

## MERRITT ISLAND HIGH

The StangSat Club at Merritt Island High has continued to work on its tiny cube satellite in preparation for an upcoming NASA launch. The CubeSat, according to NASA's website, provides an "opportunity for small satellite payloads to fly on rockets planned for upcoming launches. These CubeSats are flown as auxiliary payloads on previously planned missions."

Last summer the team built a clean room at the school to use while building the satellite. The satellite will measure the shock and vibration of the launch environment.



*Members of Merritt Island High's StangSat Club pose in front of the mustang at California Polytechnic Institute.*

The team is working in conjunction with a team from

California Polytechnic Institute and the two groups met last spring at the CubeSat Developers' Workshop in San Luis Obispo, CA. The teams have two teleconferences weekly. "The club goes through the same

process any group building a satellite would. We are not treated differently because we are in high school," said program manager, senior Brian Robusto.

Currently the team is working on some design changes and is preparing for integrated testing with its sister satellite from Cal Poly. "I love StangSat because we get to work directly with people who work at NASA. These people are prime examples of what we can do when we grow up if we become engineers," said freshman Margaret Jennings.