

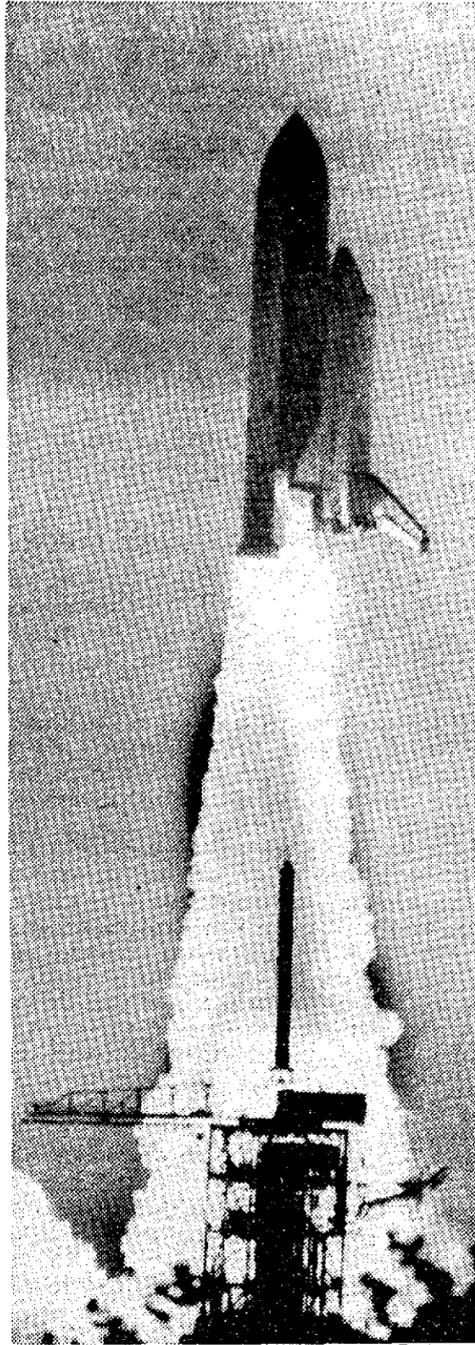
# Shuttle launch perfect



**A space Challenger and its crew**

The crew of the seventh space shuttle mission leaves its quarters Saturday morning at Kennedy Space Center (left photo). Leading the crew is the mission command-

er, Robert L. Crippen. Others are mission specialist Sally K. Ride; engineer John M. Fabian (waving); Dr. Norman Thagard (left rear) and pilot Frederick H. Hauck. Hours



AP photos

## 1st American woman put into space

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Sally Ride became the first American woman to leave her planet Saturday as she and four male astronauts rode seven million pounds of rocket power into orbit in a perfect launch to start six busy days aboard the space shuttle Challenger.

A quarter-million spectators crowded highways, beaches and river banks to view the thunderous departure and to witness history. Many wore T-shirts and buttons proclaiming, "Ride, Sally, Ride."

At 7:33 a.m. — right on schedule — Ride became the first woman to fly on a U.S. spaceship. Eighty-seven male astronauts preceded her, beginning with Alan Shepard in 1961.

### Flight engineer

The 32-year-old astrophysicist, an astronaut since 1978, served as flight engineer during the seventh shuttle ascent into orbit. She kept an eye on the blinking dials and called out checklists for mission commander Robert Crippen.

"Space shuttle Challenger has delivered to space the largest human payload of all time — four men, one woman," said a NASA spokesman. Never before had more than four people been launched.

Ride was unabashedly enthusiastic about her launch.

"See you Friday," she told Mission Control as Challenger neared orbit.

She asked mission communicator Roy Bridges, "Have you ever been to Disneyland?" She then described the launch as "definitely an E ticket." The E ticket was once the premium ticket for Disneyland rides.

### On second flight

"Nice riding machine," said Crippen, who is making his second shuttle flight. He piloted the Columbia on its April 1981 debut.

The other crewmen are all rookies from the 1978 astronaut training class. They are pilot Rick Hauck, 42, and mission spe-

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## Fed chairman Volcker is reappointed

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Reagan said Saturday that he has asked Paul Volcker to accept reappointment as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board and that Volcker has agreed to continue in the post.

Reagan made the surprise announcement from Camp David, Md., as he opened his weekly radio broadcast to the nation by joking, "I have a story that will crack this town wide open."

"I have today asked Chairman Paul Volcker to accept reappointment for another term. He has agreed to do so, and I couldn't be more pleased. Paul Volcker is a man of unquestioned independence, integrity and ability," Reagan said.

"He is as dedicated as I am to continuing the fight against inflation, and, with him as chairman of the Fed, I know we'll win that fight."

Volcker, 55, was appointed by President Jimmy Carter in 1979. He was previously chairman of the New York Federal Reserve Bank. His four-year term would

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## 4,700-mile maiden flight

# MX test called 'magnificent'

VANDENBERG AFB, Calif. (AP) — The controversial MX missile, promoted as the new workhorse in America's nuclear arsenal, soared to a "magnificent" 4,700-mile maiden flight over the Pacific despite attempts by peace activists to stop the test.

The unarmed missile, standing 71 feet high and weighing 195,000 pounds, roared aloft over the California coast at 7:10 p.m. Friday and 30 minutes later dropped six dummy warheads near Kwajalein Atoll.

Air Force officials said the missile performed "exactly" as expected, although

the test was postponed for several hours because of a balky computer and bad weather.

"We feel like we had a magnificent first launch," Brig. Gen. Aloysius Casey, MX program manager, said following the flight to the South Pacific.

Twenty more tests of the MX, which is designed to carry 10 nuclear warheads, were planned before deployment in 1986, with the initial flights to be above-ground launches followed by flights from underground silos.

Casey said the original plans had called

for a test launch roughly every 90 days and initial indications were that schedule could be met. He added, however, that no date has been set for the second test flight and it will be classified.

The Reagan administration, claiming America's 1,000 Minuteman missiles are vulnerable to increasingly accurate Soviet missiles, has proposed placing 100 MX missiles in existing Minuteman silos in Wyoming and Nebraska.

Some opponents argue the new missile system aggravates superpower tension and

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