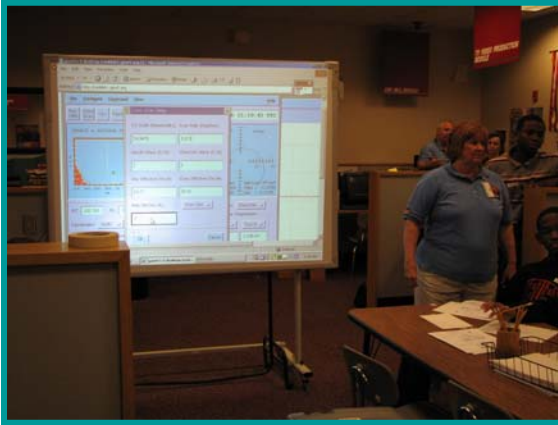


Opelika Middle School Students Collect Data for NASA!



GAVRT Team Member, Pat Reeder, instructs students on how to begin a cross scan using the GAVRT telescope, DSS-12

As reported in the local newspaper, members of the Radio Astronomy Club at Opelika Middle School (OMS) in Opelika, Alabama, had the unique opportunity of working with Dave MacLaren, Director of Global Programs at the Lewis Center for Educational Research, and GAVRT team member, Pat Reeder. On Friday, November 2, the students, along with their teacher, Deborah Lindsey, collected data using the GAVRT telescope, DSS-12.

During his visit, Dave talked to the students about the upcoming JUNO Mission, which will launch an unmanned spacecraft in 2011 and is predicted to reach Jupiter 5 years later, in 2016. Information gathered by the Juno Mission will hopefully answer questions about water in Jupiter's atmosphere as it conducts in-depth studies of this giant planet.

He also announced to the students that their school will participate in NASA's unmanned mission project, the Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite (LCROSS), beginning in the Fall or Winter of 2008.

TV Station, WTVM-9 out of Columbus, Georgia, filmed the students. They interviewed both Dave and Pat. The 3½ minute report aired on the evening news. The newscasters ended the story by just saying, "WOW!"



(L to R) Teacher, Deborah Lindsey, Dave MacLaren, & OMS Principal, Farrell Seymore



Pat Reeder explains to students how to use the Jupiter Uncorrected Data Sheet in order to determine the temperature of Jupiter



OMS students listen and ask questions during their antenna session on Friday, November 2