

2-14-2006

## Avion 2006-02-14

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

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## ERAU to train JetBlue instructors



PHOTO COURTESY DAVE WONG  
COLLAGE BY DON MACANLALAY

## ERAU ice hockey season ends with overtime loss



ZACH MAHONE/AVION

EVEN THOUGH THE LAST game of the season ended with a loss, the Ice Hockey club delivered yet another exciting game, filled with tension and fighting with the opponent, the Ice Bulls from the University of South Florida.

## Student to redesign campus 'fountain'

David Scotland  
Staff Reporter

It has been a source of complaints for many months now. Some say it is reminiscent of a water main break, others say it just looks stupid. One student has stepped forward in an attempt to convince the administration of the University to redesign the fountain located outside the student center.

Dominik Niziol, a graduating senior, decided he was going to do something about this campus eyesore. He recalled his reaction upon first seeing the fountain via email.

"I hated it and couldn't figure out how the school would waste money (donated or not) on something as pathetic."

Niziol then set out to find a way to have the fountain redesigned. His first stop was at the office of the Student Government Association President, Sara McCook. McCook gave him her blessing and offered to lend her hand in whatever way she could. Niziol then went to speak with Civil Engineering Professor, Dr. Fugler.

Fugler, too, offered to help by integrating the project into his fall semester Construction Engineering course as the final project. The students were asked to

Please see "FOUNTAIN," page A2

Brian Case

Business Manager

A strong offense and several stellar saves by goaltender Kyle DePace were not enough to save the Ice Hockey Club from defeat Friday. The Eagles closed the season with an overtime loss to the University of South Florida Ice Bulls 3-2.

A capacity crowd welcomed the Eagles to the ice for the 10:30 p.m. game. For most of the game, the two teams were matched evenly in speed and skill, keeping the score low and the action high.

The Eagles took the lead 12 minutes into the first period when James Wilson got the puck past the Bulls' goaltender, claiming the first goal of the evening. The Eagles had just wrapped up a power play seconds before, capitalizing on the Bulls' weakness.

The second period opened with the Eagles serving the last minute of a major penalty from before the break. The game pressed on with the puck constantly changing sides, both teams battling for control. After multiple shots on goal, the Bulls scored, evening the score to 1-1.

Please see "HOCKEY," page A6

Joshua Brown

Advertising Manager

Recently, the College of Aviation at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University agreed to help train the flight instructors of JetBlue Airways, an award-winning, low-cost airline. With the new contract in place, Embry-Riddle will deliver JetBlue's Initial Training Course (TS1) and Recurrent Training Course (TS2).

Training is scheduled to begin in early 2006 and will be conducted by Embry-Riddle's own Aeronautical Science department. The training has been designed to enhance the pilot training programs for JetBlue's fleet of Airbus and Embraer aircraft. All current and incoming instructors who provide academic and simulator training to front-line pilots will be participating in introductory and advanced courses designed to boost teaching effectiveness.

"We are thoroughly excited about this relationship and what it may hold for the future..." stated Tim Brady, Dean of Embry-Riddle's College of Aviation, as quoted in ERAU press release. He further stated that the goal of the school is "to provide the finest pilot instruction in the industry, and JetBlue wants to provide its flight instructors with the best and latest information. It's a perfect fit."

According to Mike Barger, Vice

President of JetBlue University, "The flight training programs at JetBlue University rank among the best in the world. Our collaboration with Embry-Riddle will allow us to elevate our world-class facility to a new level of effectiveness, and our JetBlue crewmembers will benefit greatly from this partnership."

Training will take place at JetBlue's Orlando, Florida facility and at Embry-Riddle's Daytona Beach campus. The programs initiator, Antonio Cortes, Assistant Professor of Aeronautical

Science, will direct Embry-Riddle's efforts. Cortes states that, "Embry-Riddle will teach JetBlue instructors how to create optimal learning environments designed specifically for JetBlue pilots." He went on to give praises of how impressed he

has been by "JetBlue's zeal for enriching what is already a highly respected pilot training program."

Separately Embry-Riddle and JetBlue Airways have accomplished a lot. Embry-Riddle has been training pilots for almost 80 years and JetBlue has won many awards for its dedicated flight service over the past years. Together, executives of both companies' say the new program will combine JetBlue's cultural values with Embry-Riddle's successful teaching methods creating an outstanding curriculum that will provide the airline with unique, customer-tailored instruction.

**"We are thoroughly excited about this ... what it may hold for future ..."**

- TIM BRADY

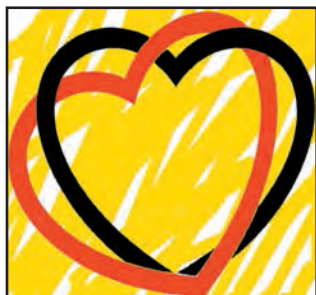
## Daytona 500 comes around again



AVION FILE PHOTO

THE 2006 DAYTONA 500 frenzy started this weekend with the usual fan traffic, traffic jams, collisions and rain. The 500 Qualifying, which determines the starting lineup for the big race, was held on Sunday. Jeff Burton, the #31 car, obtained the Bud Pole at the qualifiers and the defending champion, Jeff Gordon, the #24 car, received the outside pole.

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Valentine's special with personal messages

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Student Government updates

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2006 Winter Olympics open in Torino, Italy

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By students, for students.

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## UTD date auction 'best yet'

Jonathan Mettin  
Managing Editor

Students packed the Student Center on Friday night for the annual Date Auction, hosted by Up 'Til Dawn (UTD). The event raised almost \$3,000, with half a dozen of the more than 20 dates going for \$200 or more.

The event was raising money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. After a rather unsuccessful 2004-05 auction that raised less than a thousand dollars, a heavyweight lineup that included both the homecoming queen and the homecoming king, as well as several spur-of-the-moment volunteer dates, helped push the 2005-06 total to \$2,934, a record amount. Women in particular were in high demand, with none of the planned participants going for below \$135. Double- and triple-dates were also on the bill, going for \$170 and up.

The date auction went really well," said UTD Director Ashley Tanner, who, herself, went up for sale.

The most expensive date of the night was a double date with cheerleaders Michelle Brown and Heather Owen, with Phi Delta Theta purchasing the pair for \$400. Homecoming Queen Heather Van Antwerp was the leading single date, going for \$270 after a heated three-way bidding war. Homecoming King Kent Kalogera was the priciest male, entertaining the crowd with backflips and crabwalks to the tune of \$160.

"This was definitely the best date auction I've ever seen," Van Antwerp, a veteran of two previous date auctions, said. "I was really glad there was a great turnout."

Hosts Jana Eick and Alec Matthews introduced each of the dates, who

strutted out to their own theme music. The auctionees each had a chance to say something about themselves, which left the door open for some hilarious moments.

Pi Kappa Alpha's Fitz Madu described himself as "like a good cup of coffee: hot, black and strong."

Britney Commander got a little more specific, saying, "My perfect date would be Peter Masters, smothered in chocolate, with whipped cream and a cherry on top." Her wish was fulfilled with a \$205 bid after a long bidding exchange.

Deandre Robertson, originally from Jamaica, wooed the ladies with a dance as he came on stage, before saying he likes his women lighter-skinned than himself. "The lighter the better, if you know what I'm saying," he said with a grin, as Matthews, standing beside him, jokingly tugged at his stark white shirt. Robertson agreed to take off an article of clothing for every bid - unfortunately for the ladies, he only got to \$40, but that was enough to leave him shirtless on stage.

Saul Medina, also known as "Tito" and "The Latin Lover," also was dropping not-so-subtle hints, saying "I like my dates simple: dinner and a movie. She can be my dinner while we're making a movie." He went for \$50.

Judith Miller got the bids by playing to the crowd assembled. "You can talk planes with me. I like planes." That was good enough for \$150.

"I'm just glad we raised so much money for one event," Van Antwerp said, "and it was a lot of fun."

"It was definitely our best date auction yet," said Tanner. "A great big thank you to everyone who helped out."



CHEERLEADERS HEATHER OWEN (LEFT) and Michelle Brown strut their stuff at Friday's date auction. The event raised almost \$3,000 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

## Students' sub hits the world stage

Soh Teng Ong

Special to *The Avion*

An ambitious group of students will soon be on their way to Singapore to showcase designs for a new, airplane-dropped submarine.

Their organization, the Underwater Projects Group (UPG), designed the Trident MK1, offering an integration of unprecedented marine mobility and air-deployment capabilities. The Trident MK1 may be disembarked from the C-130 Hercules or C-5 Galaxy transport category aircraft at altitudes ranging from 10 feet to 1,000 feet above sea level for utilization in inaccessible underwater areas. In underwater terrain, the craft is highly effective in its maneuvering ability and can move as fast as 50 knots with its retractable and omni-directional propulsion system.

The Trident MK1 can be customized for various applications based

on the requirements of our potential business clients. The team has looked into developing Trident MK1 Military with additional functionalities, including torpedo launches in combat scenarios, unmanned aerial vehicle deployment and strategic surface-to-air/surface missile engagements. It can also be configured into a research and development (R&D) platform for operations such as sea floor mapping, deep-sea salvage, and extended underwater applications. The Trident is also projected to surpass its predecessors in search and rescue (SAR) operations, which conventionally involves search crafts deployed from a mother ship. Finally, it can also be modified with fiber-glass panels for luxurious recreational travel and underwater tourism, such as undersea viewing of wreck sites and leisure guided tours into the ocean depths.

From initial conceptualization based on an artist's impression, UPG has promptly moved on to

designing, building and testing the miniature test prototype, with considerations on hull thickness, weight, material and shape of craft. With the aid of highly advanced and well equipped engineering laboratories and the unduly support given to the group by the Student Government Association, Dr. Frederick, Assistant Provost for Research and Graduate Studies, Mr. Gary Hamme, Vice-President of Marketing and Enrollment Management, the office of Alumni Relations and Enterprise Florida, they have successfully verified that our designs are realistic and operational. Now, they all set to present their design at the Asian Aerospace Exhibition, held Feb. 21-26, 2006 in Singapore.

Asian Aerospace is the second largest aerospace exhibition in the world, with numerous trade delegates and over 20,000 visitors from both commercial corporations and government organizations worldwide.

The group hopes to attract potential investors and business partners in order to achieve their next milestone of physically constructing and employing the Trident in real-life applications.

The ERAU team is led by students Jonathan Hung, John To, Hendra Ahmad and Victor Chai and will depart shortly for the exhibition. The team hopes to market the design and acquire new funding to materialize the Trident concept.

## Housing selects RDs for '06 - '07

Jonathan Mettin

## Managing Editor

The Housing Department of Embry-Riddle selected the Resident Directors (RDs) for the upcoming academic year earlier this month. Current McKay Hall RD Nick Currie will be returning for a second year, but will be joined by four newcomers, all current Resident Advisors (RAs).

Jessie Wolfrum will take the helm of Adams and Wood Halls. Lionel Amanfu will head up O'Connor and Stimpson Halls, while Alison McHugh inherits the incoming freshmen in Doolittle Hall. Drew Jeffrey rounds out the RD class, and will oversee the off-campus Chanut Complex.

According to April Williams, the Assistant Director of Residence Life, applicants for the position have to undergo a rigorous application process, including an application and two interviews - one with the Directors of Housing and Residence Life, then another with the Assistant Directors in Housing. Applicants also must prepare a presentation on a topic relating to resident advising, such as conflict resolution or activity programming.

"They're going to be phenomenal," Williams said, "They're ready to take on the world ... I'm very excited to work with them."

Housing's Jason Chokel had nothing but good things to say about the new RDs. "The selection process is very thorough," he said. "It's very competitive ... they all will bring great strengths." Last year Chokel supervised the RAs and RDs before changing positions at the beginning of the current academic year.

The Housing office is currently in the process of selecting RAs for the coming academic year as well. After the initial round, the initial applicant pool of 68 has been slimmed down to 48, before the interview process narrows it down to 25 candidates.

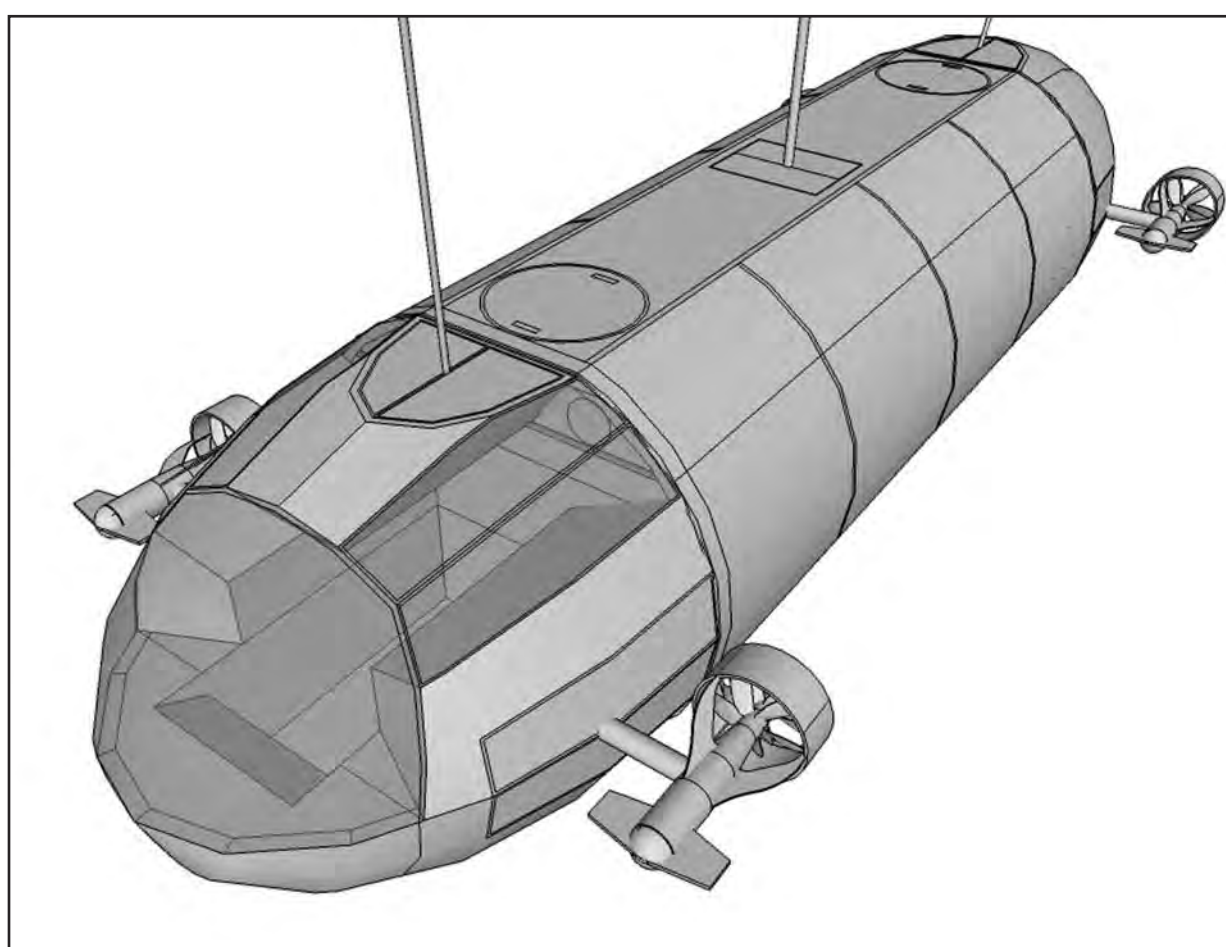


IMAGE COURTESY SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL AEROSPACE ASSOCIATION

THE TRIDENT MK1 IS designed to be launched from a C-130 or C-5 from up to 1,000 feet. Designed by a group of students, the team will travel to the Asian Aerospace Exhibition next week to recruit potential investors and business partners.

## "FOUNTAIN" from Front

redesign the fountain in whatever way they pleased, their only criteria was to keep the cost of the project under \$25,000. Fugler said his students were extremely enthused about the project, as most of the students agreed they did not care for the current fountain. In the end his class produced three designs, along with a cost breakdown, construction schedule, parts list

and vendor requirements for each of the designs.

The designs were then given to Niziol, who last week conducted a forum of sorts, placing the designs on display in the student center for student input on which design they liked best. He also called for any suggestions they might have. The designs, ranging from a Space Shuttle with a water exhaust, to a floating, rotating globe, were all voted on. Niziol said Friday that he believes that the rotating globe is in the lead thus far.

The final results of the voting should be completed in approximately one week's time, at which point Niziol and McCook will present the winning design to President Johnson, who will determine the fate of the project. As long as there is money to fund the project, it would be hard to see why the redesign would not be completed. As Dr. Fugler noted, "Any of the proposed redesigns would be an asset to the campus, they all are in the aviation and aerospace theme of the University."

Italy welcomes athletes as 2006 Winter Olympics open

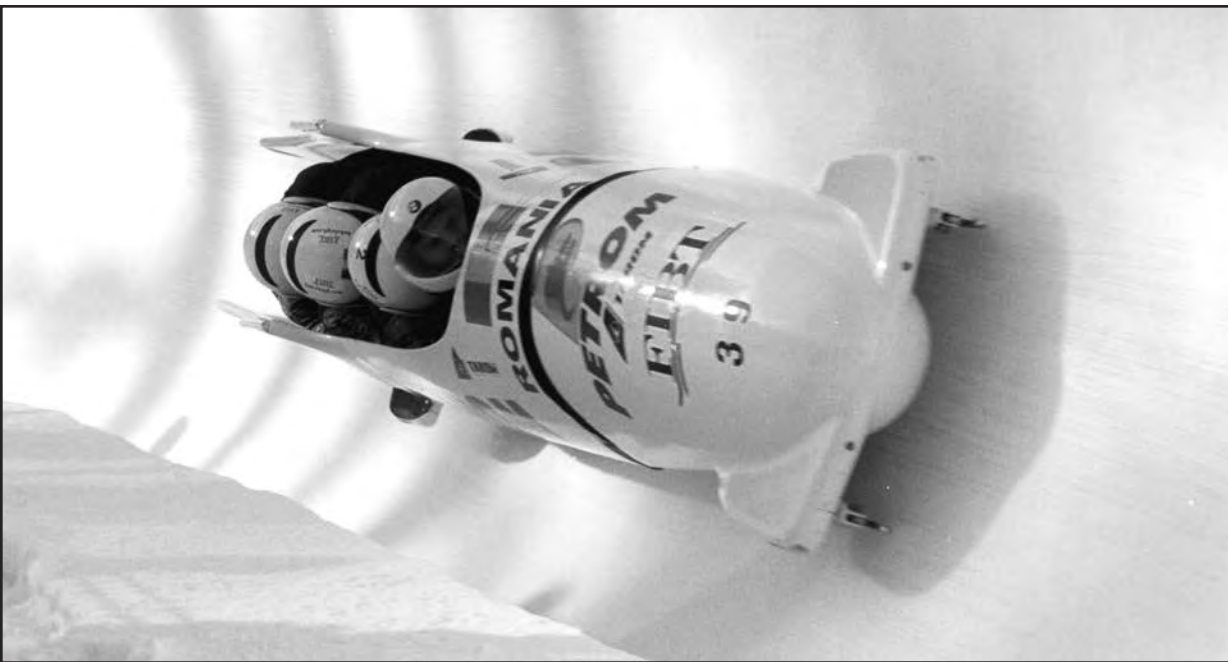


PHOTO COURTESY WWW.LAPRESSE.IT

THE WINTER OLYMPICS KICKED off in Torino, Italy on Friday with the traditional opening ceremony. Events started on Saturday, and will run until Feb. 26.

Nicole Titus

Staff Reporter

Friday night in Torino, Italy, the Winter Olympics started off with a bang...

The spectacular show was the start of 16 days of competition...

The opening ceremonies showcased Italian culture with "rhythm, passion and speed."

Italian cross-country skier Stefania Belmondo lit the Olympic flame...

The Olympic flame had been carried by 10,001 torchbearers for more than 11,000 kilometers...

The games were declared open by Italian President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi.

The ceremonies then started off with a blend of music, choreography, music and light...

Hundreds of volunteers, dancers, music from giant alpenhorns and skaters with flaming heads...

After the unveiling of the five Olympic rings, the gathering of 2,500 athletes from 84 countries paraded...

Athletes from Greece led the parade, followed by each country, including Cold War foes North and South Korea...

The competition began on Saturday, where four gold medals were awarded in the biathlon, women's freestyle moguls...

Chad Hedrick, a speed skater, was the first athlete from the United States to win a gold medal on Saturday.

This is going to give me confidence to do the next race," Hedrick said.

Chad Hedrick, a speed skater, was the first athlete from the United States to win a gold medal on Saturday.

This is going to give me confidence to do the next race," Hedrick said.

The more fun I have, the better I perform. I'm ready to go.

The Winter Olympics competitions also include other disciplines, such as ice hockey, luge, short track speed skating, skeleton, ski jumping, snow boarding, alpine skiing, bobsled, cross-country skiing, curling and figure skating.

In the end, 84 gold medals will be awarded. Torino and the Piedmont Region expects more than one million spectators at the events.

torino 2006



FEMA ends housing assistance for victims of hurricanes

Andy Kwok Staff Reporter

Temporary housing assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for thousands of Hurricane Katrina evacuees staying in hotels ended last Tuesday.

Although the deadline has past, FEMA has extended the deadline for evacuees occupying more than 20,000 hotel rooms across the nation.

The extended deadline was postponed until yesterday or March 1, depending on their current situation.

However, about 5,000 evacuees failed to file for an extension or declined an extension by the agency.

"Our deadline is not a hard deadline, but we will determine that on a case-by-case basis," FEMA spokeswoman Barbara Ellis told BET.com.

Currently, \$5.1 billion has been spent on housing programs for the hurricane evacuees by FEMA, \$529 million of which was spent toward hotel payments.

FEMA also provided other forms of assistance to victims of both Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. They have approved aid to 1.4 million of 1.8 million victims of Hurricane Katrina who applied.

Meanwhile, many others were unsatisfied with FEMA's progress and have organized protests in cities across the nation.

Last Thursday, a group of New Orleans evacuees protested in Washington D.C. and planned to give a list of additional demands for government officials.

"We are here so our voices can be heard, so our lives and our levees can be rebuilt, so we can go home," march organizer Dorothy Stukes told BBC news.

The list of demands included a rent cap for low income families in New Orleans, strengthening the New Orleans levees with capability to resist a category five hurricane...



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.FEMA.GOV

FEMA STOPPED HOUSING ASSISTANCE for thousands of hurricane victims who are staying in hotel rooms across the nation. About 15,000 were granted an extension, and FEMA still maintains "FEMAvilles" across the nation, like this one in Louisiana.

ERAU Housing Sign-Up and Room Selection

- Housing contracts for ERAU-managed housing for next fall and spring semesters are now available... The housing contract is for the 2006-2007 academic year... Housing is guaranteed for those rising sophomores... Housing for rising juniors and seniors is not guaranteed...

Housing Options and Costs

Table with 2 columns: Housing Option and Cost per resident/semester. Includes McKay Hall, O'Connor Hall, Chanute 1-Bedroom, Chanute 2-Bedroom, Stimpson Hall, and Chanute Studio.

ERAU Department of Housing and Residence Life

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## Divisions are not lesser members of the SGA

Last week, I was sorely disappointed to read Kerri Rottner's response to Jon Mettin's opinions article about SGA division vouchers. I thought I'd offer my two cents.

While I can't speak for Touch-N-Go or EaglesFM, I have worked for The Avion for seven semesters now and can certainly offer my opinion in that regard.

Although the Avion is a volunteer division within the SGA, the sheer amount of work put forth by the staff would likely surprise you. An issue (one of 13 each semester) requires 300+ man-hours. That's almost 4000

hours each semester required to bring you the paper in its current, 18-page format. A typical Sunday involves anywhere between eight and 16 hours of work for each page editor. (Those rough numbers will be available in the office for anyone who wants to see the math.)

All of this effort has won Embry-Riddle the title of "Best College Newspaper in Florida" four of the last five years.

My purpose in writing this article is not for it to serve as the threat of a 'walkout,' quite the opposite. I want to find a way to stop the hemorrhaging, rather than putting a Band-Aid over it, as we did last semester.

Recently, I've noticed a growing trend of unhappiness in the newspaper office; I am among them. Where I used to lay-out multiple pages each week, I now only design a single page. In my opinion, the staff simply doesn't want to do the work anymore. After all, why work for free if it only causes you to be stressed and to dread Sundays as a result?

As you read this, you might be wondering about the size of this week's paper. Currently, we don't have enough people writing to fill an 18-page paper. Staff members are simply not taking stories. Because this is a volunteer organization, we can't require them to submit material. They are under no obligation whatsoever.

Most staff members have other obligations. They, like you, have responsibilities including classes, exams, frat/sorority obligations, jobs, sports and the occasional hour or two of sleep.

Like Ms. Rottner said, they chose to be here. They enjoyed what they were doing and they did it well. But now, because of time

constraints and other responsibilities, they are choosing to leave. We have nothing here to entice them to stay other than a 'pat on the back.' Even that 'pat on the back' is not always easy to come by because some members of the SGA branches (but not all) don't appreciate, or even recognize, the divisions as member of the SGA.

The Avion has always had problems with staff retention. However, it has become a much bigger problem during recent semesters. Finding writers and other students interested in journalism is no easy task at an engineering/flight school. Only two of the 40-or-so Avion staff are Communication majors. In my opinion, the staff is simply stretched too far over too many responsibilities. Even the most seasoned Avion veterans have reached a breaking point.

I have no doubt I'm going to receive a stern 'talking-to' from Mr. Terry Kennedy for offering complaints without any suggestions for a solution. Unfortunately, I have no solution. If I did, I'd implement it and wouldn't

have any need for this article. My point is, it is difficult to continually work so many hours for free knowing full-well that we (the divisions) are the only members of the SGA that are not compensated for the huge amounts of time and energy we devote to delivering our respective products/services. It becomes even more frustrating when we see the newspaper staff at Embry-Riddle's Prescott campus being paid hourly for their efforts.

While I know that many, including myself, would like to see what an all-volunteer SGA would look like, I realize that's a lofty proposal and probably won't happen. It's one of those 'looks-good-on-paper' things. I have a feeling the resulting SGA would be half its current size (at best) and would be far less effective as an organization.

In the meantime, I would greatly appreciate a reasonable explanation from someone within the SGA as to why certain members of the SGA are compensated and

others are not. Arguably, division members put in as many, if not more, than most branch members each and every week. How and why is such a line drawn?

Ms. Rottner mentioned in her analysis of the situation that the only plausible option would be to spread the current vouchers over more members of the SGA. She argued it would translate to a 'paltry' \$500 dollars per person.

I can tell you right now, staff members at the Avion would leap for joy if they were cut a check for \$500. We currently work for free ... why wouldn't we be excited by some small modicum of gratitude?

The divisions are not lesser members of the SGA. They work just as hard as the branches and, in some cases, harder.

If some method of retaining staff (voucher or otherwise) is not found in the near future, the SGA might find itself without its award-winning newspaper, or with a much smaller publication. Again, this is not meant to be a threat ... it's a plea for help.

~Tom Kiley



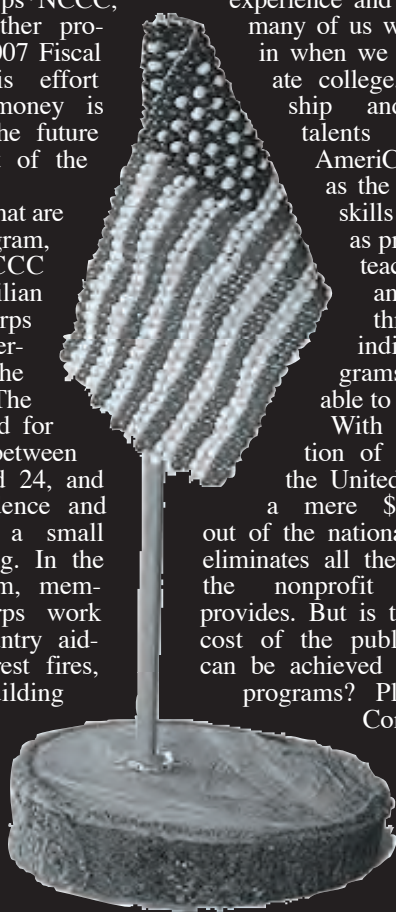
## "Don't Let Our Country Collapse"

In order to save money, President Bush has proposed to eliminate or significantly reduce AmeriCorps\*NCCC, along with 140 other programs out of the 2007 Fiscal Year budget. This effort to save federal money is likely to destroy the future and public interest of the United States.

For those of you that are unaware of this program, AmeriCorps\*NCCC is a National Civilian Community Corps that provides service throughout the United States. The program is designed for men and women between the ages of 18 and 24, and provides full residence and food along with a small allowance for living. In the ten month program, members of AmeriCorps work throughout the country aiding in fighting forest fires, building and rebuilding homes for the less privileged, providing medical and financial advices, as well as many other programs.

not only benefits the people of the United States, but provide the volunteers with some experience and direction that many of us will be lacking in when we finally graduate college. The leadership and teamwork talents produced in AmeriCorps as well as the more specific skills taught, such as preparing taxes, teaching, nursing and first aid, throughout the individual programs are invaluable to our society.

With the elimination of this program, the United States saves a mere \$48.5 million out of the national budget and eliminates all the benefits that the nonprofit organization provides. But is that worth the cost of the public good that can be achieved through these programs? Please talk to Congress and don't let our country collapse. ~Collins McGhee



## Noth responds to Kennedy's article concerning "Positive Encouragement"

It has been more than two years since I first started writing "The Noth Factor" on a weekly basis. In that time, I have had many compliments and complaints personally. However, until last week, there had never been a print response to a single one of my editorials.

When a friend phoned me last Monday and asked if I had seen the article about me, I was taken by surprise. I was pleased to read Mr. Kennedy's response; I congratulate him on taking the time and effort to form a public response in good form. Additionally, I am always pleased to hear from him and others that people are reading my column regularly.

**On Writing The Noth Factor**  
Among the myriad of topics I have written about in "The Noth Factor", ranging from the need for standardized shoe sizes to my utter detest for Wal-Mart's customer service practices, to real needs for government reforms, I have never had the chance to

write about *writing*, specifically about writing the column. This week I had the pleasure of reflecting on the experience.

In his editorial, Mr. Kennedy claimed, "Never does Mr. Noth suggest how we might change ourselves for the betterment of mankind." Unfortunately, Mr. Kennedy missed some of my work. Over the summer, as the debate about eminent domain heated up, I encouraged students to contact local Congressional Representative, John Mica. I even included an address and telephone number; I'm not sure how much more user-friendly I could have made the process.

Furthermore, I think Mr. Kennedy, perhaps like many readers, is unaware that the style and delivery used in writing "The Noth Factor" is intended to entertain. If Mr. Kennedy is offended, perhaps he should simply close the newspaper. Now, in his second week of rebuttals, I find that Mr.

Kennedy is, in fact, taking rather personal jabs at me. This takes a lot of the fun out of writing for me. His decision to put a positive spin on everything I've ever written seems unnecessary; we have the Bush administration to put plenty of spin on all of the bad news.

Mr. Kennedy's decision to cover things that I have written in the past seems to me, to be in particularly bad taste. His self-proclaimed segment "Retro Noth" takes articles from times when I was struggling to come up with content, redisplay them, and then struggles to find some relevant point.

If Mr. Kennedy were interested in being truly creative, he might be able to deliver his positive message in original content. After developing a new topic weekly for two years, I can say that some weeks things come easily, but other weeks are a struggle. However, if I had a baseline to critique on a weekly basis, I'm sure things would have been much simpler.

When I read that suggestion. Along with the entire Embry-Riddle community, I am glad to know that there is someone who can deliver such a simple, yet positive message. From what I understand, my utterly reckless article about radio programming spread great depression campus-wide. I wish to publicly apologize to those students that were driven to the depths of grayness that truly are depressed from my writing; I never meant to harm anyone.

Furthermore, while I was pleased to see one of the local dry-cleaners is now open on Saturdays, I must apologize to the dry-cleaners that slave to clean my clothes. It is not as if they are compensated to do so. Furthermore, I feel saddened that, even in America, where employment is at will, people would work jobs that they do not enjoy, just for the money they receive. It sure is hard, working - and it's not like it's a struggle everyone must face. I was also recently informed that all of my negative energy was actually a leading factor in the breakdown in negotiations between Israel and Palestine; imagine my surprise and disappointment.

Rather than calling things as I see them, I think I will start painting pictures of rainbow-colored people holding hands beneath a smiling sun wherever I go! After today, President Bush is my best friend, customer service methods are unimportant, and I'll be casting my adoration for proper grammar to the wind. With my new mantra in mind, I'll be skipping across the West Lawn and shouting "How can I keep from singing?"

~Christopher Noth

## THE NOTH FACTOR

I recently had the opportunity to see the film "What the Bleep Do We Know?" While I enjoyed the film, I think it might be completely worthless. The film, which *San Francisco Chronicle* critic Ruthe Stein appropriately called "a ponderous documentary," is a slightly over-done docu-drama exploration of the intersection of meta-physics, quantum mechanics and spirituality. I should have known that a film that asks "how far down the rabbit hole [I was] willing to go" would leave me with something to think about for a few minutes, but without anything of real value.

Still, I thought I might be able to apply the film's philosophy to my own life. In some of the opening sequences, the main character is faced with choices about her own emotional state;

she is also instructed that things are only there because she believes they are there and because she sees them.

I truly wish I could apply this theory to my own predicament. I have reserved an aircraft for tomorrow morning, but the weather forecast calls for a 60% chance of thunderstorms. What I really want to do is fly up the coast with some buddies, get a sandwich and come home, without dying or losing my pilot certificate.

According to the theories in "What," as long as I do not see or believe in the thunderstorms, they will not exist. This is a nice theory, but I think it might fall apart in

practice; still, I'm willing to explore the possibilities.

First, let's examine the issue of living, or more specifically, not dying. AOPA reports that there are, on average, 15 thunderstorm-related accidents annually. Could it be that this was simply because the pilots involved looked the storm and believed that it was there, when in fact they could have been believing in some parallel existence? I have my doubts.

Still, if I chose to close my eyes, would the plane crash? Quickly consulting the aircraft manual delivers the quick response - quite possibly. Overstressing in thunderstorms is a very seri-



Christopher A. Noth  
Columnist

## The Rabbit Hole

ous concern, for each and every metaphysical unit of the body.

Addressing the second issue, losing my pilot certificate, I wonder how the FAA would feel about flying an aircraft without IFR equipment through a storm. I can only imagine my conversation with the field office: "So, in the middle of the storm, your plane reeling, you closed your eyes, took your hands off of the controls, and released your spirit into another zone of consciousness?" I don't think they would just revoke my pilot certificate, they would probably also lock me up in a straight jacket.

As much as I do enjoy learning about new philosophies and considering the possibility of out-of-body experience, it just isn't practical.

## Student Forum

The Avion asks: "What is the hardest game you ever played?"

~Compiled by Mijeong Yoon



Adhlere Coffy  
Aerospace Engineering  
Sophomore

"God of War on God mode."



Matthew Lai  
Aerospace Engineering  
Sophomore

"Flight Simulator."



Harshad Lalan  
Aerospace Engineering  
Junior

"Twister."



Kris Bolom  
Aerospace Engineering  
Freshman

"Trivial Pursuit."



Shane Kreger  
Aerospace Engineering  
Senior

"Everquest II."



Jewon Lee  
Air Traffic Management  
Junior

"PacMan."

**GO**

**EAGLES**

**ERAU  
VS.  
FLAGLER**

**Feb. 15**

**7 p.m.**

**ICI Center**

# Basketball clinches second straight FSC title

## Exter, Eagles come from behind to defeat Webber International

Press Release

ERAU Sports Info. Dept.

BABSON PARK - Winter Springs High School product Ryan Exter scored 12 of his 21 points in the second half to lead the No. 1 Embry-Riddle men's basketball team to a 69-60 victory at Webber International after trailing 37-32 at the intermission in Sabbagh Athletic Center.

The victory clinches at least a share of the Florida Sun Conference regular-season title, the second-straight for the Eagles. ERAU can also secure hosting the FSC postseason tournament with a victory on Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. against Flagler in the blue and gold's home finale and what could be the last meeting of the two teams, as the Saints are exploring moving to NCAA Division II next season. The only team that can share the title is second-place Florida Memorial, which is currently in

second-place at 6-2 and has two home games remaining against Webber International on Feb. 15 and Savannah College of Art and Design on Feb. 18.

The two teams opened the contest, battling back-and-forth with four lead changes and two ties in the first nine minutes. Embry-Riddle claimed its final lead of the first half at the 10:59 mark leading 18-17, but Webber International went on an 8-0 run sparked by four points from leading scorer Juan Alvarez to build a 25-18 advantage.

The Warriors secured their largest lead of the half at 31-23 with 6:22 left before the break on a layup by Tomandie Alexander. ERAU's defense sparked a 7-0 run forcing five WIU misses and a turnover. The Eagle offense also picked up its play with three points from Nick Miller on a layup and a free throw, a Pyle layup and a Ryan Exter jumper to trim the Webber lead to one point 31-30 with 3:15 left in the half.

The Eagles suffered shooting woes from the field (12-for-39) and the charity stripe (4-for-13) in the first half, including four straight misses from the line in the final two minutes of the half. This helped the Warriors take a five-point halftime lead 37-32.

Embry-Riddle regrouped in the locker room and came out strong with a 6-0 run started by Exter's second three-pointer of the game, then Miller added a layup and Pyle made a free throw to give the

Eagles a 38-37 advantage - their first lead since the 10:59 mark of the first half.

The teams traded leads over the next six minutes and were tied at 46-46 with 11:19 to go, but the blue and gold pulled away with a 12-2 run over the next four minutes building the largest margin of the game at 58-48. The Eagles had a four-point possession after Denny Joseph made a layup, Murat Hisarkaya was intentionally fouled by WIU's Jared Pena, and Hisarkaya sank both free throws.

Webber only came as close at six points on an Alvarez jumper at the 1:53 mark 62-56. After struggling from the free throw line in the first half, Embry-Riddle received clutch shooting from Jared Bender who sank two with 15 seconds to go after subbing in for Hisarkaya who was poked in the eye inadvertently by Halston Schaffer and then Exter followed with a pair with seven seconds remaining.

Embry-Riddle struggled offensively throughout the game connecting on just 22-of-74 attempts from the floor and shot 29.7 percent for the contest, but fortunately Exter was on hitting 8-for-13 from the field.

The Eagle defense made up for the lack of offense limiting WIU to 7-for-29 shooting (24.1 percent) in the second half and 33.3 percent for the game, after the Warriors converted 14-for-34 in the opening half (41.2 percent).



CHRIS TEZAK/AVION

RYAN EXTER LED THE Eagles' attack on Saturday with 21 points. ERAU clinched at least a share of the conference championship with the win, and can secure home field advantage for the post-season tournament with a win this Wednesday as the Eagles host Flagler in their home finale.

## "HOCKEY" from Front

Then things got ugly. South Florida kicked off the fighting by bringing down a player while the referees were not looking. That was followed by a five minute major against South Florida for a late hit. Tensions escalated when a fight broke out a minute later. When it was all said and done, the penalties were too numerous to fit on the scoreboard. The next four minutes was an Eagles four on three power play.

The extra man advantage meant

easy scoring opportunities for the Eagles. Within a minute, Tucker Field shot at the goal and Jason Scavilla tipped the puck in to put the Eagles ahead 2-1. Unfortunately, the Eagles were unable to score on another power play.

With the Eagles back in the lead, the Bulls were not ready to give up. Goalie Kyle DePace stopped shot after shot but eventually let one through, evening the score 2-2, forcing the game into overtime.

Shortly after the start of overtime, a minor penalty escalated into a major, giving the Bulls a long power play. It

proved to be too much for DePace; the Bulls won with 35 seconds left in overtime.

"We had tons of opportunities, but the puck just didn't go our way," said team captain Jason Scavilla.

Friday's game was the last for Scavilla, who has served as team captain and club President for three years. "I wish the team the best of luck next year," said Scavilla. He graduates in May.

Graduating seniors Nolan Collins, Doug Langlois, Kyle DePace and Tucker Field also saw plenty of ice time.

## Tennis postponed on Saturday

Due to rain, the Embry-Riddle men's and women's tennis matches against Florida Gulf Coast were postponed on Saturday at the Crotty Tennis Complex.

The matches will be rescheduled for a different date that will be decided on upon by the coaches

at a later date.

The women travel next to Winter Park, Fla. on February 15th where they will take on Rollins College at 3:30 p.m., while the men's next contest will be Feb. 24 when they will host Abraham Baldwin at 3 p.m.

## Men's and women's track competes at Tiger Classic

Press Release

ERAU Sports Info. Dept.

CLEMSON, S.C. - Howard Walls and Corey Grafe met the NAIA's Indoor National qualifying requirements in the 60m hurdles and Chris Chidgey qualified in the 800m as the Embry-Riddle men's track team closed out competition at the Tiger Classic hosted by Clemson on Saturday.

Walls met the "A" standard (8.41) for the second time this season, placing seventh overall in 8.32, and Grafe qualified according to the "B" standard (8.71), with an 8.62.

Chidgey was the third qualifying member of the Eagle

squad, posting a 1:52.25 to hit the "B" standard (1:52.50) in the 800m run.

Other notable performers include Drew Moses, who set a new school indoor mark (22.67) in the 200m and missed qualifying for nationals by .6 seconds and Adam Wolf, whose 4:27.72 in the mile eclipsed the old school record by 16 seconds.

Jack McAfee also made his way into the ERAU record books with a 9:13.39 in the 3,000m.

The Embry-Riddle history books saw five records fall as the Eagle women competed on the final day of the 2006 Tiger Classic Indoor Meet hosted by Clemson on Saturday.

Toshiba Cobb bettered the 200m record set by Jennifer Schaus (28.25) at this year's Florida Intercollegiates (Jan. 15), crossing the line in 27.22. Schaus earned another spot in the Eagle record books with a 1:04.91 in the 400m.

Beth McCubbin, who fell after being tripped, recovered to run a program best 2:26.70 in the 800m and was a member of the record-breaking 4x400m relay team along with Bridget Brown, Audie and Schaus which ran a 4:21.63.

Lori Costello also gave a solid performance with a school best 10:55.73 in the 3,000m.

The Eagles will compete in the Winter Sun #2 Indoor Meet on Feb. 18.



ZACH MAHONEY/AVION

EMBRY-RIDDLE'S ICE HOCKEY Club finished their season on Friday with an overtime loss to the University of South Florida. Despite strong offensive play and stellar goaltending, the Eagles 3-2 defeat to the Ice Bulls was the last game for many ERAU seniors.

# No. 3 ranked Eagles take three over weekend

Press Release

ERAU Sports Info. Dept.

DAYTONA BEACH - Bernie Hurley and Amadis Padilla combined for seven hits and six RBI over two games to lead the third-ranked Embry-Riddle (8-3) baseball team to a doubleheader sweep of Union (Tenn.), Friday at Sliwa Stadium. The Eagles edged the Bulldogs 4-3 in the first game and pounded out 13 hits en route to an 11-0 shutout in game two.

Hurley hit his first homer of the year in the first game and followed with two hits (including a triple) and two RBI in the second, while Padilla knocked out a pair of hits and double in each game.

Left-handers David Timm (2-1) and Brian Letko (3-0) each recorded complete game wins with Timm scattering three earned runs on five hits with six strikeouts, and Letko surrendering just two hits and striking out two in his first shutout of the season.

Victor Roldan (2-for-3, 1 RBI) plated the first run of the first game

in the second inning, boarding on an infield single and scoring on Padilla's (2-for-2) double to the left centerfield gap.

In the top of the third, a single and a walk put runners on second and third with two outs and Jud Powers (2-for-3) singled through the left side to put the Bulldogs up 2-1. Zach Lowery (1-for-3) extended the lead to 3-1 one in the top of the fourth with a solo homerun to left field.

Hurley used the long ball to pull the Eagles within one in the fifth with a solo shot to left field. Padilla followed with a single through the left side, moved to third on back-to-back ground outs and scored on a Bulldog fielding error to knot the score at 3-3.

In the bottom of the sixth, Roldan hit a round tripper off the scoreboard (his third of the season) to clinch the 4-3 Eagle win.

The Eagles launched a two-out rally to start the second game, scoring five runs on six hits to take a 5-0 lead in the first. Shawn Williams (2-for-2) and Josh Smith (2-for-3, 2 RBI) both singled through the left side and

Williams came across on Roldan's (1-for-3, 1 RBI) single to right. After Hurley and Padilla drove in a run each, both runners scored on Michael Brady's (2-for-3, 2 RBI) single to give the Eagles the five-run cushion.

After Hurley came across for the sixth run of the game in the third inning, the Eagles batted round the order and erupted for five more runs in the fifth. Derrick Pyles (2-for-3) extended his hitting streak to nine games with a one-out triple to right field.

After Williams (2-for-2) was hit by a pitch, Smith smacked a double to left center field to score both runners. Brian Swanson (running for Smith) advanced to third on a wild pitch and scored when the Bulldogs' catcher bobbled the ball in an attempt to get the runner out at the plate.

Hurley recorded the second triple of the inning and tallied the Eagles' final run on Padilla's ground-rule double to left field.

The Eagles and the Bulldogs close out the three-game set with a game at noon on Saturday.

Press Release

ERAU Sports Info. Dept.

DAYTONA BEACH - Shawn Williams' two-for-two, three-RBI day led the third-ranked Embry-Riddle baseball team to an 11-0 shutout of Union (Tenn.) on Saturday. The Eagles, who topped the Bulldogs by the same margin in the second game of Friday's doubleheader, tallied four runs in the first, one in the fifth and six more in the sixth to improve to 9-3 on the year.

Williams paced the Eagles' 12-hit offense, with Josh Smith (2-for-4), Josh Doane (2-for-3, 1 RBI) and Amadis Padilla (2-for-2) contributing two hits each. Victor Roldan (1-for-4) added two RBI, while Derrick Pyles (1-for-4, 1 RBI) extended his hitting streak to 10 games with a single in the first inning.

The Eagles batted round the order against Union starter Zane Adams and opened the scoring

with four runs on five hits in the first. Doane walked to lead off the first inning, moved to third on a stolen base and a Bulldog throwing error and scored on Pyles' single up the middle.

Williams doubled home Pyles and came across on Smith's single to right field. After the Bulldogs turned a double play, Bernie Hurley (1-for-3) kept the inning going with a single through the left side.

Courtesy runner Brian Swanson stole second, moved up on an Padilla single and recorded the Eagles' fourth run on Union's botched attempt to pick off Padilla at first.

Williams scored the fifth run of the ballgame, earning a free pass and later scoring when Roldan hit into a double play.

Embry-Riddle kept the scoring going in the sixth, as a walk, a hit batter and a double steal put Swanson (running for Padilla) and Michael Brady on second and third.

Doane's sharply hit single to third scored Swanson and Doane moved over on a fielding error by Bulldog reliever Evan Dyer that put Pyles on base.

Williams hit a 1-2 pitch back up the middle to score Doane and Brady and singles by Roldan and Rolando Castro (1-for-1, 1 RBI) drove in the last two runs of the ballgame.

Junior Steven Otterness (2-0) earned his second win of the year, holding the Bulldogs scoreless with two strikeouts through the first four innings. Smith entered in as relief in the fifth, struck out two and gave up just one hit to keep the shutout intact.

Adams (1-1) took the loss for the Bulldogs, yielding five earned runs on eight hits in five innings on the hill as Union falls to 2-4.

The Eagles had another big inning in the sixth, erupting for six runs on four hits.

The Eagles return to the diamond on Valentine's Day, when they host Edward Waters at 5 p.m.

## Fosset completes record circumnavigation



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.VIRGINATLANTICGLOBALFLYER.COM

**ADVENTURER STEVE FOSSET COMPLETED** his round-the-world bid in less than 77 hours. Despite some tense moments involving extremely high cockpit temperatures and a fuel leak that might have threatened the success of the attempt, Fosset

Nicole Titus

Staff Reporter

The Virgin Atlantic Global Flyer, after a difficult flight, finally broke the world record for the longest flight in history.

Steve Fossett, the Global Flyer pilot, managed to take off from the Kennedy Space Center Landing Facility after using 11,500 feet of the runway, which was 3,500 feet more than he had hoped.

There were only 4,000 feet of the runway left when Fossett took off. This would mean that if an emergency landing were required, he would not have had the 7,000 feet of runway needed to land.

Global Flyer was well on its journey when Mission Control confirmed a 750 lb. fuel loss. Oddly enough, this fuel loss may have been the result of a flock of birds.

After the takeoff, two dead birds were discovered on the runway, and there was concern that the impact of the birds could have damaged the plane.

Fortunately, no serious damage to the plane was discovered, although the birds may have cracked the plane, causing the unavoidable fuel loss.

The fuel loss meant the Global Flyer lost about 1,000 miles of range, an amount that may have jeopardized the attempt.

Last year's round-the-world record saw a fuel loss of 3,099lbs. It was later discovered that the fuel escaped through

vents in the fuel tank behind the engine. Although modifications were made to rectify this, there was not an opportunity for a test flight because of the difficult and dangerous nature of a takeoff with a heavy amount of fuel on the plane.

Despite the fuel loss, the most important thing is that Fossett flies as efficiently as possible. Fossett's starting speed was about 115 knots and by the end of the flight, he was flying at about 65 knots.

Later on in the flight, there was also some confusion about whether Fossett had clearance to fly over Libya.

There was also some uncertainty about Fossett's landing at Kent International Airport, when just miles from his destination, the generator failed and resulted in a total electrical breakdown.

He was forced to make an emergency mayday call through to Bournemouth Airport and was given a short window through which to land.

Chief Executive of Virgin Atlantic, Steve Ridgeway later said, "If we didn't get him down in fifteen minutes, he would have had to ditch the plane."

During the landing, Fossett burst two tires, and his windscreen was iced up so much that he could not see even meters in front of him. But Fossett and the Global Flyer landed safely and the world record was broken after a distance of 26,389.3 miles and a duration of 76 hours and 45 minutes.

## Google implements messaging service

Don Macanlalay

Photography Editor

Google, the search engine giant, is implementing a new instant messaging system similar to AOL's. The instant messaging system is supposed to allow users to chat from a Google web browser window alongside their e-mails.

In a field where messaging is highly competitive, Google is trying its best to stand out from the pack. Many users now are using AOL's Instant Messenger, and there is little indication that those users will be willing to try anything else. According to Reuters, over the past decade millions of users registered under Yahoo! Inc. and Microsoft's messaging platforms as well.

Google's Instant Messaging software, "Gmail Chat," will require no special software for users to download and should be available to any registered Gmail user.

Gmail Chat is the company's first step to introducing Google Talk, a more advanced program that allows users to instant message each other, along with free Web-based calling.

The California-based company is set

on reducing frustrations from the millions of instant messaging users caused by the increasing amount of software each user has to install in order for their programs to function.

While this is no easy task, it's much less difficult problem solving for users who can control their PC, as opposed to those who plan to use it at their work place. Many offices around the country are already equipped with

Google's software, yet many are being restricted from using the instant messaging system.

The whole purpose of Google's messaging system is to allow the user to send chat messages while still inside the browser.

AOL, Microsoft and Yahoo all allow users to send instant messages from within a Web browser, but none of them puts any special emphasis on that particular feature.

Last year, Meebo, a Silicon Valley-based start-up company, began testing a service that allows a user to use the four major instant messaging programs at once from a single Web page, without any sign-up process or downloading any special software.

This trial software is available at <http://www.meebo.com/>.



## Hubble Space Telescope does it again ...



IMAGE COURTESY IMGSRG.HUBBLE.ORG

**THE HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE** recently captured composite visible and infrared images of NGC 1309, a spiral-armed galaxy. Nearby supernovae (type Ia) allow an accurate distance to be calculated which in turn, allows astronomers to better calculate the rate of expansion of the universe.

## NASA budget increased

*Despite increase, exploration comes at the cost of general science*

Nicole Titus

Staff Reporter

Last week, President Bush recommended increasing NASA's budget for the 2007 year to \$16.8 billion. This would mean a 3.2 percent increase over this year's allotment.

Despite the budget increase, NASA will have to squeeze certain programs.

"There's never enough money for everything NASA wants to do, so let's not be silly," NASA Administrator Michael Griffin said last week at a press conference.

The President's priorities will be where most of the budget gets allocated. This includes returning the space shuttle fleet to service, completing assembly of the International Space Station, remaining on the cutting edge of space science and astronomy, conducting aeronautics research and developing the next generation of manned spacecraft that will return astronauts to the moon.

The budget will be taking away money from science to pay for the space

exploration plans. Griffin admitted, "I wish we hadn't had to do it."

"We took a couple of billion out of science and a billion and a half out of the exploration line, and made up what we needed to make up," Griffin added.

These programs include the Mars Exploration Rovers Project, the recently launched Pluto New Horizons mission, planetary probes like the Cassini mission to Saturn, space telescopes such as Hubble, Chandra and Spitzer, and Earth-observing satellites.

The shuttle budget will decrease from \$4.77 billion this year to \$4.06 billion next year.

However, some of those expenses are reflected in a one-time emergency move of \$350 million granted to NASA after Hurricane Katrina damaged its facilities last year.

With that in mind, NASA's overall budget increases for 2006 would only be about one percent more than the budget approved for last year.

With the shuttle program retiring by 2010, many things at NASA will not be needed any more.

Also with the shuttle retiring, one of the launch pads at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) will be turned over to the Moon program.

NASA plans to reduce its workforce from 18,410 to 17,979 this year. Many employees will be shifted to different positions, but some layoffs may be needed.

But at KSC, the number of workers is expected to remain stable or even increase slightly until the shuttle's retirement.





## Cessna Aircraft Company faces up to \$840,000 in fines

Michael McGraw  
Staff Reporter

Cessna Aircraft Company faces up to \$840,000 in civil penalties for a series of manufacturing and quality control discrepancies documented by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The discrepancies were found last year by inspectors at the company's light, single-engine aircraft assembly facility in Independence, Kan.

According to the FAA, Cessna could not ensure that 42 of new aircraft had been manufactured according to the approved type design. Inspectors found employees rigging rudders without the required tools and who were unable to provide the specifications and drawings to prove that they were correctly performing the work.

The FAA found flaps rigging that was signed off as complete when it was not. Poorly wired cables were also found, some of which were chafing fuel lines or rubbing up against structures.

The agency issued an Airworthiness Directive requiring detailed inspections of those specific aircraft. Inspectors, however, were unable to determine whether the type-design had been strictly followed when the aircraft were manufactured.

Cessna had previously submitted those aircraft to the FAA for U.S. Airworthiness Certificates. However, the FAA declared 12 of the aircraft "to be unairworthy," citing many of the discrepancies found during those aircraft's manufacture.

According to the FAA, Cessna failed to maintain its quality control system with regards to the 42 aircraft manufactured. Cessna had not determined whether the aircraft did conform to their own standards, even though the aircraft were submitted for Airworthiness Certificates. This affected the safety of flight, the FAA determined, and violated the Federal Aviation Regulations.

Specifically, Cessna violated Section 21.165 (a) and (b), which

states that the holder of a production certificate "shall maintain the quality control system in conformity with the data and procedures approved for its production certificate" and "shall determine that each part and each completed product submitted for airworthiness certification... conforms to the approved design and is in a condition of safe operation."

A penalty not exceeding \$25,000 per violation is permissible, but the FAA has announced that they would be willing to accept an \$840,000 settlement. Cessna has disputed the allegations, and would like to informally meet with the FAA to discuss Cessna's positions.

Due to the claims still being in issue, Cessna has refused to comment further.

The complaint against Cessna has come at a time when the FAA is considering a new Organization Designation Authorization (ODA) program, which, if adopted, would increase the number of organizations authorized to review certification activity.



ADAM WRIGHT/AVION

THE CESSNA AIRCRAFT COMPANY is facing charges up to \$840,000 in penalties due to manufacturing and quality control discrepancies. The Federal Aviation Administration found at the single-engine aircraft assembly in Independence, Kan. that there were poorly wired cables and chafing fuel lines.

## USAirways reaches deal to acquire Embraer 190 series

Michael McGraw  
Staff Reporter

USAirways has reached a deal with Brazilian aircraft manufacturer Embraer to acquire at least 25 of its Embraer 190 series of aircraft. This agreement converts 57 undelivered Embraer 170 aircraft previously on order to 25 firm EMB-190s, 32 firm EMB-190s that must be reconfirmed by USAirways, and an additional 50 options for any aircraft from the EMB-170/190 series.

According to USAirways, the new aircraft will be configured for 99 seats, with 11 seats in first class and the remaining 88 in economy class. The airline's EMB-170 model, which is flown by a regional partner, seats 72 economy class passengers.

Unlike the EMB-170, which is operated by regional carriers on behalf of US Airways, the larger EMB-190 will be operated by USAirways. Originally, the carrier sought to contract the flying of these aircraft out to its regional carriers, but a deal reached with the pilots of both USAirways and America West, who reached a merger agreement last year, prevents an aircraft of that size from being outsourced to regional operators.

The Embraer 170 and 190 series was built to be a passenger pleaser. First class passengers are seated in rows of one by two seats, and economy passengers are seated in two by two rows. Windows are large and overhead bins can fit larger carry-on bags than aircraft of similar size.

Along with the EMB-170 and -190 models, Embraer also offers with -175 and -195 models, which are stretched versions of their respective counterparts. The family of aircraft can seat between 70 passengers in the smaller EMB-170 and 110 passengers in the larger EMB-195. The first EMB-170 flew in passenger service in March 2004 with LOT, the national airline of Poland.

In the United States, the EMB-170 can also be found operating for Delta Air Lines and United Airlines by their regional partners. JetBlue introduced the first of their 100 orders for the EMB-190 model into service late last year. Air Canada has also introduced the "E-Jets," operating both the EMB-175 and the EMB-190 on Canadian domestic and transborder routes.



ADAM WRIGHT/AVION

USAIRWAYS REACHES A DEAL to buy at least 25 Embraer-190 series aircraft. Although USAirways converted the order of 57 EMB-170's to the 25 they will soon acquire, the company has plans to buy additional -170 and -190 series airplanes. The new EMB-190 is equipped with larger windows and overhead bins.

## USAF argues over tanker production

Joe Daniel  
Staff Reporter

U.S. Air Force planners continue to argue amongst themselves over the scope and goal of the tanker program. One school of thought wants a multi-role tanker that can be a part-time cargo, communications-relay and intelligence gatherer when not giving away fuel.



Another argument looms over the size of the tanker. Boeing has been courting the contract with its Boeing 767 based KC-767, and Airbus has been pitching its KC-30, A330 based derivative. The Air Force may want to go bigger, however, as planners say that they could purchase 777 or A340 platforms. The Boeing 787 was also listed as a candidate; however, production slots in the near future would likely prohibit it from serious consideration. EADS has already begun construction on a Mobile, Ala. facility that would

be the final assembly line for the KC-30 refueler.

Currently, the U.S. Air Force has over 500 aging KC-135 tankers, and a new tanker program is likely to have provisions for at least 400 aircraft. Many are supportive of a decision to select a large cargo/tanker derivative that would pick up the slack where deep cuts in the C-17 program have chipped away at the Air Forces' transport capacity.

On the flipside of the coin, critics of larger aircraft say that having a fewer number of larger aircraft would only increase the problems with a tanker shortage. Larger aircraft would have to be located further from the battlefield, and thus require greater amounts of time to reach aircraft in need of fuel. In addition, an aircraft with a larger footprint could cause operational headaches on the ground when there is limited space.

Industry officials expect the Air Force to release a Request for Information (RFI) in the next 90 days. Many expect the RFI to provide provisions for investigating both medium and large aircraft.

## Solar system may include a tenth planet larger than Pluto

Darrin O'Brady  
Special to The Avion

Recent findings may further claims that the solar system has, in fact, ten planets. A team from the University of Boon and the Max Planck Institution for Radio Astronomy (MPIfR) measured thermal emissions from supposed planet 2003 UB313, and has determined its diameter to be about 3000km, 700km larger than Pluto.

"Since UB313 is decidedly larger than Pluto, it is now increasingly hard to justify calling Pluto a planet if UB313 is not also given this status," team leader, Univ. of Boon professor Frank Bertoldi said in a *SpaceFlight Now* online article.

Discovered in Jan. 2005 by professor Mike Brown and his colleagues from the California Institute of Technology, UB313 is believed to be apart of the Kuiper belt. The belt contains left-over debris from the formation of the solar system approximately 4.5 billion years ago. UB313 is believed to have originated in the belt, but got deflected into an orbit at a 45-degree incline to the elliptical plane of the planets and the Kuiper belt.

The Bonn group used the IRAM 30-meter telescope to measure the heat radiation of UB313 at a wavelength of 1.2 micrometers. This coupled with its 60 percent optical light reflectivity, similar to Pluto's, the team concluded its diameter to be larger than Pluto's.

In the same *SpaceFlight Now* online article, Dr. Wilhelm Altenhoff, of MPIfR, said, "The discovery of a solar system object larger than Pluto is very exciting. It tells us that Pluto, which should properly also be counted to the Kuiper Belt, is not such an unusual object. Maybe we can find other small planets out there, which could teach us more about how the solar system formed and evolved." Dr. Altenhoff used a predecessor of the IRAM telescope to discover heat radiation from Pluto in 1988.

With these new findings, the International Astronomical Union is expected to make an official definition for what is considered a planet. This will possibly lead to the solar system getting a tenth planet, or Pluto being stripped of its status.



DARRIN O'BRADY/AVION

WITH 2003 UB313 BEING 700 km larger than Pluto in diameter, what constitutes a planet is in question. An IAU group "consensus" is leaning towards a planet as a body that directly orbits a star, is large enough to be round because of self gravity, and is not so large that it triggers nuclear fusion in its interior.

## United Express begins service at DAB



PHOTO COURTESY VANI DEWNANDAN

UNITED AIRLINES EXPRESS OPERATIONS began its first non-stop service to Washington-Dulles International Airport on Feb. 8. Currently, United Express will operated daily flights to Dulles and flights on Saturdays to Chicago O'Hare. United will operate their Embraer 170 which seats 70 passengers and the Canadair RJ-700 which will seat 66 passengers.

## Undiscovered species found in W. New Guinea

Michael McGraw  
Staff Reporter

Its been referred to as a "lost world" and "The Garden of Eden," and while the Foja Mountains of New Guinea have long been on the map, scientists are starting to journey up their slopes and into the misty rainforests. This past December, an expedition to this ecologically diverse area discovered what one scientist deemed an overwhelming number of new species.

Hundreds of species, and dozens if not hundreds of new species, were recorded by the scientists, led by Conservation International, who formed the first full scientific expedition to this region of New Guinea. Only one scientific trip was previously made to the area, but that was 25 years ago and not as large or extensive.

The team that comprised this latest expedition spent one month last November and December in the region, identifying and recording new and known species of birds, frogs, mammals, butterflies, and plants. The mountainous terrain has led to

the evolution of hundreds of distinct species, which are often confined to specific or small areas. Some species found are so rare that scientists had thought they were extinct.

Nearly 225 species of birds were identified in the area. One new species of bird was found, and two birds that scientists had long thought to be extinct were also found. This included Berlepsch's six-wired bird of paradise, distinctive because of the six spines on the top of its head. Previously it had only been identified from the feathers of dead birds.

The Foja Mountains are also one of the Asia-Pacific region's richest sites for frogs, of which 60 species were found, including twenty new species. Several healthy populations of rare species of frogs were found.

Forty species of mammals were recorded, including six rare species of tree kangaroos. There were also 150 species of butterfly identified, including four new species. At least 550 plant species were identified, many of which were unknown to science. Five new species of palms were discovered, as well as a new species of rhododendron, which had

a six-inch wide white flower.

One aspect of all the mammals found was that they were unafraid of humans, suggesting that they had very little, if any contact with humans. Many of the mammals could easily be approached and picked up by the scientists.

The area studied, which comprises nearly 300,000 hectares of the upper slopes of the Foja Mountains, which reach heights up to 2,200 meters, sits in the easternmost province of western New Guinea. Another 750,000 hectares of the Foja Mountains are only lightly visited by humans.

Local tribes have not colonized the area due to its high altitudes and distance from the sea. The game that these tribes hunt typically stays at the lower altitudes as well, leaving little incentive for any human to venture up the slopes.

Scientists from the expedition, however, do hope to return, possibly as early as this year. They feel that they have only scratched the surface, and the pristine and untouched Foja Mountains still have many more secrets waiting to be discovered.



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.CIA.GOV

THE DUBBED 'LOST WORLD' is located at West Papua, a rural part of Indonesia. A team of scientists have discovered several undiscovered species, both animals and plants.

## Apple unveils new low-cost 1GB capacity iPod

Don Macanlalay  
Photography Editor

Apple unveiled a new 1GB iPod nano for just \$149, offering the same features as the 2GB and 4GB models that hold up to 240 songs or 15,000 photos.

The new 1GB iPod nano's design is thinner than a pencil and features Apple's "Click Wheel" and the same bright color screen as the other iPod nano models. In addition, Apple announced that its iPod shuffle is now more affordable than ever with the 512MB and 1GB models priced at \$69 and \$99, respectively.

Now, almost everyone can afford an iPod nano, with the new 1GB

model. With over 40 million sold, the iPod is the world's most popular MP3 player. This new model means even more music and photo lovers can experience the many features of the iPod along with iTunes.

The iPod nano features an ultra-thin design that can fit into even the smallest pocket of your pair of jeans, making it easy to take iPod nano anywhere you go. With its jaw-dropping, eye-catching color screen, the iPod nano allows users to display album covers while playing music, view photo slideshows or play games in full color. The iPod nano also features the same 30-pin dock connector as the iPod and works seamlessly with a wide

range of over 2,000 accessories developed for iPod.

All iPod nano models include earbud headphones, a USB 2.0 cable, case and a CD with iTunes for Mac and Windows computers.

According to Apple.com, the company ignited the personal computer revolution in the 1970s with the Apple II and reinvented the personal computer in the 1980s with the Macintosh. Today, Apple continues to lead the industry in innovation with its award-winning desktop and notebook computers, OS X operating system, and iLife and professional applications.

Apple leading the digital music revolution with its iPod portable music players and iTunes online music store.

## Dartmouth researchers question 'adulthood'

Christopher Cole  
Comics Editor

In a study called "Anatomical Changes in the Emerging Adult Brain," two Dartmouth researchers have shown that changes to the brain occur and continue after age 18. For their study, the researchers followed college freshman throughout their first year. Researchers believe the research is an expansion of the current literature in period of human development between adolescence and adulthood.

Abigail Baird, Assistant Professor of Psychological and Brain Science and co-author of the study explains, "During the

first year of college, especially at a residential college, students have many new experiences. They are faced with new cognitive, social, and emotional challenges. We thought it was important to document and learn for the changes taking place in their brains."

Results of the study showed that these students experienced significant and major changes in their brains. The regions of the brain that control cognition and emotional response were most affected; most changes were centralized in these locations. The body uses information from these regions of the brain to monitor the body's current state and applies that information in decision-making.

Researcher Craig Bennett notes, "The brain of an 18-year-old college freshman is still far from resembling the brain of someone in their mid-twenties." Bennett also recognizes that this could be important for further research, wondering, "When do we reach adulthood? It might be much later than we traditionally think."

The study observed the brains of nineteen 18-year-old Dartmouth freshman; the study was limited to students that had moved more than 100 miles to attend college. Baird viewed these students as most likely to exhibit continuing changes. As a control, the researchers also studied 17 older students, aged 25-35 for comparison.

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## Editors' Choice: Top 10 Games of All Time



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Anthony Ruditsler  
E-Gaming Editor

**1. Half-Life (1998)**  
Completely annihilating all other first-person shooters of the era, "Half-Life" took the gaming world by surprise by being something more than a pointless shooter by treating players with an involving action movie-like campaign that paved the way for forthcoming games, such as "Call of Duty."

**2. Grand Theft Auto III (2001)**  
Perhaps one of the most controversial games of all time, Rockstar Games offered players a vast, open environment that most driving games lacked. However, it was the freedom to steal cars, maim innocent pedestrians and work your way up from nothing in Liberty City that easily earned this game its rightful place in the Top 10 Games of All Time (and an ESRB Mature rating).

**3. GoldenEye 007 (1997)**  
Following yet another successful James Bond film, "Goldeneye" is widely claimed as the most popular game for the Nintendo 64 system. With an intriguing single player mode and seemingly endless multiplayer mode, players were hooked to this first-person shooter. Who didn't dream of being James Bond in their childhood?

**4. Hitman: Codename 47 (2000)**  
In this IO Interactive franchise, action revolves around a genetically altered professional assassin who is employed by the

mysterious ICA. The character is given an opportunity choose a wide array of weapons and paths to murder criminal masterminds around the world. Like most other games on this list, the open atmosphere that gives players the liberty to attempt their own assassinations, merits its place in the Top 10.

**5. Starcraft (1998)**  
This real-time strategy (RTS) game is considered to be the predecessor of many great titles that followed, such as "Warcraft" and the "Command & Conquer" series. Blizzard Entertainment delivered an intricate single-player campaign mode, with gripping action from all three sides - Zerg, Terran, and Protoss. As for the multiplayer, gamers everywhere are still playing over eight years later.

**6. Need for Speed III (1998)**  
Although Electronic Arts first released the original "Need for Speed" in 1994, it wasn't until the fifth installment that the series cornered and revolutionized the racing game market. "Need for Speed III: Hot Pursuit" gave gamers a place in the seat of either an exotic racecar or police cruiser as they took part in dangerous high-speed pursuits.

**7. Battlefield 1942 (2002)**  
Although its single player mode leaves a lot to be desired, this first-person shooter, published by Electronic Arts, pleased gamers with large-scaled World War II themed environments, the ability to drive any car, tank, boat, and airplane and battle against up to 64 players online.

**8. The Sims (2001)**  
Yet another gaming pioneer appeared on the shelves in 2001. Players were given complete control over the lives of oblivious virtual characters as they trudged through daily chores, embarked on complex career paths, involved themselves in deep relationships and lived life the way the player wanted them to. With overwhelming success, "The Sims" warranted its place along with other great Maxis titles, such as "SimCity."

**9. Roller Coaster Tycoon (1999)**  
This amusement park simulation game provided gamers with an opportunity to create, manage, and improve their very own roller coaster fantasy. Hasbro Interactive scored high points with gamers everywhere, as fans flooded the internet with user created roller coasters and park layouts. And who can deny the pleasure of torturing poor, underprivileged park guests which players were able to pick up and move with virtual tweezers?

**10. SWAT 3 (1999)**  
After a long and slumbering gaming reputation, Sierra astonished the industry with "SWAT 3," a first-person shooter set in Los Angeles 2005. Players were put in charge of two squads of police officers as they engaged in rescuing hostages, defusing bombs, and taking down deranged maniacs with weapons. With an eager community, the game was soon taken with modifications that changed the single and multiplayer modes with new weapons, characters, and maps.



PHOTO COURTESY BLIZZARD ENTERTAINMENT

Don Macanlalay  
Photography Editor

**1. Road Rash (1991)**  
I understand that number one for this game is high up. But this game is amazing for its sheer humor effect. Taking pepper spray and clubs, which you then attempt to hit another rider to win the race, is much better than any race game ever played.

**2. Counter Strike (1999)**  
The one game that single handedly brings together crowds of college kids without ever having to leave the dorm and physically interact with each other. It's a joy to play.

**3. Street Fighter 2 Turbo (1994)**  
This game rivals "Mortal Kombat," but you'll always like one better than the other. In this case, Street Fighter is slightly better, merely because of its origins

coming before MK.

**4. Halo 2 (2005)**  
The game to buy for the Box, if not the only game to buy. Multiplayer is just as good as Counter, but fanboys would have my head if this weren't on the list.

**5. Super Mario Bros. 3 (1990)**  
This brings back childhood memories. This game gets the nod over the previous two versions merely because of its features. Raccoon Mario that can fly, you can't beat that.

**6. Grand Theft Auto 3 (2001)**  
Stressed out? Play "GTA 3," I personally liked the over head GTA's much better, but something about a third person game and sea-sawing hooker action in the back of a beat-up car is somewhat enticing.

**7. Resident Evil 4 (2005)**  
Nothing beats the originals, except this one. The only things

that I didn't like were the free angles used. Yet, the gameplay and the freedom to fully interact with everything your bullet touches is pure genius.

**8. GoldenEye 007 (1997)**  
Hands down, the best first person shooter ever. It may be out dated now, but of its time, it was the best game ever for N64, just like Halo was the game for the Xbox.

**9. Dr. Mario (1990)**  
Tetris and the like, these games are the games your girlfriends would actually play. This gets the nod over tetris because of its increasing difficulty each level.

**10. Punch Out (1984)**  
Mike Tyson couldn't bite this one this time. This game was what kids would emulate after watching Rocky. Low class boxer to try to be the top champion was an interesting concept. They don't make games like they used to.

Bob Scheid  
News Editor

**1. The Halo Series (2001)**  
A veritable legend in its own time, Halo has become one of the most recognized titles for multiplayer and has only gotten better with time. I think, with the release of "Halo 2." It's much like the GoldenEye/Perfect Dark relationship, though I think that series did it just a little better. Still, if you're looking for something that is good for just about everyone, even to watch, it can't get better than this.

**2. Perfect Dark (2002)**  
This thing is the next incarnation of "GoldenEye," and it lives up to its predecessor. Similar engine, with better graphics and more weapons, but it also carries over some of the classic weapons and levels. Honestly, this thing is the best of all worlds, and it's simply one of the best games of all time, but give me this at any kind of gathering and I will be set for hours.

**3. Battlefield 1942 (2002)**  
I don't quite know what to say about this one. I've got tanks, I've got planes, I've got rocket launchers, I've got assault rifles, I've got 20+ maps, I've got land mines, and I've got the option of 60+ AIs against my friends and I. I've been playing it for a year, and I'll be playing it a year from now and still having as much fun.

**4. GoldenEye 007 (1997)**  
This is the original sleeper game. Have an hour after school? Put in GoldenEye. Birthday party? GoldenEye. People trashing you in the office? Bring it in and hook it



PHOTO COURTESY EA GAMES

up. Hours and hours of fun and tournaments with explosives and changing weapons, well-designed levels, and infinitely many options.

**5. Starcraft (1998)**  
This is a mainstay of realtime strategies, and the Battlenet experience is not something to be missed. Gods help you if you have 56k, but on LAN or high speed Internet, this can keep you around for days. Way more fun than it should be.

**6. MarioKart 64 (1997)**  
This has GOT to be a classic of one of the most classic systems ever released. Battle mode, multiplayer cups, and single races are fantastic, and nothing is ever quite the same. What more could you ask for?

**7. Warcraft 3 (2002)**  
Great graphics, funky interface, and a zergling swarm by any other name. My tip: worker rush, followed by those bigass trees moving a mile every three weeks. They'll

never know what hit them, even if they care.

**8. Super Mario Bros. 3 (1990)**  
Phat beats on the remixes of the 8 bit midi music from the first one, and the battle mode can be pretty intense when you're both not so good at the stuff. Never once beat the game; never had to.

**9. Starfox 64 (1997)**  
My first combat flight simulator, and still a good one. The windows were a little small, and it lagged the system bad when you had everyone on screen at once, but it was more than enough to keep you occupied at sleepovers.

**10. Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (1989)**  
Tons of fun with the old school graphics. Besides, back when you were seven, these guys were the dudes to be. Everything I need to know in terms of a ninja life, I learned from this game.



PHOTO COURTESY ROCKSTAR GAMES

Jonathan Mettin  
Managing Editor

**1. Half-Life (1998)**  
Simply put, one of the ultimate first-person shooters ever. With an engaging story, advanced graphics (for its time) and addicting game play, "Half-Life" kept me up for a solid week while I tried to figure out where the convoluted story would go. Aliens, cliché? Not here. Little kids pee their pants over this game. For full effect, play the game in the dark.

**2. Final Fantasy Adventure (1991)**  
One of the originals in this immortal series, FFA was good for a solid month of playing (or, in my case, a year on-and-off because I couldn't find the damn skeleton key). It also had one of the more engaging stories I've ever seen, and the ending was amazing (hint: the guy DOESN'T get the girl for once).

**3. Super Mario Bros. 3 (1990)**  
Admit it, you know exactly where those whistles are. While the original set the bar for modern video games, SMB3 expanded the franchise exponentially, leading for a solid night of gameplay enjoyment in your dorm room with your buddies watching every coin you grab.

**4. Mortal Kombat II (1993)**  
Gamers fall into two categories: Street Fighter people and Mortal Kombat people. I, personally, am an MK aficionado. Who loves the Brutality? I do.

**5. Grandia II (2000)**  
The dark horse on this list, "Grandia II" takes the conflict between good and evil back to its roots. With the best battle system I have ever seen, tail-kicking power moves and a story that keeps you guessing, "Grandia II" made buying a Dreamcast worth every penny.

**6. Splinter Cell (2002)**

"Splinter Cell" introduced a whole new dimension to the shooter. While some may argue the sequel, Pandora Tomorrow, was a more well-rounded game, the original was earth-shattering. And you have to admit, using human shields is just cool.

**7. Star Wars: TIE Fighter (1994)**  
The Star Wars franchise has had some great games - "Rebel Assault II" and "Dark Forces" come to mind - "TIE Fighter" was amazing for its time. With a seemingly endless supply of ships, missions and story, "TIE Fighter" was and still is one of the best flight sims, period.

**8. Resident Evil 4 (2005)**  
Zombies are overdone, but RE4 threw a whole new spin on the genre. It is as fun to watch as it is to play, with beautiful graphics, intense music and a female character who admonishes

you if you stare at her too long.

**9. Sonic the Hedgehog 2 (1992)**  
The Sega equivalent of Mario, it featured less plot but better graphics. It was also much faster paced, leading to a pretty hectic game, especially if you went two-player with Sonic and Tails. And plugging this game into the immortal Sonic & Knuckles let you play as the ill-tempered red echidna.

**10. Soul Calibur (1999)**  
Hands-down, one of the ultimate fighting games of all time, and one of only two games to get perfect scores from ign.com, gamespot.com and the notoriously stingy gaming magazine Famitsu. With beautiful animations and epic music, you can enjoy this game even without knowing the crazy power moves. Just make sure to wipe the drool off your controller after you beat Inferno.

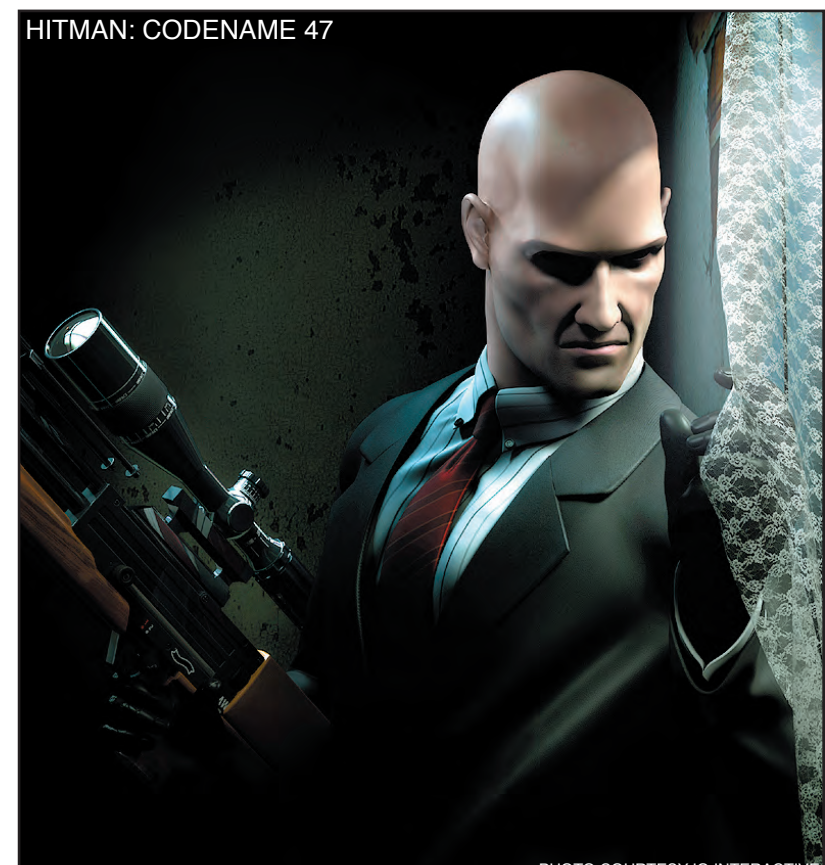


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# ARTS & Life

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The Avion, February 14, 2006

## VALENTINE'S DAY EDITION

For those who love,  
and those who don't.



### Diversions C2

messages with love.  
anti - valentine's.  
\$100 hamburger.

## Bongos the date buster The \$100 Hamburger

Melanie Pugh  
Chief Copy Editor

Looking for a romantic evening out on the town? Skip Bongos. With Valentine's Day upon us, it's likely too late to get a table at the 550-seat, albeit very popular Cuban Café. Fear not, though, because you are not missing much. Owned by music stars Gloria and Emilio Estefan, Bongos emerged in 1997, with a second location in Miami. As if two were not enough, a third is currently being built in South Beach.

Located in the West End of Orlando's Downtown Disney, Bongos is always packed, but do not be fooled by this tourist trap. Take a closer look, and you'll spy Mickey Mouse paraphernalia and hoards of cameras. On the other hand, we did have reservations, a Friday night essential, which did make the experience a bit more bearable. The restaurant also offers a nicer outdoor setting, which, in hindsight, we should have opted for.

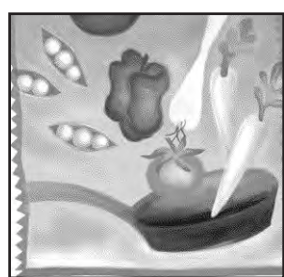
The service was fairly on par with the rest of our experience. While food came out soon after we ordered, drinks were being rationed.

A member of our party never did receive his much-needed drink. Between the Spanish-language menu items and the overwhelmingly noisy atmosphere, we were all reduced to emphatically pointing at the written descriptions of our dinner choices. Amazingly, the waiter managed to get our orders correct, with the exception of the vegetarian who received a hefty portion of meat.

*"The food was ... slightly above completley bland, and just below flavorful."*

- JAY DUFF

The only saving grace of the evening was the food, and even this is arguable. I enjoyed my "Chicharrones de Pollo" immensely. The dish had a great flavor to it, but was a little dry and starchy; in light of my existing drink situation, this was a slight setback. My date, Jay Duff, ordered "Arroz con Pollo" and was equally impressed, "The food was just how I liked it, slightly above completely bland and just below flavorful. I know it sounds like sarcasm, but that's really what I like."



Another restaurant go-er, Jose Leon, said, "As a Hispanic person, I am insulted. I cook and eat this

type of food all the time and it was not up to par."

The aforementioned atmosphere was, by far, the worst aspect of the evening. The house band, stationed as far away from our table as possible, featured no less than what seemed like forty-seven bongo players and a chorus of obnoxious horns. Light background music is nice, but when the band impedes conversation, something's got to give. We found ourselves cherishing the rare moments between songs, during which we could actually communicate. Duff, who had never met most of the party, added, "As we were leaving, I wanted to say, 'It was nice meeting all of you.' However, I didn't think the ten-second spurts of conversation we had between songs counted as meeting someone. It was more like 'It was nice sitting next to you guys and staring because I can't read lips.'"

When the 'experience' came to a welcomed end, the waiter brought out sporadic checks, leaving the rest of us, huddled in a corner to avoid the dripping vent in the ceiling, to wonder of the restaurant desired payment or genuinely felt bad and decided to give us a complimentary nightmare. In the end, we paid and bolted. Happy Valentine's Day; stick to McDonald's.

Christopher Noth  
Staff Reporter

At Embry-Riddle, it is not news to say that an extremely fun way to waste a weekend is to take a short flight just to grab some lunch. News or not, however, it is the truth. Most commonly referred to as "The \$100 Hamburger", this delightful diversion has always been a favorite in the pilot community.

Most pilots would likely agree, the flights are not so much about the flight itself, nor about the food. What makes these flights so important is what they allow pilots to say: "I can." For many, there is no better reason to take such a trip. As well, the trips allow pilots to share their passion with other pilots and non-pilots alike.

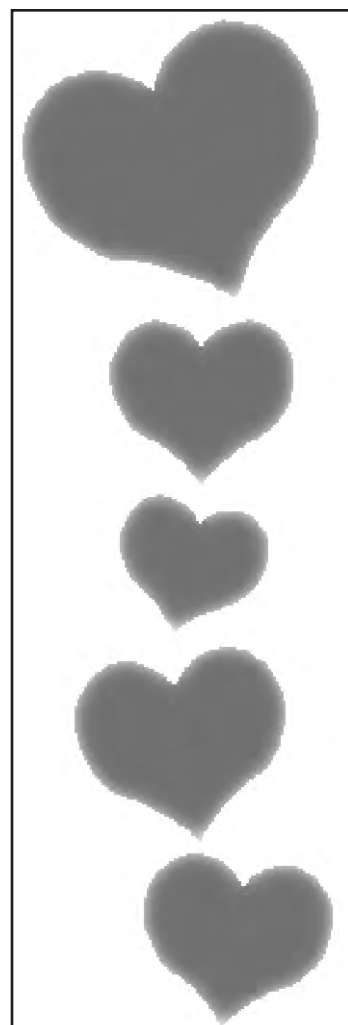
This weekend, I had the opportunity to fly up to Saint Augustine with some friends. We took a cab into town, did some perusing, and had lunch. Inclement weather concerns cut our trip a bit short, but it was still amazingly fun. And, for a pilot that does not have the opportunity to fly too often, it is always a pleasure to get back in the game. Most

importantly, renting an older Cessna kept the flight cost under \$100.

There are more than a few favorites in Florida. There are on-field restaurants at both the Deland and the Flagler airports, which are very close to Daytona. Cedar Key, located on the West Coast of Florida, offers a New-England style feel and is also popular with many pilots. Greystone airport in Ocala is well known for its first-Sunday brunches at Jumbolair.

Another trip, albeit a bit further -though worth the trip, is Sharky's on the Pier in Venice Beach, Florida. Easily accessed from the Venice airport, Sharky's offers fun, music, and food all with a beautiful view of the Gulf of Mexico.

Truth be told, though, no one spot makes the trip. There are hundreds of airports in Florida and nearly every single one is within range of a taxi that can take pilots somewhere to see something. What it is that pilots go to visit is not nearly as important as that they go and visit; even more important is who comes along. Sharing a \$100 hamburger with some friends is probably the most effective way for pilots to share what they love doing with the people they love.



## Some say the corporate holiday

Don Macanlalay  
Photography Editor

This is an Anti-Valentines. No cards, no candy, no cookies, or flowers. There are times when a person needs to question the existence of things, in this case, the existence of Valentine's Day.

I don't understand why there needs to be one day of the year where people need to show each other how they feel. When the essence of this day should be reciprocated back and forth each chance we get.

Sure the candy, and cookies and plastic heart choc-o-boxes made by these greeting card companies are great, but it doesn't help.

People are beginning to take those three little important words for granted. Cynics would say this day masks the ugliness of a relationship to make things on the surface seem better than they are.

On a day where it's all about heart, it becomes a day where your husband comes home, flowers in hand, while every other day of the year he never does this. Corporations are merely making it a day where we are obliged to say

to our counter part those three little words everyone -no matter how much they deny it- want to hear.

People who don't have someone to spend money on can cite the movie Eternal Sunshine, in which Jim Carrey sums it all up. Valentine's Day is a day invented by greeting card companies to make you feel like crap. Well, sometimes, I don't want to come across as bitter, because I'm not, yet this is not the point. I merely think the words "I love you" are well too overused.

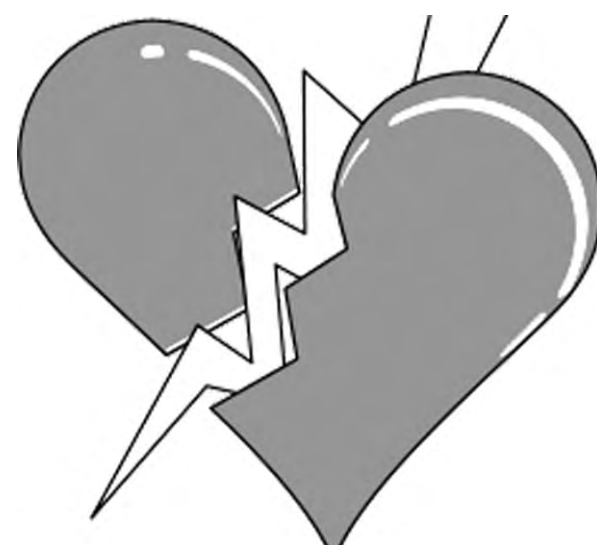
So the question I'm getting to is why can't we just say it when we

mean it? It's growing increasingly used as a buzz word to make people feel better for only an instant.

There are different kinds of love: unconditional, undying, friendship etc. Yes, there are different ways to express this. But in a world where we are increasingly experiencing the reality that everyone lets you down, why do we tell everyone we do?

Over the past few years, all I've learned is that you should say "I Love You" when you mean it, don't say it like you mean it.

Eventually, people won't have to wonder if they believe it or not.



		<p>Andrew, Happy Valentines my sweetheart! Looking forward to our one-year and the inevitable camping trip. ~H</p>	 <p>Happy Valentines Day Adelle Helble Amanda Orr</p>	<p>Big shout out to my fellow heterosexual lifemates.</p>	
<p>MAP, I'm sorry you locked your helium in your hot air balloon, and that you had to sit outside of it, because there were no spoons to stand on. I hope your tables didn't hurt from sitting and waiting for people to get your helium out of your hot air balloon. At least Chris has your spare helium now. ~JMVD</p>	<p>L, MMMM B**BIES -J</p>	 <p>Wednesdays @ 7:00pm Endsavor Conference Room, (2nd floor of the Student Center) phenix_yearbook@gmail.com</p>	<p>Happy Valentine's Day Theta Phi Alpha!</p>	<p>To Mommy: Happy Valentine's Day from the bottom of my heart! From: Madison</p>	
<p>Mischief, we've been sleeping together for 10 years and counting. Happy Valentine's Day!</p> 	<p>To my spouses. Brandon Boekelman. Brian Case. Jacklyn Duff. and Heather Van Antwerp. Happy Valentine's Day. just don't tell eachother...about eachother... &lt;3 ICCWYFM &lt;3</p>	<p>Dr. A, Happy Valentine's Day! Love, Mrs. A</p>		<p>To Jess and Alicia, For all the times we have celebrated without you - here's a sweet treat for you both! Happy Valentine's Day! Miss you, ~CSO</p>	<p>CJT, Way to go. You broke me. Happy Valentine's Day. Ego Anno Te since 1977.</p>
<p>M2, Thanks for giving me a reason to want to come back this semester. Thanks for giving me something to look forward to everyday. ~JD</p>	<p>NYC was awesome, love you Kevvy!</p> 	<p>Michelle, Martha, and Ashley, Not until 2008. ~3rd Eye Blind</p>	<p>Jon, Kara, Lisa, Sally and Sandi To a great group of people - Happy Valentine's Day! From: the rest of us</p>	<p>M, Leave Chris. You know you love me more. We had such a great time at dinner the other night. ~Jay</p>	<p>Would you be the Kind Lady that am seeking... Kind Lady I Love You KJ!!</p> 
<p>Happy Heart Day Kathical</p> 	<p>TPA Pledge Sisters, Good luck pledging. We're so excited to have you all.</p>	<p>Stephanie H. Happy Valentine's Day! ~Your Little</p>		<p>Chris T, Thanks for always rescuing me. Three times and counting. ~Ashley D.</p>	<p>Anna, This one's for you, love. Halo tonight; I've got some winning to do. ~Bob</p>

## The Riddle of Life

By Jonathan Mettin

Nothing like the Date Auction to show just how far Riddle guys are willing to go for a girl.



by Wes Oleszewski



"U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney accidentally shot and injured a man during a weekend quail hunting trip in Texas, his spokeswoman said ..."  
(from the Associated Press)

The real reason for the shooting:



## CHICKEN WINGS™

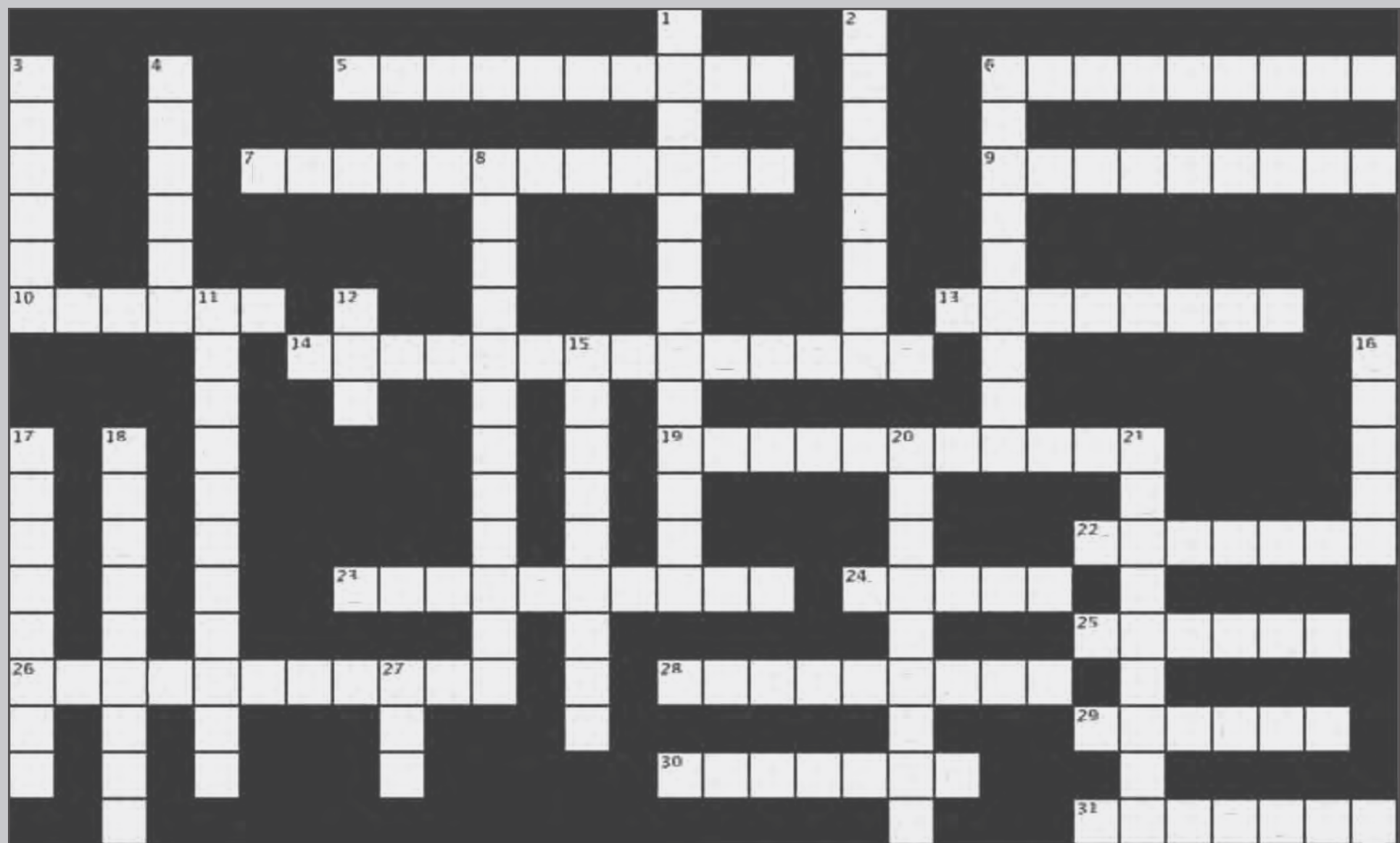
BY MICHAEL AND STEFAN STRASSER



## 80's TV Shows

- ACROSS**
- Mystical potion makes them bouncy
  - Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, he does machines
  - "Yes, Nanny!"
  - They live in a country high in the clouds
  - Underwater cartoon show
  - Red Ferrari
  - "Just the good ol' boys"
  - "D'oh!"
  - Genetically crossed animals
  - Life with the Thatchers
  - The Wonder Years, \_\_\_\_\_ Arnold
  - Inspector Gadget's arch enemy
  - Mumm-Ra
  - Richie Cunningham and Potsie
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Howser, M.D.
  - Kids Incorporated, also known as
  - "It's a little wild and a little strange."

- DOWN**
- The Winslows and geeky neighbor
  - He works for the Phoenix Foundation
  - Regular customers in a Boston Bar
  - Chip N' Dale Rescue Rangers, the fly
  - His Pilot was named Launchpad
  - Soundwave, Bumblebee, Jazz
  - Knight Industries Two Thousand
  - Married With Children, dog's name
  - "Wake Up San Francisco."
  - California Highway Patrols
  - Red bathing suits
  - They live in a mushroom village
  - Saved by the Bell principal
  - Dedicated to making math fun
  - "Hey, Willie. Let's throw a cat on the barbie."



## WHAT'S FOR BREAKFAST



## SGA President discusses problems with Board

Sara McCook  
SGA President

Running a university is an arduous task indeed. It takes a special type of personality and character to fill the role of President. The Board of Trustees needs to find the right president; sometimes that right person is already at the University.

The trouble with filling the role of President with an outsider to the university is the length of time it takes to get acclimated and situated with the way things are run at ERAU. With the difficult task of finding a new President, the Board of Trustees has hired an outside consulting firm to help the process.

A lady from the firm Witt/Kieffer will be visiting our campus in order to gain a grasp of the type institution we have and the culture and standards held. The Board hopes she will have an understanding of the type of president the University needs after only a few days of

meeting with students, faculty, and administration. She is then aiding the Board with the selection process, based on her observations. One can only hope the Board listens to what the student body and faculty are truly saying rather than being brain washed by an outside consultant who might not completely understand the true culture of a special institution like ERAU.

This is what worries me the most, because in the end isn't a consultant "just a high paid S.O.B from out of town?" Do they really know what is best for our University? I do however look forward to meeting with her and seeing what views and decisions she has generated in only a few days.

The Board of Trustees needs to look at how money is being spent and quit looking at auxiliary endeavors to increase revenue. In the end, such endeavors resulted in millions of dollars in losses, such as the CAPT program and the USAFA contract and the like.

The CAPT program was designed for individuals who already held a bachelors degree to obtain all their flight ratings for a set price of approximately \$80,000.

This program takes about a year to complete and basically guarantees a position with a regional airline, and has proved to be quite successful with that. When the CAPT program started a few years ago, it was seemingly a great idea and an innovative way to earn extra revenue for the University. The problem was the project did not get moving quick enough and the end result was losing millions of dollars. The Board continued to pour money into the program, hoping it would change its course. Although there were some profits, the efforts to improve the program were too late. I am hoping the USAFA

project/contract does not prove the same fate as CAPT. I feel the Board needs to take a deeper look at how to increase the endowment without increasing the tuition. Continually

increasing tuition to cover the costs in the end hurts retention and enrollment. This University exists for higher education, not to imitate a Fortune 500 company with the intent of competing for revenue and stock against other companies. The new President needs to be able to fundraise to an extent, but have experience with the university atmosphere. One can only hope that that consultant sees how unique ERAU is; how the professors are unmatched with industry experience and knowledge. I also believe that issues like dollars raised versus dollars spent need to have

more of a balance. What is the cash coming in and how does it compare to the cash going out? If they have a \$2 million budget, how much cash is being raised?

It's going to take a while to get the University fully out of the current financial hole and it's unfair to depend on the students' tuition to do that. Recently, the University took out a 76 million dollar bond to finance the capital projects in store for the Daytona Beach campus as well as the Prescott campus, such as the library at Prescott and the dorms at Daytona. A huge concern should be the decisions made regarding the College of Business building that is supposed to be built, with groundbreaking happening shortly. After the plans were drawn up, there were code changes that resulted in an increase cost of around \$2 million. Since the University has a large number of capital projects in store, the administration couldn't approve the additional money. Hopefully the other projects will be worth it and the College of

Business building is not going to be short changed. Although there are some issues that are concerning me, I do however feel the University is moving in the right direction and starting to look up. I am pleased with the way the new individuals in leadership positions are handling the difficult tasks placed in front of them and have a true grasp of what this University needs to do to maintain its position as the leader in education. Thankfully it started with the removal of the university jet.



**"I do however feel the University is moving in the right direction ..."**

- SARA MCCOOK

## Committee explains the history of Board debate

Melanie Pugh  
SGA Comm. Committee

ERAU's Board of Trustees and its 26 members are considering amending their existing by-laws, and thus, changing their membership. Currently, each campus has a student representative (SGA President), as well as a faculty representative, as voting members of the Board.

Consultants at last summer's Board of Trustees retreat, among its list of improvement proposals, advised the members to eliminate the student and faculty seats.

The question was raised as to whether or not the seats in question present a conflict of interest to the proceedings of the Board, which deals with issues such as tuition. Those affected, however, counter with the fact that these members have a vested interest in seeing the success if the

University, as well as meeting the concerns of the community within it. A committee was formed to investigate the benefits of such a

drastic decision, and its findings were to be voted on during a Nov. 12 session, but were tabled to be voted upon in March. While the Board argues that most schools do not have student and faculty representatives, a survey conducted by *The Avion* reported that this is not exactly the case. There is a fair mix of similar bodies with and without student and faculty representation, and an equal spread of these individuals' voting rights or lack thereof.

While the Board has discussed allowing other students (SGA or

non-SGA) to sit in on meetings in place of the elected Presidents, this does not prove to be a viable option. Any student with the drive

to run for office and lead a successful administration seems the obvious choice, as he or she has proven him/herself dedicated to the principles upon which the Board was founded. Former SGA President Matt Collier told *The Avion*, "To participate and contribute, the student resource needs to be exposed to the business of the University and have some knowledge of institutional history. The SGA President is in an advantageous position in that he or she is exposed, on a daily basis, to

the University's past and current issues and also its future plans. It is unlikely that any other student ... [is] better equipped to fill this role on the Board." Former President Ebbs was in favor of eliminating the seats on the board, and the search for a new President is still underway. Prescott Faculty Representative to the Board, Dr. Valerie Adams, was identified early on as a proponent for the elimination of the seats. In a letter to the editor in response to the aforementioned article, Adams wrote, "[The investigative] group has been established to explore the best ways for ... voices to be heard ... Perhaps there are better ways, perhaps not."

In stark contrast is Daytona Beach Representative to the Board, Dr. Blaise Waquespack, who, in response to the same article, wrote, "I feel dismayed that this clearly pre-determined agenda item was not

communicated from the outset of the process... Why this position... was not communicated from the beginning of the process can only lead to speculation on the motives of those pushing this agenda."

A follow-up article in the following week's edition sums up the issue at hand quite effectively, "Removing six students and faculty members from the Board would not enhance the Board members' knowledge of the community they oversee," Robert Oxley, Speaker of the Faculty of the Daytona Beach Campus, wrote. He added, "It seems counterproductive to sever an important bond now. [Former] President Ebbs emphasizes the

importance of diversity in his management philosophy. He has invested significant resources and many hours of the faculty's time in diversity training. Why would we want to limit the board's membership ad point of view? The better strategy is one of inclusion, not exclusion." After the issue was first mentioned in

an Aug. 2 edition of *The Avion*, it was largely ignored and downplayed by University officials. The matter was not brought before the Student Representative Board until mid-October; a rally ensued Nov. 4. Stay tuned for more information on upcoming events addressing the issue.

**"... the student resource needs to be exposed to the business ..."**

- MATT COLLIER

**"It seems counterproductive to sever an important bond now"**

- ROBERT OXLEY



## "The Choke" on Eagles FM feat. DJ Diabetes

Full Name: Chuck Bledsoe

DJ Name: DJ Diabetes

Show Time: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday

From Coheed and Cambria to Saves the Day and Postal Service to Rush, the Choke is all things rock, including classic, alternative and emotional hardcore. DJ Diabetes, an aerospace engineering junior and training manager for Eagles FM, is also the guitarist for Brisance ([www.myspace.com/brisance](http://www.myspace.com/brisance)). Tune-in to catch DJ Diabetes in action on The Choke.

## SGA Spring 2006 Budget

Total Budget		
4363	\$ 85.00	\$ 370,855.00

SGA Budget	
Operations	24%
Unallocated	3%
Divisions	50%
Clubs	23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Divisions	
Touch-N-Go	35%
Avion	10%
Eagles FM	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>50%</b>

Operations	
SafeRide	5%
Fixed	12%
Swank Movie	2%
Other	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>24%</b>

Further breakdown from Operations

Fixed	
Salaries	9%
Benefits	2%
Rent	0.3%
Telephone	0.4%
Supplies	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12%</b>

Other	
Incentive	2%
Composites	0.3%
TFO	0.3%
Banquet	0.7%
SRB	0.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4%</b>

## Embry-Riddle Golf Club Membership Drive

Want to play a round locally for a discount?

Looking to play with other ERAU golfers?

Do you like driving golf carts?

All students, faculty, and staff are invited to join the ERAU Golf Club! Members receive discounts at local courses and driving ranges.

If interested contact Ron Hopson at [hops046@erau.edu](mailto:hops046@erau.edu)

**APARTMENTS / ROOMMATES**

**House for Rent**

Beachside! Two-bed, 1-bath house. Completely renovated with hardwood floors and extra-large bedrooms. Master bed has Halifax view. Second bed has private deck off the back of the house. Washer/dryer included. Walking distance to beach, shopping and nightlife. \$1200 per month includes electric and water. First, last and \$800 security moves you in! No pets, references requested. Call Melanie (an ERAU alumnus) for more info. (386) 212-6082.

**Room for Rent**

One bedroom available in a three bedroom beautiful private home. Spacious living room, kitchen, dining room, and storage. Cable in room, Internet access available. Looking for non-smoking, friendly and responsible person, no pets. Ormond Beach location. Rent is \$450.00 per month all utilities included, no first and last months rent needed. No lease. Please call 673-2300 and leave message if interested.

**Townhome for Rent - May 1**

Spacious 1560 sq. ft. furnished. Two-bed, 2.5-bath located 3 miles from ERAU. Pool in complex, 2 reserved parking spaces. Eat-in kitchen. Living/dining combo with enclosed glass porch with lakeview. Stackable laundry unit. Two master suites upstairs with walk-in closets. Tile and carpet. Rent includes furnishings, linens, cookware, water, rubbish, lawn and basic cable. Student pays phone and electric. References plus 1 months deposit required. Rent negotiable based on lease length (\$950-\$1200). For more info, contact emailinbad58@aol.com or (802) 985-9497.

**APARTMENTS / ROOMMATES**

**House for Rent**

Two-bedroom house for rent only 2 miles from ERAU. Good condition. Includes central air, large kitchen, large living room and closed-in patio. Also includes a laundry room. Ample parking. Only \$550 per month. Call weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (386) 257-4322.

**Ormond Townhouse**

Two-bed, 2.5-bath. All appliances, furnished or unfurnished, private bath in each bed. Multiple walk-in closets. Pool, tennis courts, basketball courts. Great location. Pets ok. Asking \$975 per month. Call Krissy at (386) 235-8496.

**For Rent - February 1**

Two-bedroom, two-bath house. Attached garage. Single floor on Cypress Head Golf Course. Fully furnished. Asking \$1,200 per month. Call owner at (914) 276-3876.

**Room available at Barrington**

Only \$223.50 per month plus one-third of utilities. Contact Bobby (386) 334-2297

**Close to Everything**

Two-bed, 2-bath condominium near golf course. Includes use of pool complex. Located just minutes from Embry-Riddle, the beach and local shops. Only \$780 per month plus first, last and security. Sorry, no pets allowed in this complex. Call for more information. (386) 295-1230 or (386) 290-0766.

**Studio Apartment**

One-bed, 1-bath 3 min. from ERAU. Kitchen and appliances included. Only \$400 per month and includes waste, electric and water. (386) 334-5898.

**APARTMENTS / ROOMMATES**

**Beach House for Rent**

Three bedroom, 2 bath beach house for rent in the heart of Daytona Beach. Walk to Main St., the beach, the Convention Center and Ocean Walk. Cable hook-up for Internet access in each bedroom, brand new washer/dryer. Freshly painted. Very clean. Like new. Asking \$1500 per month. Contact Diane. (386) 246-9634.

**Housing to Share**

Looking for student to share home in nice subdivision located 6 miles from Embry-Riddle. Includes a furnished bedroom, full bath, general house privileges, washer/dryer, utilities and high-speed Internet connection. Asking \$450 per month. Deposit and references required. Non-smokers only please. (386) 383-8621

**Apartment near ERAU**

Apartment for rent. Located less than a mile from school, along Clyde Morris Blvd. Rent includes, cable, water, washer and dryer. For more information or to view, please call: 383-3553.

**Two Rooms for Rent**

Two rooms available at \$350 per month + utilities. Large 3-bedroom, 2-bath house in Port Orange to share with an EP student. Call Carey at (386) 760-8574.

**AUTOMOBILES**

**1995 Mitsubishi Diamante**

1995 Mitsubishi Diamante. White. Auto. Power windows and locks. Tinted windows. CD player. Low mileage. Asking \$2,975. Call for more information. (386) 441-4288.

**AUTOMOBILES**

**1991 Ford Explorer**

Manual, 4-door. New clutch and brakes. Asking \$1100 OBO. Graduating exchange student. Must sell. Call Patricia for more info. (386) 274-4845.

**1982 Ford F150**

Truck for sale. Blue and gray. Good working order. Straight-6 engine stick shift. Asking \$500. Call Bill for more details. (386) 852-7212.

**2002 Daewoo Lanos**

2002 Daewoo Lanos for sale. Only \$3300 O.B.O. Includes Pioneer stereo and Kenwood in-door speakers. Has 47000 miles and runs and looks great. Must sell! Call Robert. (516) 351-2891.

**1980 Buick Regal**

Runs great. Asking \$1000 O.B.O. Call for more details. (386) 788-9199.

**2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee**

Only 31K miles. Automatic. charcoal exterior, cruise control, power locks, windows and steering. Remote keyless entry, power seats, anti-lock brakes. Asking \$16,500. Call (321) 228-4990.

**ITEMS FOR SALE**

**Aerodynamics Textbook (AE)**

AE Aerodynamics Textbook for Sale. Used. Softcover. \$20. (386) 441-4288.

**ITEMS FOR SALE**

**Free Man's Suit**

Short on cash and need a suit for co-op/internship interviews? Navy blue suit size 42R jacket, 38 pants. Contact Sally in Career Services for more information 226-6058

**Beer Can Collection**

Over 500 International and Domestic beer cans (empty). Unique wall display. Includes 12 wall display units. Cans snap in. Redecorate your room. Use instead of wallpaper or paint! Ten years worth of airline employee traveling and collecting. Picture available upon request. Call 761-8600

**Weight Bench for Sale**

Bench including bench press bar, two dumbbells, and about 100 pounds of standard weights, all in great condition! Asking only \$100! Call Lukas at (917) 405-4796.

**Pool Table for sale**

Pool Table 8 Foot American Heritage near perfect condition. Burgundy felt, 6 cues, + normal acc. \$825. Port Orange. Jenkie06@erau.edu for pics.

**Roller Blades**

Men's Lightning, size 11. Good condition. Only \$25. Contact Sally. (386) 226-6058 or (386) 761-8600.

**Tires for Sale**

Price reduced to \$80. One set of (4) 255/45 ZR 17 inch. Also, set of (2) of same for \$40. Contact Sally. (386) 226-6058 or (386) 761-8600.

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<b>C-172 glass</b>	<b>\$108/hr</b>
<b>C-172SP</b>	<b>\$88/hr</b>
<b>C-172 diesel</b>	<b>\$82/hr</b>
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