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## Science News

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# NASA to honor JFK with moon rock

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Published: Oct. 6, 2009 at 9:25 AM

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HOUSTON, Oct. 6 (UPI) -- NASA says it will honor the late President [John F. Kennedy](#) with an Ambassador of Exploration award for his vision and leadership in landing a man on the moon.

The U.S. space agency said the award marks the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 11 lunar landing. Officials said the Kennedy family selected Rice University in Houston to house and publicly display the award, a lunar rock, at Fondren Library.

Kennedy called for a national initiative to go to the moon during a Sept. 12, 1962, speech delivered at Rice University.

Former NASA astronaut Michael Coats, now director of the Johnson Space Center in Houston, will present the moon rock Saturday to Rice University President David Leebron during a halftime ceremony at the Rice-Navy football game.

NASA said game-day attendees can see and touch a moon rock and learn about the space shuttle, International Space Station and future exploration programs by visiting the agency's "Driven to Explore" exhibit. The exhibit will be open 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. CDT at the stadium's Tailgate Owley outside Rice Stadium Gate 3.

NASA is presenting the Ambassador of Exploration Award to the first generation of explorers in the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo

Slideshow  1 of 3



Tourists get a chance to touch a piece of a Moon Rock at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum's "Apollo to the Moon" exhibit on July 20, 2009 in Washington, DC. Today is the 40th anniversary of astronaut Neil Armstrong's first walk on the moon via Apollo 11, on July 20, 1969. The Apollo 11 crew was Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins. (UPI Photo/Pat Benic) | [Enlarge](#)

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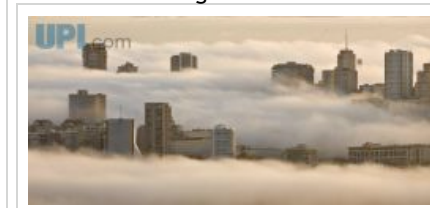
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The award is a moon rock encased in Lucite, mounted for public display. The rock is part of the 842 pounds of lunar samples collected during six Apollo expeditions from 1969 to 1972.

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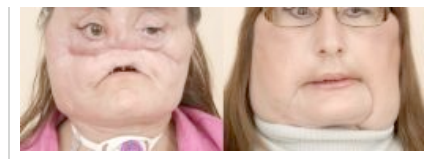
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**Japan braces for Typhoon Melor**

TOKYO, Oct. 7 (UPI) -- Japan is bracing for the arrival of Typhoon Melor, expected to be the first tropical cyclone to make landfall in Japan in two years, weather forecasters say.

- New stone circle unearthed near Stonehenge
- Arabs say Israel damaging Temple Mount
- Reported rapes fall as technology advances
- Schwarzenegger issues mass veto threat

**Entertainment News**



**DeLay, Mazar leave 'Dancing'**

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 7 (UPI) -- Tom DeLay quit "Dancing with the Stars" as expected Tuesday night, while actress Debi Mazar was eliminated from the U.S. competition series.

- New 'Vacation' flick in the works
- Daughter: Tony Roberts is 'feeling great'
- 'Answer' is No. 1 on the U.S. album chart
- Mantel wins Booker Prize for Fiction

Science News



New giant ring discovered around Saturn

PASADENA, Calif., Oct. 7 (UPI) -- The U.S. space agency says its Spitzer Space Telescope has discovered another ring around Saturn -- a giant ring, with material covering millions of miles.

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- Possible new Alzheimer's therapy studied
- NASA announces new video space game

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Dozens of arrests made outside of White House Monday, October 5

Daily Poll

Would it be appropriate if the United States instituted a large surge in the number of troops in an attempt to quickly end the war in Afghanistan?

- Yes
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What's Happening Now?

- 750 rebels slain or captured in Caucasus (<1 min)
- Judge: Enough evidence for Schiele trial (4 min)
- Survey: Britons lie about seeing films (6 min)
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- Wrong card: Happy 100th anniversary (12 min)
- British Airways' unions talk strike (13 min)
- Scandal costly to three Polish ministers (15 min)

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- Helen Keller to be honored with a statue on Capitol Hill. Guess hiding from the Nazis all those...
- After two days of the fire department dismantling a car to rescue a kitten, a Petsmart employee...
- Emergency crews called to the scene and two employees hospitalized after somebody mails them powdered...
- Indian kid shows that the only way to truly become fluent in 10 languages is to spend 7 of your...
- KY rancher wonders why his water tastes funny as he continues to dump trash and dead animals into...
- 7-year old doesn't know he has brain cancer, thinks he's a superhero named The Dominator fighting...

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