

Atlantis astronauts who fixed Hubble earn day off

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In this photo provided by NASA, the Hubble Space Telescope is shown prior to its release Tuesday May, 19, 2009. A rejuvenated Hubble Space Telescope, more powerful than ever, departed the space shuttle Tuesday and sailed off for new discoveries. Hubble, considered to be at its prime following five days of repairs and upgrades, was gently dropped overboard by the shuttle Atlantis astronauts, the last humans to see the 19-year-old observatory up close. (AP Photo/NASA)

(AP) -- After five grueling spacewalks to fix the Hubble Space Telescope, the crew of the space shuttle Atlantis gets a day off.

NASA managers are giving the seven astronauts well deserved rest on Wednesday. All they have scheduled are a couple of social calls.

In the morning the crew will take part in a news conference with reporters back on <u>Earth</u>. After that, they will make an in-orbit call to



their colleagues on the International **Space** Station.

And what do astronauts do on off days? Usually they look down at Earth, take pictures and play with their food in zero gravity.

Then it's back to work Thursday, getting the shuttle ready for their return to Earth planned for Friday, weather permitting.

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