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# New Mexico Spaceport Sees Launch Of Unmanned Rocket

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In its third annual New Mexico Education Launch, the New Mexico Space Grant Consortium sponsored the launch of a rocket carrying artifacts ranging from wedding rings to green chili.

The launch took place in Spaceport America, located near the small town of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. The rocket, a 20 foot unmanned UP Aerospace SpaceLoft XL, blasted off last Friday, making the record breaking journey to sub-orbital distance of the Earth – 73 ½ miles – then returning to the site. The

entire event took roughly 15 minutes. The president of UP Aerospace, Jerry Larson, said they set a new record with this launch.

During the flight from America's first commercial spaceport, the SpaceLoft XL was busy taking readings of the radiation levels, magnetic levitation and a host of other readings.

The program is designed to inspire students and teachers interested in learning more about space, offering them a unique opportunity.



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