Rhea & Dione from Cassini; Crab Nebula from Hubble space telescope; view of 'Burns Cliff' on Mars from Opportunity (with a photo model of the rover).

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# A View From the Catbird Seat

By J.R. Fisher

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Merry Christmas and happy holidays to all of our crew and friends! It has been a long and sometimes difficult year for many of us,

but it is quickly drawing to a close with a happy celebration and the hopes of a new year that will bring happiness and prosperity to everyone. I hope each of you will have a safe and happy holiday.

We do not have a lot going on this year so I will get to the meat of it. We have decided to have our holiday/anniversary dinner at the Kanki at Crabtree again this year, thanks to the kindness of Tom Mukoyama, the manager and crew member. This year it will be at 7 p.m. on Sunday, January 15th. Please call me to reserve a seat. We hope that

the time and day will allow everyone to get there on time with better parking and no crowds. It is important that I have a head count no later than the January 7th meeting! Maximum of 36! Call early!

On another note, almost everyone has renewed their Starfleet membership; thank you. If you have not, please do so as soon as possible. We are high on the list of ships with new members and renewals. Of course, your *Kitty Hawk* dues will be due at the beginning of the new year and our treasury has shrunk with our giving to various charities this year. So please pay them as soon as you can.

Someone mentioned at the last meeting that Paramount is having a 40th anniversary celebration of Star Trek at the Hilton in Las Vegas, Nevada; probably in September and it

will be a Creation event. It was suggested that we should try to go. Interested? We can discuss it further at the January meeting.

Also, at the January meeting we need to decide about which dates we want to work the phones at the UNC-TV Festival this year. Festival will run from February 25th through March 26th. Let's try to do two evenings with 20+ people each.

Well, that's all for me for this newsletter. I hope everyone has a safe trip to wherever you go to celebrate and return, and make the most of your time with friends and family.

We look forward to seeing everyone in January!

*Esse Quam Videri*

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## Front Cover Photo Credits

By NASA, JPL, *et al.*

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### Saturn's Moons

Saturn's cratered, icy moons, Rhea and Dione, come alive with vibrant color that reveals new information about their surface properties.

To create these false-color views, ultraviolet, green and infrared images were combined into a single black and white picture that isolates and maps regional color differences. This "color map" was then superimposed over a clear-filter image of each moon.

The combination of color map and brightness image shows how the colors vary across the moon's surface in relation to geologic features. The origin of the color differences is not yet understood, but may be caused by subtle differences in the surface composition or the sizes of grains making up the icy soil.

The Rhea view is a two-image mosaic. Images in the mosaic were acquired on Aug. 1, 2005, at a mean distance of 214,700 kilometers (133,400 miles) from Rhea and at a Sun-Rhea-spacecraft, or phase, angle of 88 degrees. Image scale is 1.3 kilometers (0.8 miles) per pixel.

The mosaic shows terrain on the trailing hemisphere of Rhea (1,528 kilometers, or 949 miles across), and is centered on 42 degrees south latitude. North is up and rotated 28 degrees to the left.

Images in the Dione false-color view were acquired on Aug. 1, 2005, at a mean distance of 267,600 kilometers (166,300 miles) from Dione. Image scale is 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) per pixel.

The image shows terrain on the trailing hemisphere of Dione (1,126 kilometers, or 700 miles across), and is centered on 41 degrees south latitude. North is up.

The images have not been scaled to show the moons' proper relative sizes.

The Cassini-Huygens mission is a cooperative project of NASA, the European Space Agency and the Italian Space Agency. The Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a division of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, manages the mission for NASA's Science Mission Directorate, Washington, D.C. The Cassini orbiter and its two onboard cameras were designed, developed and

assembled at JPL. The imaging operations center is based at the Space Science Institute in Boulder, Colo.

For more information about the Cassini-Huygens mission visit <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov>. The Cassini imaging team homepage is at <http://ciclops.org>.

### Crab Nebula

This new Hubble image -- one among the largest ever produced with the Earth-orbiting observatory -- shows the most detailed view so far of the entire Crab Nebula ever made. The Crab is arguably the single most interesting object, as well as one of the most studied, in all of astronomy. The image is the largest image ever taken with Hubble's WFPC2 workhorse camera.

The Crab Nebula is one of the most intricately structured and highly dynamical objects ever observed. The new Hubble image of the Crab was assembled from 24 individual exposures taken with the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope and is the high resolution image of the entire Crab Nebula ever made.

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# DEEP SPACE NINE - "A Second Chance"

By Brad McDonald

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## ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. DEEP SPACE NINE - MEETING ROOM

All are present as before, but Kira has still not arrived. Sisko is in a corner with Worf and Vanir working on a way to counter the Cardassian claim. In the B.G., Quark is fussing with Rom on the details about the refreshments.

SISKO

Advocate? Is there a way we can counter their claim?

VANIR

(nervous)

I'm not sure. It depends on Garak Without him, they have nothing.

Sisko thinks for a beat, then calls to Quark.

SISKO

Arbitrator?! May we call you on a point of order?

Quark dismisses Rom and straightens out his tunic.

QUARK

(smiling)

What can I do for you?

SISKO

We want to question Garak, will you call for him?

QUARK

(excited)

Me? Why me? I didn't --

WORF

(impatient)

You are the arbitrator. You have the power to require testimony.

QUARK

(shrugging)

If you say so...

(beat, puzzled)

...exactly how do I do that?

SISKO

Advocate Vanir? Will you explain it to him?

ON SISKO

Sisko moves to one side and taps his comm badge.

SISKO

(moving)

Sisko to Kira. What's your status?

There is no immediate response, so he tries again.

SISKO

(concerned)

Sisko to Kira, respond please.

Worried, he tries another approach.

SISKO

Sisko to Odo, what's your location?

There's a moment of silence and Sisko tenses.

ODO'S VOICE

Promenade, thirty meters from your location. I don't think we're going to make it, Captain.

SISKO

(impatient)

Explain!

PROMENADE CORRIDOR #1

A large, boisterous crowd is present. Kira is on the floor, kneeling next to Torkin, who has been wounded. Odo is standing close by, monitoring the situation.

ODO

Torkin has been shot, by Bajorans.

Across the crowd, a security team is restraining two Bajoran civilians. The rest of the crowd is agitated.

ODO

We have them, but the crowd isn't letting anyone move.

SISKO'S VOICE

Understood, Constable. The cavalry is on the way.

Odo turns to assess the crowd and doesn't like what he sees. Kira continues to administer to Torkin.

MEETING ROOM

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*Cover Credits continued*

### Opportunity on Mars

This synthetic image of NASA's Opportunity Mars Exploration Rover inside Endurance Crater was produced using "Virtual Presence in Space" technology. Developed at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif., this technology combines visualization and image processing tools with Hollywood-style special effects. The image was created using a photorealistic model of the rover and an approximately full-color mosaic. The size of the rover in the image is approximately correct and was based on the size of the rover tracks in the mosaic.

Because this synthesis provides viewers with a sense of their own "virtual presence" (as if they were there themselves), such views can be

useful to mission teams by enhancing perspective and a sense of scale.

Opportunity captured the underlying view of "Burns Cliff" after driving right to the base of this southeastern portion of the inner wall of "Endurance Crater." The view combines frames taken by Opportunity's panoramic camera between the rover's 287th and 294th martian days (Nov. 13 to 20, 2004).

This is a composite of 46 different images, each acquired in seven different Pancam filters. It is an approximately true-color rendering generated from the panoramic camera's 750-nanometer, 530-nanometer and 430-nanometer filters. The mosaic spans more than 180 degrees side to side. Because of this wide-angle view, the cliff walls appear to bulge out toward the camera. In reality the walls form a gently curving, continuous surface.

SISKO  
(tapping comm badge)  
Sisko to Ops, Dax?

DAX'S VOICE  
Benjamin? Are you okay? I just --

SISKO  
(urgent)  
Red alert Dax! Have the Chief lock Kira's comm badge and a nearby Cardassian. Beam them straight to sickbay!

DAX'S VOICE  
Right away, Dax out!

Sisko seeks out Vanir and Quark, Worf goes to his side.

SISKO  
Advocate, will you continue in my absence? I'll return as soon as possible, but get Garak here! We must resolve this issue, quickly!  
(to Worf)  
Torkin's been shot, get help and assist Odo, I'm going to sickbay!

WORF  
At once, Sir.  
(beat, serious)  
Be careful, I hate losing commanding officers.

Worf nods and rushes off. Sisko notices that Bakat seems pleased with the turn of events.

SICKBAY

Torkin is on an exam table, Bashir is working on him. Nearby are two N.D. medical technicians, assisting him. Kira is watching, guards let Sisko in, he seeks out Kira.

SISKO  
(agitated)  
What happened, Major?

Kira is upset, mostly with herself. She has failed and realizes the entire station may erupt in violence.

KIRA  
(distracted)  
It all happened so fast..

Sisko grabs her arm, his voice is firm.

SISKO  
Major, report!  
She collects herself, while looking at Torkin, speaks.

KIRA  
We were slowed by the crowd when two shots came out of nowhere. Odo disarmed them and then the crowd became very unfriendly...  
(to Sisko)  
I let you down... I let Bajor down.

Sisko has no words of comfort or advice, instead he moves closer to Bashir.

SISKO  
What's the prognosis, doctor?

BASHIR  
(working)  
I'm not sure.

He picks up a tricorder and reads aloud. He is very focused and preoccupied.

BASHIR  
(continuing)  
Blood pressure low, heart rate is down, fourth degree burn on chest.

He looks up at Sisko and shakes his head in dismay.

BASHIR  
(continuing, working)  
It's not good. I wish I had more experience with Cardassians.

SISKO  
(worried)  
Can you save him?

Bashir continues his work and does not look up.

BASHIR  
(working)  
I won't make any promises...

Bashir leaves the sentence unfinished, Sisko then contemplates what he's heard.

SISKO  
(quietly)  
Is he going to die?

Bashir doesn't respond right away, he's still very busy. The two N.D.

technicians are handing Bashir a rapid succession of medications and instruments.

BASHIR  
(to N.D. technician)  
Five c.c.'s of cordrazine.

The N.D. technician hands over a hypo and Bashir administers it.

SISKO  
Should we transport him to the Cardassian ship?

BASHIR  
(working)  
Absolutely not! He barely made it here. He's critical, a combination of injuries and extreme age.

SISKO  
(interested)  
Really? How old would you say?

BASHIR  
(working)  
One hundred seventy eight years old.

KIRA  
(quietly)  
I had no idea Cardassians lived so long...

BASHIR  
Usually they don't. Military states aren't conducive to longevity.

TWO SHOT - KIRA AND SISKO

Sisko now speaks to Kira in a quiet but firm voice.

SISKO  
Let's leave Bashir to his work. Right now, you have a new assignment, restore order to this station.

KIRA  
(surprised)  
You're joking! I'd need ten times the force I have now!

SISKO  
Then get them! Call Norlin and tell him to send help or loose this station.

Kira is now revitalized and determined.

KIRA  
Right away, Sir.

AS BEFORE

Kira turns and exits quickly. Sisko watches her leave then turns back to address Bashir.

SISKO  
You want help from the Cardassians?

BASHIR  
No, I'm familiar with their methods. I'll call you if there's a change...

Sisko takes the dismissal cue and exits sickbay.

EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE AND MORD'AN (OPTICAL)

The Cardassian ship is still docked to the station

INT. DEEP SPACE NINE - CORRIDOR #1

The corridor is crowded with more Bajorans than usual. They are yelling insults and threats at the security team outside the main brig. Sisko pushes his way through the crowd and enters.

ODO'S DUTY OFFICE

Neither Odo nor Worf are in sight, so Sisko calls out.

SISKO  
(curious)  
Odo? Worf?

With no answer, Sisko calls out again, louder.

SISKO  
Constable?

ODO (V.O.)  
(o.c.)

In here, Captain. In the main brig!

MAIN BRIG

Sisko enters, but sees nothing and calls out again.

SISKO  
Odo?

ODO (V.O.)  
(o.c.)

Be right with you.

Sisko follows the voice to the back of the brig. Here he finds Odo exiting a cell.

SISKO  
(urgently)

What have you found out?

Odo reestablishes the security barrier and Worf appears from a nearby cell.

ODO  
Same story with this one, Worf.

SISKO  
(confused)

What story?

WORF  
It seems everyone knows what's going on here.

SISKO  
I suppose it was only a matter of time before the word got out --

Worf produces a tricorder and hands it to Sisko.

WORF  
It was easier than that, Captain.

Sisko studies the tricorder then, angry, points to it.

SISKO  
This was on Bajoran news nets?

WORF  
Ever since the Cardassians arrived, Bajor has been getting updates on what's happening here...

ODO  
...from the Cardassians!

CUT TO:

MEETING ROOM

Everyone is present again, plus Garak. All are seated except Sisko, who is pacing and angry.

SISKO  
Bakat! I've just learned that you have been sending news releases to Bajor ever since

you arrived. While I've been trying to maintain order, you've been fanning the flames. Why?

BAKAT  
They have a right to know. Your rules state the proceedings be made public.

Sisko is stunned, he retakes his seat and continues.

SISKO  
You want them to know?

BAKAT  
Why not? Are you afraid they won't like what you're doing here?

SISKO  
(controlled)  
I'm trying to diffuse the situation by conducting an impartial hearing and keeping your associates alive!

RAGAN  
(sarcastic)  
I understand you're not doing well...

(beat)  
How is the Arnen-Gul?

Sisko gets quiet and Worf responds.

WORF  
Our surgeon is still working on him

RAGAN  
In other words, not very hopeful.

WORF  
We prefer to remain hopeful

SISKO  
In any event, I want to conclude this meeting as soon as possible!

ON QUARK

Quark has been sitting wide eyed and quiet ever since Sisko began speaking. Now he stands and tries to regain his feeling of importance.

QUARK  
(nervous)  
Well, now we can resume the hearing. The next item is the questioning of tailor Garak.

(to Garak)  
Would you please answer a few questions, Garak?

AS BEFORE

Garak is surprisingly easy going and willing to help.

GARAK  
(smiling)

Of course, I'd be happy to.

Bakat looks very cocky and smug. Quark sits and speaks.

QUARK  
(sitting)

Advocate Vanir?

VANIR

Thank you. First of all, Garak, do you know why you have been called?

GARAK

Of course, you're attempting to determine ownership of this station.

VANIR

Correct. What is your business?

GARAK

Tailor extraordinaire, I carry a--

VANIR  
(interrupting)

I'm sure. Have you always been a tailor.

GARAK

No. I once served Cardassia in an official capacity.

VANIR

And you retired to pursue another career?

GARAK  
(bitter)

Actually, I was asked to leave, for the good of Cardassia.

Vanir smiles, he senses a means of proving a point.

VANIR  
(smiling)

Then you're no longer an official representative of Cardassia.

Bakat, Ragan and Minak react visibly. Bakat sits forward in his chair, giving Garak a knowing look.

ON GARAK

GARAK

(looking at Bakat)

My dear sir. Why else would I live on a station where everyone despises me? I'm not even officially a Cardassian citizen.

VANIR'S VOICE

(o.c.)

Then you have not been acting on behalf of the Cardassian government.

There is a deafening silence as Garak thinks.

AS BEFORE

GARAK

(smiling at Bakat)

No. I have not.

With Garak's words, Bakat jumps to his feet and yells in a rage.

BAKAT

You traitor!

Bakat pulls a hidden weapon and points it at Garak. Just as he fires, Worf wrestles him to the floor, deflecting the shot. Garak looks at Worf and smiles.

GARAK

(appreciative)

Nice work, Klingon.

SISKO

Mister Worf! Place Gul Bakat under arrest!

WORF

(smiling)

Gladly.

RAGAN

You can't do that! He is part of the official delegation --

SISKO

(interrupting)

A status he lost by using a concealed weapon!

(tapping comm badge)

Chief? Transport Worf and his prisoner directly to the brig. Next, return Ragan and

Minak back to their ship. Then, reestablish the transporter blocks, understood?

O'BRIEN'S VOICE

Right away, Sir!

As the meeting breaks up, Sisko turns to Vanir.

SISKO

You did a wonderful job, Advocate. Unfortunately, we may have a war!

Vanir reacts with sheer terror.

Off his reaction...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

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## Comp Ops Report

### By John Troan

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After not having space for my report last month, I have only a little space this month, so this one's going to be short.

Shuttle *Discovery* is being processed for the next flight, currently set for no earlier than May. NASA is still working on fixing the foam-shedding problems. They're looking at removing the piece of foam that broke off, but need to do more testing to make sure this fix doesn't cause other problems.

*Cassini* is continuing its tour around Saturn, with new reports that it has found geological activity at Enceladus. Images show multiple icy jets leading away from the moon's surface.

*Opportunity* and *Spirit* just celebrated a full Martian year (687 Earth days) of activity. Both are still operating in good condition, with *Spirit* doing nighttime astronomical observations because of good power supply from the solar cells.

News this week from Hubble observations shows that Uranus now has more moons and rings than previously thought. *Voyager 2* actually saw them first in 1986, but they were so faint and so far out from the planet that no one looked there. Recent reexaminations do show their existence then, too.

Looking to the future and the farthest planet, NASA is preparing the *New Horizons* probe for a trip to Pluto and Charon. Launch is scheduled for January and Jupiter flyby is planned in early 2007 to provide a gravity assist slingshot and a test of the probe's instruments and flyby capabilities.

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## Upcoming Events

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<b>Jan.</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Fisher Home</b>
	<b>15</b>	<b>7 p.m. Anniversary Party Kanki at Crabtree (see J.R.'s article for details)</b>
<b>Feb.</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Fisher Home</b>

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