

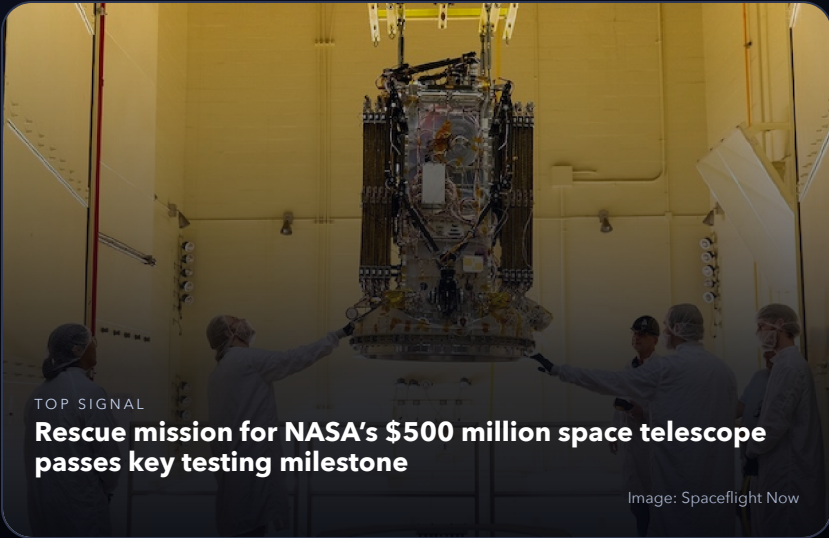
Daily Space Snapshot

May 9, 2026 • Fresh stories, source-linked

TOPLINE

Launch cadence + lunar surface ops are leading today's signal mix.

A mission to prevent a \$500 million NASA space observatory from meeting a fiery demise just passed a notable prelaunch testing milestone. The Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory, a spacecraft launched in 2004, is at risk of falling back through the atmosphere and burning up without intervention.



TOP SIGNAL

Rescue mission for NASA's \$500 million space telescope passes key testing milestone

Image: Spaceflight Now



MARKET MOVE

Black holes slamming into scorching stars may be causing mysterious blue flashes in the cosmos

Image: Space.com



POLICY

NASA's Psyche Mission to Fly by Mars for Gravity Assist

Image: JPL



LAUNCH OPS

SpaceX just fired up its 33-engine Starship 'V3' Super Heavy rocket booster. When could it fly? (video)

Image: Space.com



PROGRAM WATCH

Blue Origin tests 1st moon lander ahead of lunar launch later this year (photo)

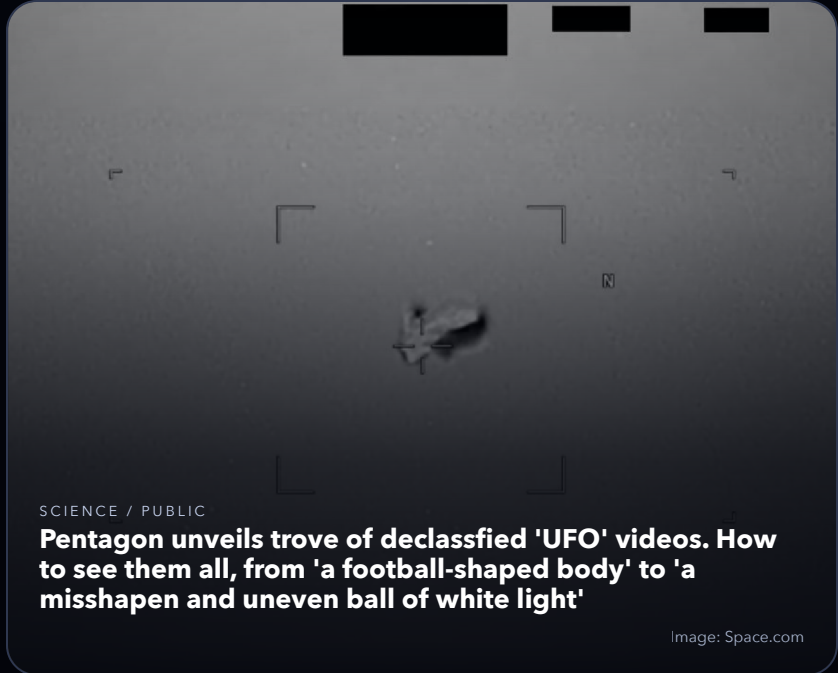
Image: Space.com



HARDWARE

Swift reboost mission completes environmental tests

Image: SpaceNews



SCIENCE / PUBLIC

Pentagon unveils trove of declassified 'UFO' videos. How to see them all, from 'a football-shaped body' to 'a misshapen and uneven ball of white light'

Image: Space.com

SIGNAL METER

Topic Heat



LAUNCH WINDOW

Upcoming Launches

- May 11, 2026 • Wenchang Space Launch Site, China**
Tianzhou 10
- May 11, 2026 • Vandenberg Space Force Base, California, U...**
NROL-172
- May 12, 2026 • Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center, China**
CASC launch listing
- May 12, 2026 • Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Florid...**
CRS SpX-34
- May 13, 2026 • Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center, China**
Landspace launch listing

NARRATIVE BALANCE

Signal Split

