

Shuttle, station astronauts relax before parting

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In this image from NASA Television, astronaut Richard Arnold II makes a space walk outside the international space station on Monday, March 23, 2009. (AP Photo/NASA TV)

(AP) -- The astronauts aboard the linked shuttle-station complex are getting some time off before parting company.

The crew will spend Tuesday afternoon recuperating from Monday's third and final [spacewalk](#) of Discovery's mission.

The hatches between Discovery and the [international space station](#) will be sealed Wednesday, and the [shuttle](#) will undock and head home for a Saturday landing.

During Monday's spacewalk, the two educator-astronauts were unable to free a jammed equipment shelf outside the space station.

They used a hammer and pulled with all their might, but nothing worked. [NASA](#) says the repair effort will now fall to station residents or the next shuttle. The platform is needed to store spare parts coming on another shuttle mission this fall.

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