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for NASA



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pace Center and plan to work on a

Also, their work could make them role models among other high school students, he said.

Since the Kennedy Space Center visit, the students have gotten back to the job at hand — researching the materials they will need for the bioreactor, getting cost estimates and looking for more grant sources. Also, they are preparing a Web site on their project.

The encouragement they have received from Simmons and Mukherjee and his colleagues — and the possibility that something they created might one day be a research tool in space — keeps them going.

"It's just mind-boggling," Emily said.

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Students stretch minds for NASA

Christian Academy competes for grant

By Beth Reese Cravey
County Line staff writer

When Orange Park Christian Academy teacher Kevin Simmons said he could see student Emily Pratt as a theoretical astrophysicist, she laughed. What a big title for a 16-year-old to wrap her mind around.

Now, after immersing herself in a Simmons-sponsored science project that students hope will one day ride on a NASA space shuttle, and having

