

NASA's new
super material 10

Q&A: Boeing's
safety chief 14

Rocket Lab's
next step 38

APRIL-JUNE 2026

AEROSPACE

AMERICA

The new space race

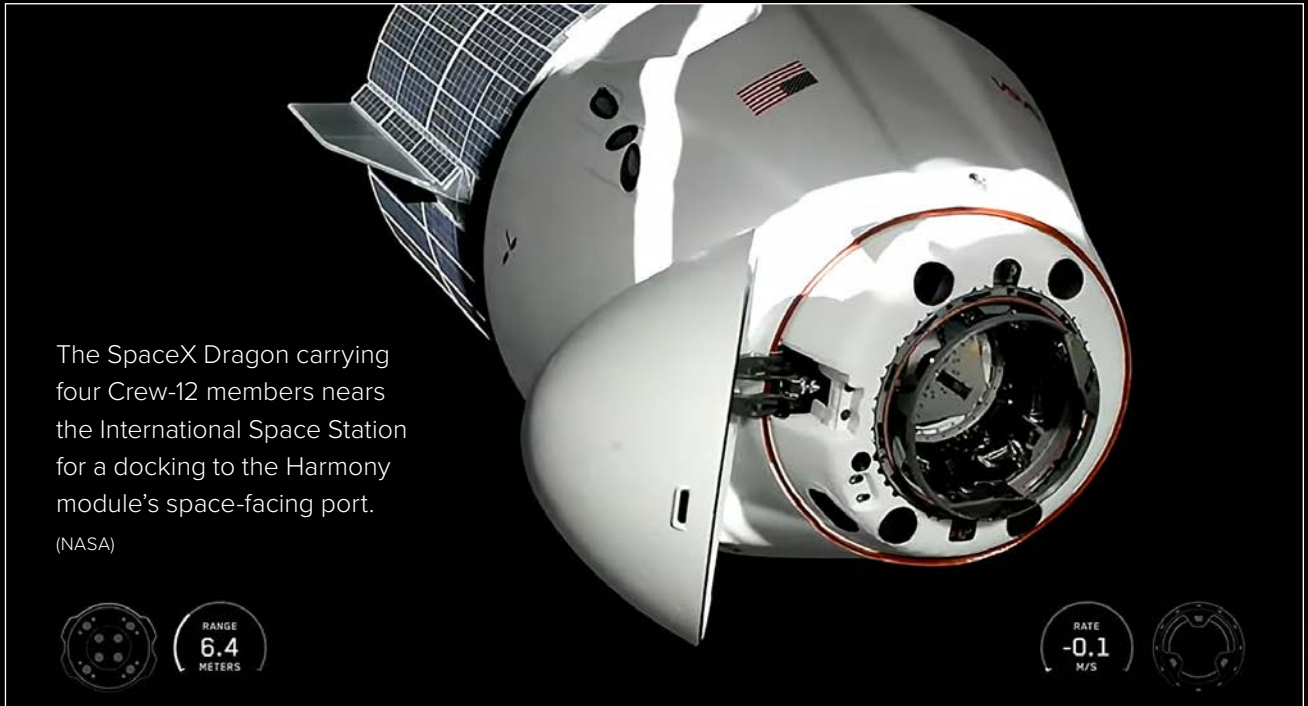
Why the competition is bigger
than landing astronauts on the
moon this decade. **PAGE 32**



 AIAA

ABOVE + BEYOND

AIAA'S PHOTO SECTION HIGHLIGHTING THE BEST IMAGES OF THE QUARTER



A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket and Dragon spacecraft launched at 5:15 a.m. EST, 13 February 2026, from Space Launch Complex 40, Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida. NASA's SpaceX Crew-12 was aboard, headed to the International Space Station, including NASA astronauts Jessica Meir and Jack Hathaway, plus ESA astronaut Sophie Adenot, and Roscosmos cosmonaut Andrey Fedyaev. (NASA/Aubrey Gemignani)



Crew 12 arrives

