

1-23-2007

Avion 2007-01-23

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JONATHAN METTIN/AVION

BUILDINGS 1621 AND 1637 were forcibly entered over winter break, and several students have reported missing belongings. Campus Safety and the Daytona Beach Police Department responded at the first signs of burglary but were unable to apprehend a suspect.

Six Chanute suites burglarized

Brian Asbury
Aeronautica Editor

On the evening of Dec. 27, one or more people broke into several of the Chanute apartments. At 9:43 p.m., the security officer on duty noticed lights on in a few apartments while patrolling the Chanute complex, according to the Director of Safety, Kevin Mannix. Mannix said that since all the apartments were unoccupied during the holiday, the officer knew something was amiss. Upon further investigation, the officer noticed the door ajar and pry marks on the doors. The officer then returned to his car to radio for backup and the Daytona Beach Police Department.

Daytona Beach Police responded with K-9 units and began an investigation. None of the suspects were caught in the act, though it is thought that they were scared away by the security officer.

Six apartments were broken into in buildings 1621 and 1637. It is unknown how much was taken though several students have reported missing belongings.

Mannix says that throughout every shift the security officers make several sweeps through the Chanute complex. After the break-ins, the Safety Department posted an overnight security officer every night until the residents began moving back in. Other than the temporary overnight security, Mannix said there has been no extra security measures taken to safeguard Chanute, noting that the students residing there are very good about reporting

suspicious activity.

Mannix would like to "remind people to report suspicious activity" in order to pre-

vent incidents such as this in the future. The Daytona Beach Police Department's investigation remains open.

Director of Student Activities to leave

Benitah oversaw Safe Ride, Beach Boys, Carrot Top in 12-year tenure

Jonathan Mettin
Editor-in-Chief

Director of Student Activities Ossie Benitah will be vacating her position at the end of the month, she announced last week. "After a lot of soul searching, I made the difficult decision to move to Seattle, Wash. to be closer to my significant other," Benitah told *The Avion*.

Benitah has worked in Student Activities for 12 years, serving as Greek Advisor, Student Government Association Advisor and Assistant Director of Clubs and Organizations before holding the position of Director of Student Activities.

"I hate to lose her," Dean of Students Sonja Taylor said. "She has been a wonderful Director of Student Activities."



PHOTO COURTESY STUDENT ACTIVITIES

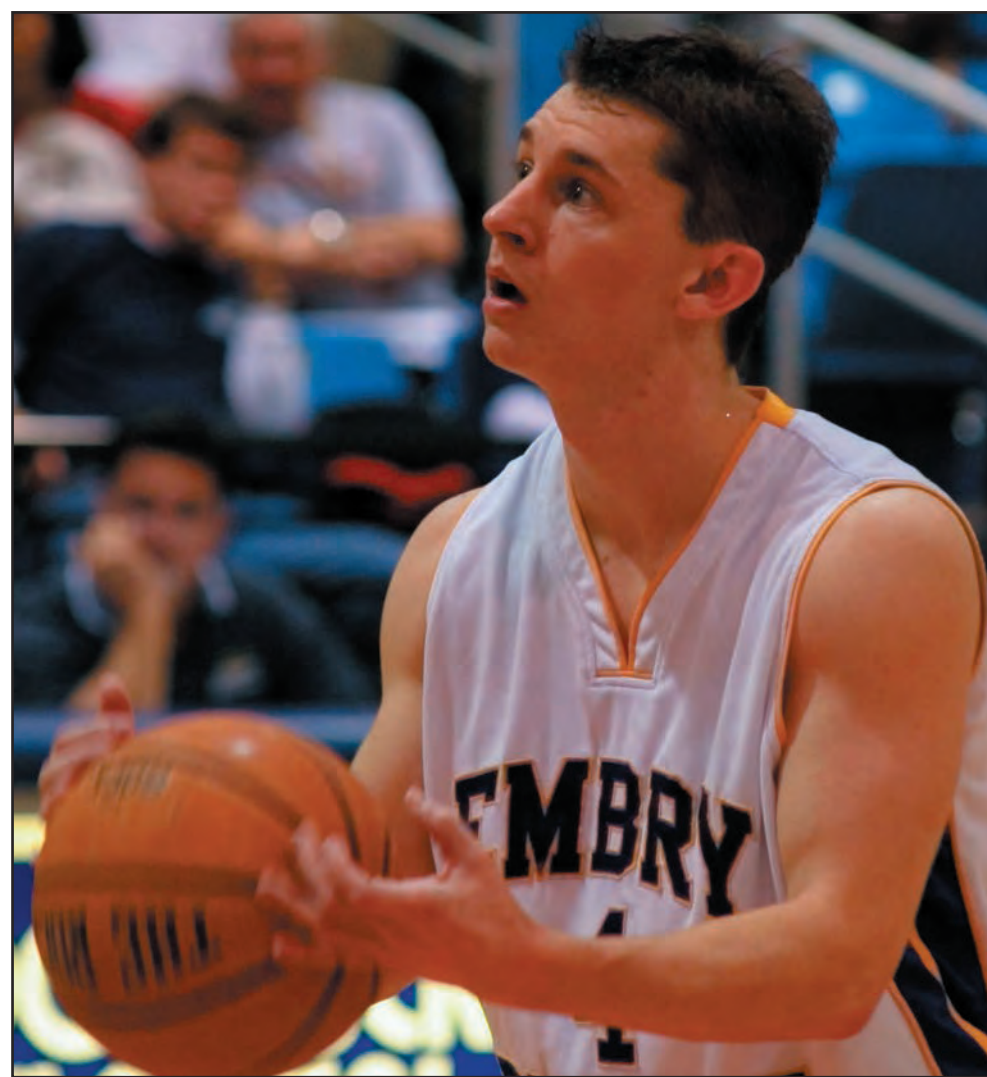
OSSIE BENITAH IS MOVING to the west coast. Dean of Students Sonja Taylor has begun looking for her successor.

"I came to Embry-Riddle in 1995, right out of grad school," Benitah said.

Benitah spent the next dozen years working for the University, leaving briefly in 1999 to work for the University of Central Florida - her alma mater - before returning to ERAU to assume the role of director.

Please see "BENITAH," page A2

Frees and threes help lift Eagles basketball over Bees



CHRIS TEZAK/AVION

GUARD RYAN EXTER SCORED 25 points on his birthday to lead Embry-Riddle to a 78-74 win against SCAD last week. He also passed out six assists and grabbed two boards. The Eagles' next home game is Saturday at 7 p.m., again at DBCC.

Despite 4-0 record, Ridder says this FSC is toughest one yet

Jonathan Mettin
Editor-in-Chief

The No. 7 Eagles swept their conference rivals in the first half of January, including a victory Jan. 13 over nationally ranked Northwood and a down-to-the-wire win against the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) Thursday night.

The Eagles now boast a 4-0 record in the Florida Sun Conference and a 19-3 overall record.

"I'm proud of our guys," head coach Steve Ridder said, who added that the FSC is much stronger this year than in years past.

"You look to see who beat who the next day, because you just don't know," he said. "This is the strongest parity and depth of teams I've ever seen. ... There's not much difference between us and them."

The Eagles have been playing without the services of guards Denny Joseph and Houston Wright, who have both been sidelined indefinitely with injuries.

The conference action kicked off Jan. 10 at Warner Southern. The two teams battled to a 40-40 tie at halftime, then knotted the game at 51 with 13:32 left. Center Drew Whitaker then sparked a 17-3 Eagles run, sinking three shots from behind the arc to help ERAU build a 68-54 with 7:35 left.

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2007 to be a busy year in space

Space Tech., A8



'Happyness' worth the pursuit

Entertainment, B1



Tezak tackles Dems' first 100 hours

Opinions, A6



SGA VP resigns

Replacement for Haas to be chosen at special session today

Jonathan Mettin
Editor-in-Chief

Christopher Haas took many in the Student Government Association by surprise last week, announcing his resignation at the first 2007 meeting of the Student Representative Board last Tuesday.

Haas was the Vice President of the SGA, serving as chairman of the SRB and second-in-command of the SGA under SGA President Nathan Clapper. He was elected last April on Clapper's ticket, which also included SGA Treasurer Natalie Anaya, who chairs the Student Finance Board.

Haas cited "personal reasons" as the reason for his resignation, and assured the representatives at the meeting - as well as Executive Board members and the three division chairs in attendance - that there was no impending scandal that had forced his early departure from the position.

SRB Parliamentarian Shawn Storey is chairing the board in the interim until a replacement is chosen, which should occur at today's meeting. At a special session today, the board will elect a replacement for Haas.



Ryan Hattan



Kristina Honoré



Shawn Storey



By students, for students.

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Publication Information

The Avion is produced weekly during the fall and spring term, and bi-weekly during summer terms. The Avion is produced by a volunteer student staff. Student editors make all content, business and editorial decisions. The editorial opinions expressed in The Avion are solely the opinion of the undersigned writer(s), and not those of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the Student Government Association, the staff of The Avion, or the student body. Letters appearing in The Avion are those of the writer, identified at the end of the letter. Opinions expressed in the "Student Government" and "Student Life" sections are those of the identified writer. Letters may be submitted to The Avion for publication, provided they are not lewd, obscene or libelous. Letter writers must confine themselves to less than 800 words. Letters may be edited for brevity and formatted to newspaper guidelines. All letters must be signed. Names may be withheld at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief. The Avion is an open forum for student expression. The Avion is a division of the Student Government Association. The Avion is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press. The costs of this publication are paid by the Student Government Association and through advertising fees. The Avion distributes one free copy per person. Additional copies are \$0.75. Theft of newspapers is a crime, and is subject to prosecution and Embry-Riddle judicial action. This newspaper and its contents are protected by United States copyright law. No portion of this publication may be reproduced, in print or electronically, without the expressed written consent of The Avion. Correspondence may be addressed to: The Avion Newspaper, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, 600 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Daytona Beach, Florida 32114. Physical office: John Paul Riddle Student Center, Room 110. Phone: (386) 226-6049. Fax: (386) 226-6727. E-mail: Avion.Newsroom@gmail.com.

Daytona Beach and Embry-Riddle present Colin Powell

Jordan Clancy
Staff Reporter

It was a star-studded night last Tuesday for the Daytona Beach community, with the 87th annual meeting of the Daytona Beach/Halifax Area Chamber of Commerce, held at the Hilton Oceanfront Resort.

In the dimly lit ballroom, a sea of black and blue suits and head turning sparkles glistened from well-dressed Daytona Beach and Volusia County men and women.

Embry-Riddle was recognized as the presenting sponsor, among the other 36 local corporations. Also in attendance was Embry-Riddle's Pershing Rifles, with the privilege of being the night's color guard.

Charles Lydecker, the outgoing chairman of the board, looked after the guests and events of the night while the room enjoyed a finely prepared filet mignon and with a few bottles of wine, all in anticipation of the night's keynote speaker, retired Army General and former Secretary of State Colin Powell.

"Without Embry-Riddle's help, we would not be able to fly General Powell here," Lydecker told *The Avion*.

It was a night of celebration for the local community with awards such as The Marvin Samuels Leadership Award and The Enterprise given out to individuals who have not only bettered themselves, but, more importantly, bettered their community. This year's Enterprise Award was given

to Ms. Gale Lemerand, whose name might be familiar to local population for the IC auditorium, with its 300-seat room named after her.

Ed Williams, the incoming Chamber Chair, delivered a message of hope for the local residents. His focus was on joint collaboration, dealing with the homeless and pooling the resources for businesses to make this community a better place to live.

While the crowd seemed to anticipate a very serious talk from the General, they were delighted in his humor and his ability to capture the audiences attention while addressing both serious and comical issues.

"It was an inspirational talk; I enjoyed his delivery. He was able

to deal with serious subjects while keeping the mood light," Daytona Beach campus Chancellor Dr. Tom Connolly told *The Avion*.

The general spoke about his transition to the civilian world. "One day everyone wants to hear what you have to say: kings, leaders and on want to hear your opinion. The next day you're normal."

He also reflected back on his time as Secretary, speaking about what he missed the most. Immediately he stated that he missed his private 757, with United States of America on both sides.

After it was all said and done, the local community was treated to a distinguished dinner and an even more distinguished speaker, who has been called by many "America's Top Political Idol."

Haas steps down from position

"SGA" from Front

cial joint session between the SRB and SFB last Thursday, three SRB members were nominated to succeed Haas: Storey, Kristina Honoré and Ryan Hattan.

Storey serves as the Housing and Residence Life representative on the SRB, representing all students who live on campus. Honoré has served on the SRB since 2005 as a representative for the College of Aviation, and also ran for SGA President last year. Hattan is another two-year representative, in charge of laying out the SGA page in *The Avion* and representing the College of Aviation.

Today's joint session between the SRB and SFB will determine which of the three candidates will fill the Vice President position. The vote will be cast by secret ballot, with SGA Chief Justice Andrew Leech and SGA Advisor Heather Kenney counting the votes.

SRB meetings are open to the student body and are held at 12:45 p.m. on Tuesdays. With the Chancellor's Office temporarily occupying the Endeavor Conference Room following the destruction of Spruance Hall on Dec. 25, today's meeting will take place in the Doolittle Annex.



CHRIS HAAS (LEFT), THE former SGA Vice President and Chair of the Student Representative Board, has resigned. Three candidates, including Shawn Storey (right) have been nominated to fill the position.

All Club Meeting



ALL CLUBS WERE INVITED to attend the meeting put on by Student Activities on Jan. 17 to give information about club processes like printing banners and P&P news.

"BENITAH" from Front

"She couldn't stay away," Taylor said with a grin. "It was a good fit."

In her time as SGA Advisor, Benitah oversaw the implementation of the Safe Ride program in 1997. Despite many vendors telling her the idea would never work, Benitah helped mold the idea into a flagship program of the SGA, earning her a President's Innovation Award. She won the award again after restructuring the SGA budget to allow it to fund clubs, which at that point had to do all their own fundraising.

Also in charge of homecoming ceremonies, Benitah helped bring such big acts as Carrot Top, the Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Third Eye Blind, and Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood to campus, and also organized Beach Boys and Sugar Ray concerts at the Daytona Beach Bandshell.

The process to find Benitah's successor has already begun, according to Taylor.

"I'd like to look internally first to see if we have any good, qualified candidates in our ranks," Taylor said. "[But] it will be open to both internal and external applicants."

Taylor said that candidates for the position need a master's degree, experience in the field and a commitment to working with students. She expects the process to be "relatively quick" and have a new director within a few weeks. If the process takes longer, however, she said she would appoint an interim director until a permanent one can be found.

"[Benitah has] done a wonderful job," Taylor said, saying that the Student Activities Department is "the best in the region and one of the best in the country. Our students have been lucky to have her."

"I want nothing more than to see this department continue to thrive and provide phenomenal opportunities for our students," Benitah said.



GRADUATING MAY 7TH?

SENIOR CLASS MEETING FOR ALL GRADUATING SENIORS

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24TH

STUDENT CENTER CAFETERIA 6:30 PM

ERAU makes finals in NASA Competition

Press Release

ERAU NASA Means Business

A team from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Communication program reached the finals in the NASA Means Business Competition, a national public relations contest designed to promote NASA to the next generation, sponsored by the Texas Space Grant Consortium, said Burke Forte, Project Director for the Competition.

The team submitted their 50-page proposal in November, featuring a print media concept, website concept, community outreach plan, commercial storyboard, research analysis, and communication/marketing strategy. The team, advised by communication professor, Dr. Joanne Detore-Nakamura, and led by Kelly Billon, a junior communication major, includes Joseph Antonucci, a junior business major; Melanie Pugh, a senior communication major; Victoria DeMore, a sophomore communication major; Ivens Jean, a first year graduate student in the MBA program; and Kevin Mock, a junior aerospace engineering major.

As finalists, the team receives a \$1,000 cash award, an invitation to the "behind-the-scenes" tours at Johnson Space Center in Houston in February, and another at the Kennedy Space Center in May, as well as a travel award for one of their team members. The competition culminates in May when the team will pitch their finished communication plan to NASA officials at the Kennedy Space Center, May 7-9, 2007. If chosen as the grand prize winner, the team's commercials will be used by NASA in nationally televised spots and will be presented with their award in Washington, D.C. in September 2007.

Detore-Nakamura said, "This competition is the type of real world experience that provides our students with a competitive edge in the market place. We have defied all the odds by winning a spot in the finals and have joined some very distinguished competition from much larger programs. I'm so proud of our team! With only one PR class under their belts, these students created a creative, research-based proposal that drew from their interdisciplinary strengths. As the leader in aerospace education, Embry-Riddle is known for excellence. However,

this is the first time that we have ever entered this communication competition, and I intend to take our team all the way!"

Last year, Detore-Nakamura's public relations students worked with area non-profit organizations, providing students with more real-world experience. Detore-Nakamura teaches the public relations courses for the communication program, which has a unique focus on the aviation and aerospace industries. For more information on the program, see the following web site: <http://www.erau.edu/db/degrees/b-communication.html>.

The team is now looking for corporate and community sponsors who would like to help them finance the team's expenses, which would provide those businesses with an opportunity to cross-promote their organization with NASA and the Embry-Riddle team.

For more information about the Embry-Riddle team or helping to sponsor the team, contact the team's advisor, Dr. Joanne Detore-Nakamura at detorbee@erau.edu. Information about the NASA Means Business competition can be found at their web site: <http://www.tsgc.utexas.edu/nmb/>.



PHOTO COURTESY DR. JOANNE DETORE-NAKAMURA

FINALISTS IN THE NASA Means Business Competition the ERAU team submitted a 50 page proposal to help promote NASA to the new generation. The team received a cash award and behind the scenes tours at Johnson and Kennedy Space Centers. The competition will conclude in May at Kennedy Space Center.

Mask, Mime and Music of Japan



JONATHAN METTIN/AVION

AS PART OF THE Arts and Letters Series presented by the Honors Program, Kuniko Yamamoto delighted an audience on Friday. She told Japanese folktales, made origami, and performed some magic. Her stories portray Japanese culture and traditions.

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AFROTC awards scholarships

Michael Langdon
AFROTC

Last December, five of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's best AFROTC cadets were awarded the notable Col. Louis Morse Civil Air Patrol Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to outstanding AFROTC cadets who have past or previous involvement in Civil Air Patrol (CAP).

The scholarship winners include sophomore Cadet Stephen Stanton, junior Cadet Diana Kane, and senior Cadets Dustin Bertrand, Brandon Goebel, and Timothy Adams. Goebel and Adams will be commissioning as second lieutenants this May.

"Each award recipient demonstrated leadership above and beyond their peers in the AFROTC program here at Detachment 157," said Captain Bogart, an assistant professor of Aerospace Studies, who presented the cadets with the scholarship. Cadet Diana Kane gratefully stated, "It's nice to finally get recognized for all of the hard work I've put in over the past three years." Kane used the money to help pay down her Embry-Riddle tuition bill.

The scholarship is courtesy of distinguished CAP Col. Louisa Spruance Morse, whose generous contribution to cadets' educations is significant.



PHOTO COURTESY MICHAEL LANGDON

THE FOLLOWING AFROTC DETACHMENT 157 members received scholarships based on their involvement in CAP and superior performance in AFROTC. From left, Brandon Goebel, Dustin Bertrand, Timothy Adams, Diana Kane and Stephen Stanton.

WARNING

PHONE SCAM ON CAMPUS

Person(s) unknown have called some student residence hall rooms, asking for them by name, stating that the student has won the sweepstakes and asking for personal information on the student such as date of birth, social security numbers, etc.

DO NOT GIVE PERSONAL INFORMATION OVER THE PHONE TO ANYONE AT ANY TIME.

This is a scam used by thieves to obtain personal information from victims for the purpose of facilitating or furthering the commission of identity thefts by obtaining credit cards in the victims' name and then using them.

Some students have been called and fallen victim to this scam. If this has happened to you, you need to contact the areas you do business with such as your bank and your credit card company as well as one of the credit bureaus to have your accounts monitored. You may also want to contact the local police department to make a report.

Most police departments have a fraud division that investigates cases like this.

Remember, It's In Your Interest to protect yourself from fraud!

CAMPUS EMERGENCY—SAFE (ext. 7233)

SAFETY DEPARTMENT - ext. 6480

Alpha Xi Delta's fall 2006 fundraiser report

Amanda Shaw
Alpha Xi Delta

The fall 2006 semester was truly a changing and productive time for Alpha Xi Delta at Embry-Riddle. After fall recruitment, Alpha Xi Delta was proud to welcome 20 new sisters into the fraternity, doubling the total count of active sisters! Throughout

the semester, we had fundraisers to raise money for the Children's Advocacy Center. The Penny Wars fundraiser raised \$1,400 and the annual Holiday Dinner fundraiser raised \$1,000. We want to give a special thanks to all the Greeks on campus and anyone else who helped contribute to our cause - we couldn't have done it without you!

For the spring 2007 semester, we

will be having a racing-themed social with Pi Kappa Alpha, which will be a blast! Also, we have our semi-formal, Crush, coming up in March. Towards the end of the semester, our annual Xi Man competition will be held, and that can't be missed! You Greek boys better be getting ready!

Best of luck to all the Alpha Xi in the spring 2007 semester - knock 'em dead!

Homeland Security Student Association

Courtney Hurd
Homeland Security

For those of you that haven't heard, there is a new club on campus, the Homeland Security Student Association. We will be holding our first meeting of the semester on Jan. 25 at 5:30 p.m. in COA room 138. Dues will be \$20 for the semester. The dues will help cover the costs of some of the activities that we are planning for this semester. Some of our ideas include going to the FBI headquarters in Jacksonville, tour-

ing the safety and security departments at Disney and the Orlando International Airport, and inviting a few guest speakers to the school.

The club is a good way to learn more about the industry in a hands-on experience. There are two wonderful faculty advisors that help us learn about what is going on in the Department of Homeland Security. Dr. Jim Ramsay is currently an associate professor and coordinator of the Homeland Security program. Ramsay's background is in safety and health services. He is also an active charter member

in American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE). The other half of the Homeland Security program is Professor Dan Cutrer. Cutrer is a retired U. S. Coast Guard officer with over 30 years as a fixed-wing aviator and five years' experience in the Department of Homeland Security. Ramsay and Cutrer are both very enthusiastic about the club and can't wait until we get the ball rolling. We are all very excited about the Homeland Security Student Association and hope that you will join us for our first meeting of the semester.

Aeronautical Science Scholarship Award Winners

Last semester, fall 2006, the Department of Aeronautical Science was instrumental in helping its students receive scholarships. Almost \$52,000 was awarded to Aeronautical Science students. The Department of Aeronautical Science has established a great working relationship with the Department of Financial Aid, thereby exchanging information in an effort to aid the students' search for scholarship money. Below is a list of the scholarships received and the winners.

- 4 NBAA Ginocchio scholarships worth \$5,000.00 each
Hilary Greenfield, Steven Hale, Sean M. Ronnenberg, Lindsay Sorg
- 10 Assist Scholarships worth \$1,000.00 each
Jeffrey Mazer, Donald Barnhardt, Christopher Ventre, Maxwell Daddow, Kathleen Doody, Vincent Vuoto, Mollie Skiba, Ryan Maddy, Geoffrey Stern, Ben Czajkowski
- 1 International Society of Transport Aircraft Trading Foundation Scholarship worth \$10,000.00
Timothy Billon
- 1 Regional Airline Association Scholarship worth \$750.00
Julian Pascuzzi
- 4 James E. Lewis Scholarships worth \$1,100.00 each
Kathleen Doody, Laurel Cook, Hilary Greenfield, Laura Fitterman
- 1 Richard Jeffesen Aviation Scholarship worth \$3,000.00
David Safarik
- 1 Department of Aeronautical Science Chair's Award worth \$1,000.00
Steven Spiller
- 265 Dean's List Awards worth \$100.00 each
265 students
- AOPA generic contribution to ERAU of \$25,000.00

Professor Michele Summers is the Chair of Awards and Scholarships in the Department of Aeronautical Science. To contact her for further information on scholarships and awards, please call 226-7020 to set up an appointment.

By Michele Summers

ERAU Firearms Club to host first meeting

Brian Asbury
Firearms Club

After many attempts over several semesters, it's finally here. Late last semester, the Safety Department officially approved the beginning of the ERAU Firearms Club. The club has brought on Professor Martin Lauth as its new advisor and is scheduled to have its first meeting next week. Founded by Ken Baylor with some help from myself, the Firearms Club will be there to promote gun safety and training.

"What we plan to do with this club is teach people how fun recreational shooting really is while promoting responsibility and safety on and off the range," said Baylor.

Baylor also said that the club is not only for gun owners, but

anyone with an interest. While most of the members initially will probably own guns, the non-gun owners can see what we have and figure out what they like. The club has arranged training with local vendors for beginner level courses as well as concealed weapons courses and discounts. Numerous Embry-Riddle students own firearms, both here in Daytona or back at their homes, and have a desire to expand on their firearms activities.

The main idea of the Firearms Club is to have range meets, take trips to other ranges around Central Florida and promote gun safety and knowledge. Most people, before they buy a gun, like to fire it. This will give students an opportunity to see, hold and shoot other peoples weapons to see what they like or dislike before they

make their purchases.

As founder, Baylor will serve as the initial president, and as co-founder, I will serve as the initial vice-president.

"With the Facebook group already started and over 150 members already, we are hoping to have an initial turnout of about 50 to 60 students," Baylor stated, "and hoping to break one hundred members within a year."


Keeping in mind the guns are not allowed on school campuses, we will have weekly meetings like most clubs, to discuss our plans. Be sure to keep an eye on *The Avion* and flyers to be posted around school for specific details and times.

The club will be holding its first meeting on Wednesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m. in IC Center room 104.

We'll see you at the range.

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But that's just my opinion

One of the coolest things I ever read in the newspaper back home, the Washington Post, was the obituary for a truly revolutionary man. He wasn't a military man, he wasn't a politician, he wasn't a businessman or a policeman or anything. He was a movie reviewer for a newspaper, and he introduced a completely new concept into the whole genre of writing. Hear me out.

He wrote for years about movies, the good, the bad, and the mediocre. As all reviewers do, he would rate the movies, and then talk about them for a bit, discussing their ins and outs and thoughts and concepts. The interesting thing he did was almost always in the last line of his reviews; when he wrote a bad review about a movie that he thought wasn't up to par or just didn't deserve our money, he would end his article with "but that's just me."

I don't know his name; the time between has been a little too long, and

all of my Google searches have come up with the results of his work. Try doing a search for "movie reviewer 'but that's just me,'" and you'll come up with something along the lines of 270,000 hits. This, to me, is partial evidence that he has had a significant impact on the genre. Yes, I know he didn't invent the phrase, and yes, I know there are lots of movie review blogs out there what are probably showing up, too. But do a search for "movie reviewer 'this movie sucks,'" and you'll get less than 100,000 hits and a suggested revision to your statement.

OK, so this guy wrote about the fact that it was his opinion in his obviously opinionated article, and it became popular. Why should you care? Well, as movie reviews, I think it's pretty cool, but I also think that this is a generally good idea. People in general have the annoying tendency to be convinced that they are right, because they think so. Don't believe

me? There are millions of examples, but maybe I should just tell you to watch CSPAN for a while and find out for yourself.

Anyway, I have a proposition: take his lead and extend it into the rest of our lives. I'm not thinking about anyone in specific, and I'm not saying that you have to do this all the time no matter what. If you believe in something firmly, and you can back it up with facts, and if you truly know that this is the best thing for a group of people, be it your friend, constituency, or whatever, you should bring it up and present your case. But, if you're talking about which Pokémon is better, or that the Vikings are so much better than Green Bay, or even if George Bush is the single biggest ... whatever. I think that the extra separation between what is fact and what is not so obviously opinion could do us all good.

But that's just me.

~Bob Scheid



Do you blame Grumpy Bear for the tornado? Well tell us how you feel. Send your opinions to avion.newsroom@gmail.com and get your voice heard.

Stand Up!

"The First 100 Hours," good, bad and ugly

I hope everyone had a good break, and even though *The Avion* was displaced, we're still chugging. On to the first column of the new democratic Congress; break out the popcorn.

The Bad: Very little that was passed in these "First 100 Hours" will likely help anyone. The only bill that has real potential is minimum wage, but like all six of the bills passed, they have to get through the much tighter Senate and the newly dusted off veto pen of the President.

to mirror the over 15 percent drop in oil prices in the last year, something I truly do not understand. We will see which of these bills actually reach full potential.

The Ugly: Oh, how the mighty fall. As soon as the majority in the House changed hands, the Republicans started complaining. "We could have done better," or "If this bill was sent to committee..." were common phrases. It seems slightly ironic that they used the same tactic while they were in power. I am not saying it's right, actually it's very wrong, but it's also very funny. Another nasty retort occurred when the Republicans cried foul over the fact that American Samoa was not included in the new minimum wage bill. The reason? Star-Kist tuna has a canning facility located there; they also have headquarters in House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's home district. Of course this was an act of favoritism. Though, as soon as the Democrats were made aware of this issue, they simply included American Samoa, for the first time ever, under federal minimum wage.



Chris Tezak
Columnist

The Good: The Democrats actually came through with their campaign promises and chugged six bills that "America called for." Ethics, student loans, subsidies for big oil, stem cells, minimum wage and prescription drug reform were all brought to the floor and passed by the controlling majority. The bill I was most happy to see passed was minimum wage, seeing as the United States is falling behind the curve as far as wages go.

The bill that was passed will drop the interest rates of federal subsidized loans over the next five years. I don't know about you, but I'm not too worried on the interest I get from the \$5000 my Stafford loan; I am worried about the other \$20,000 I pay in tuition.

Another good point, though maybe this should go under ugly: the Senate passed a bill that revokes Congressional pensions if the congressperson is convicted of a white-collar crime. I applaud the Senate, but at the same time, this is only a little disturbing.

The repeal of the oil subsidies that was granted in the last energy bill, justified as I believe they were, will most likely just raise gas prices higher, gas prices that, all of a sudden, have failed

Student Forum

The Avion asks: "How did the tornado affect you?"

—Compiled by Doyin Adewumi



Michael Kamugisha
Freshman
Aerospace Engineering

"I was sad but then I was the happiest person because school got postponed."



Shama Kristina Jones
Junior
Aviation Maintenance Sci.

"I was happy because Spruance Hall got destroyed."



Ohremi Areola
Graduate Student
Space Science

"Relocation of offices made it difficult to locate some important offices."



Timothy S. Oniger
Freshman
Aeronautical Science

"It did not really affect me, but I was curious for whether or not my car was damaged."



Lindsey Anne Evans
Freshman
Aeronautical Science

"I got a chance to go on a three day trip to Hawaii."



Chloe L. Cowart
Freshman
Aviation Business Adm.

"When I came back, I found my goldfish dead laying on my bed because of the tornado."

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Russian Air Force receives new Sukhoi Su-34

Brian Asbury
Aeronautica Editor

For the first time in 15 years, the Russian Air Force will be buying new fighters. The first two production Sukhoi Su-34 fighter-bombers were delivered in December. Six more are scheduled to be delivered in 2007 and another 10 in 2008, allowing to become operational with Russia's front-line bomber force in 2010.

General Vladimir Mikhailov, the Russian Air Force commander-in-chief, said the Russian air force plans to operate 57 aircraft by 2015 with an eventually have a total Su-34 force of 200 aircraft.

The Su-34 is a fighter bomber derivative of the older Su-27. The Su-34 retains the same airframe

as the Su-27 with a conventional high wing configuration. The new aircraft has upgraded multi-mode phased array radars and terrain avoidance systems. The internal fuel tanks have been increased in size, resulting in an increase take-off weight. The aircraft has canards to increase static instability in order to increase maneuverability and reduce trim drag.

The large flight deck provides side-by-side seating, a galley, latrine and a bunk bed. For better comfort, the cockpit is also pressurized by the air conditioning system rather than oxygen masks and a massage function in the ejector seats.

A more modern "glass" cockpit has been added, an upgrade from the Su-27 featuring a color CRT multi-function displays. The avionics are built around the radar system and a

laser/television system for guiding precision-guided munitions.

With 12 stores pylons the Su-34 can carry 17,635 lbs of both air-to-air and air-to-ground ordnance to accompany the GSh-30-1 30mm cannon. The aircraft has fixed intakes, limiting it to a top speed of Mach 1.8, much slower than the Su-27's top speed of Mach 2.35, but still matching the U.S. Navy and Marine Corp's F/A-18.

Officially the Su-34's NATO reporting name is Fullback, but the aircraft new oddly-shaped nose section has earned it the nickname "Platypus."

The Su-34 is expected to stay in service well beyond 2020, with the gradual phasing out of the Su-24 and the option to increase the fleet to 300 aircraft.



PHOTO COURTESY EUGENE V. DVUURECHENSK

Northrop Grumman anti-missile system takes flight on FedEx

Brian Asbury
Aeronautica Editor

One of the world's strictest countries in terms of aviation safety has once again upped the measures used to prevent airline-based terrorist attacks.

"Code Positive", a system designed by Israeli-based Elbit Systems Ltd to prevent incident analogous to the 9/11 catastrophes, will be used in Israel to assign each pilot flying through local airspace with a unique code which will in turn be used to verify the pilot's identity. Aircraft which do not pass this screening process will have to either turn back or be shot down.

A small credit card-sized device, the system will be distributed by Israeli officials to all commercial pilots authorized to fly through their national airspace, starting in May. According to authorities, the entire system should be operational within the year, and will serve to greatly reduce fear of aviation terrorist attacks among the general populace.

The exact technology behind this invention is of course classi-

fied, but Danny Shenar, Transport Ministry head of security, guarantees that the system cannot be simply handed over to a hijacker since it only works for the person for which it was intended.

Investigations in the 9-11 attacks have demonstrated that the events could have been at least partially prevented had the US military aviation infrastructure set itself in motion soon after the first crash.

Indeed, the Air Force could have acted far more quickly had it realized that the designated pilots were not the ones actually flying the planes.

This created a high demand both in the US and abroad for an infallible pilot identification system, seeing how it is believed that the 9-11 hijackers killed the original pilots.

Living up to its reputation of having one of the world's most secure airspaces, Israeli officials are forewarning that a deadline will soon be set for airlines to acquire the Code Positive system. An eventual failure to do so will see companies denied passage through or entry in Israeli airspace, with the threat of being fired upon should they violate this directive.

"If we can protect Air Force One, we can protect commercial aircraft"
- BARBARA BOXER



PHOTO COURTESY U.S. ARMY

NORTHROP GRUMMAN'S ANTI-MISSILE system is designed to protect aircraft from portable missile devices like the General Dynamics FIM-43 Redeye shown above.



ADAM WRIGHT/AVION

Northwest Airlines files to emerge from bankruptcy

\$2.4 billion in annual cost cuts bring the airline afloat

Michael McGraw
Staff Reporter

Northwest Airlines filed a bankruptcy reorganization plan on Jan. 12. According to the 66-page document, Northwest plans to emerge from bankruptcy in the second quarter of this year. However, details on how the airline will be organized were lacking.

The carrier, which has been oper-

ating under Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection since September 2005, has until Feb. 15 to file the additional details.

According to Northwest CEO Doug Stealand, the carrier has cut more than \$2.4 billion in annual costs since plunging into bankruptcy protection, more than half of which came from employee pay cuts and more lenient work rules.

Under the plan, Northwest's current unsecured creditors will be given shares in the new company. These new shares, however, will not cover the full loss of the creditors. Current shares in the company will be canceled, leaving current shareholders with nothing.

Some current shareholders contend, however, that Northwest is worth more than the company is reporting. On the Friday when the plan was filed, Northwest shares

closed the day at \$4.61 per share, but a group of 11 shareholders who collectively own 18.5 percent of the company's stock estimate Northwest's worth at \$17.30 per share after secured and unsecured creditors are paid.

That group's estimation is scheduled to be heard by the bankruptcy court in mid-February, but before the airline files additional details of its plan.

Also lacking from the plan was any indication whether Northwest will merge with another carrier. Recent reports indicate that the airline has held merger talks with Delta Air Lines, which is currently combating an unwelcome takeover attempt by US Airways. Delta, despite the merger talks and hostile-takeover bid, has vowed to emerge from bankruptcy as a stand-alone carrier.



MATT SMITH/AVION

Israel implements in-flight pilot identification system

Israeli system to help against hi-jackings

Luca Cernuschi
Staff Reporter

One of the world's strictest countries in terms of aviation safety has once again upped the measures used to prevent airline-based terrorist attacks.

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designed by Israeli-based Elbit Systems Ltd to prevent incident analogous to the 9-11 catastrophes, will be used in Israel to assign each pilot flying through local airspace with a unique code which will in turn be used to verify the pilot's identity. Aircraft which do not pass this screening process will have to either turn back or be shot down.

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UAV's ready for civilian role

Australian company builds UAV's for the law enforcement

Luca Cernuschi
Staff Reporter

Robotics is further rooting itself in our daily lives and rendering itself more and more necessary in the world of aviation, this time through law enforcement.

Queensland University of Technology (QUT), one of Australia's most prominent tertiary education institutes, is working with the region's police to devise Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) for use in the law enforcement environment.

Simply a rumor until a short while ago, QUT Associate Professor Rod Walker has recently affirmed that this project has indeed been ongoing since the University underwent talks with the police force last year.

QUT, together with Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), is investing in the construction of mini-helicopters and mini-planes tailored for the police force.

The University is focusing on the avionics and systems aspect of the program, while CSIRO is testing the vehicles in Pullenvale, a suburb of Brisbane. Professor Walker told *The Courier Mail* that he predicts the UAVs will be operational in a "couple of years."

At the same time, he stressed that the police force is very interested in this project. As such, QUT will be holding a themed conference in the near future, to which it invited every law enforcement commissioner in the country.

The uses for this type of technology would abound. Police are planning to use them for high-speed pursuits, general surveillance of areas, and possibly employing them to scout for marijuana fields in the northern reaches of the country.

A number of civil uses are also being considered, some of which would be fire detection and prevention, traffic analyses and monitoring, surveying for sharks and other potentially dangerous marine wildlife near the coast, and agricultural enhancement.

Similar planes are used for surveillance and scouting purposes in some of the world's global war zones, including Iraq, and for border control by the Australian Military. In fact, the civil and the military versions of the UAV have similar systems, namely a camera to relay information back to base, and an infra-red sensor to see in low-light situations.

QUT affirms that these systems will cut operational costs for the Police Aviation community by at least one third.



2007 highlighted by Mars and ISS construction

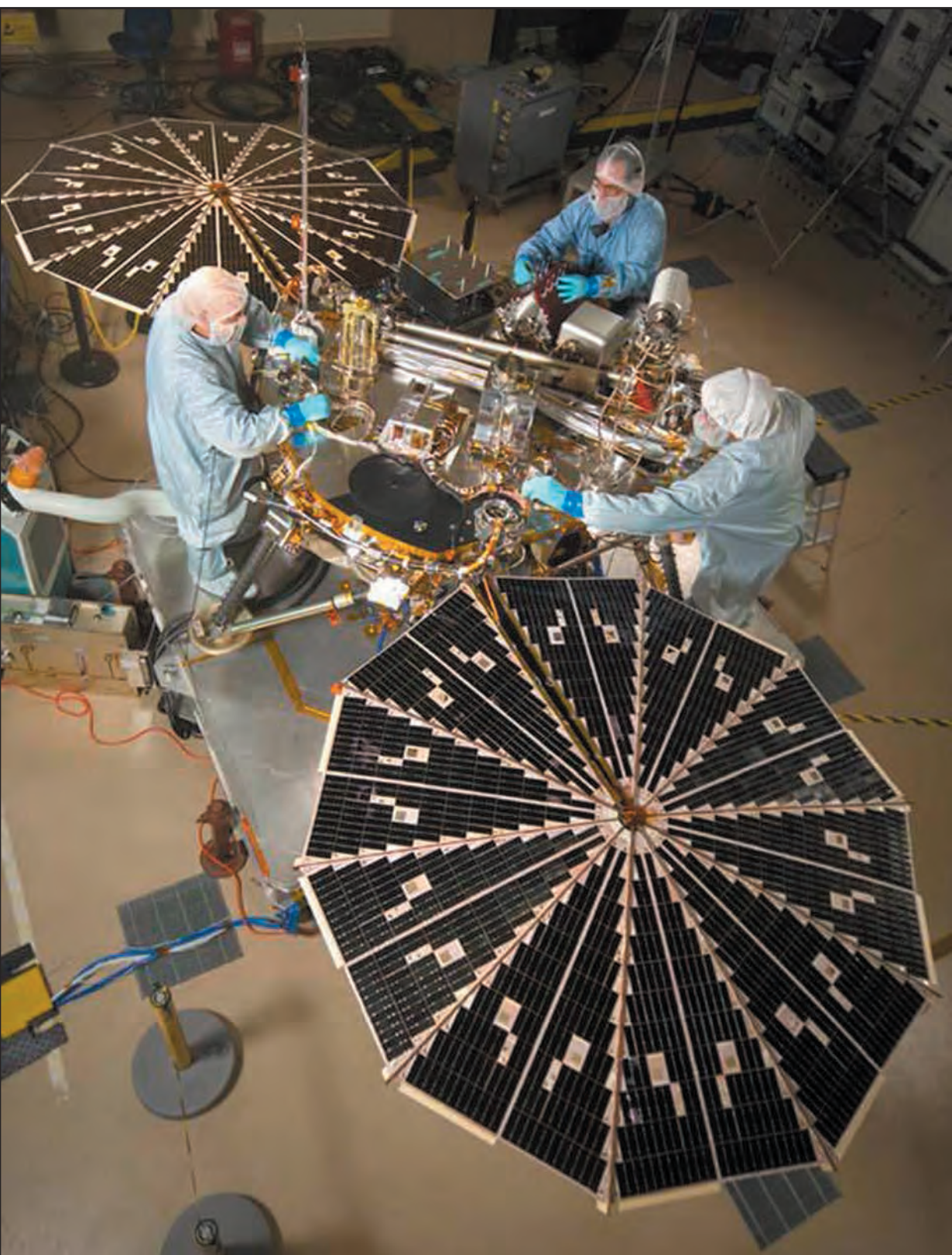


PHOTO COURTESY NASA

THE PHOENIX MARS LANDER, with its standout circular solar arrays, undergoes tests at Lockheed Martin Space Systems in Denver, Colo. Phoenix will be launched to the Red Planet in the early morning hours of Aug. 3 on the first Mars landing mission in four years.

Alex Sidirov

Special to *The Avion*

2007 will be the biggest year for the exploration of space in several years, highlighted with the dispatch of the first Mars lander since the twin rovers Spirit and Opportunity four years ago. It will also be the first complete year of International Space Station construction in half a decade.

Phoenix, if successful, will be just the sixth Mars landing ever and the first U.S. stationary Mars lander since Viking 1 and 2 landed in 1976. It will be launched in the early-morning hours of Aug. 3 on a Delta 2 rocket from Cape Canaveral. The mission is the first in NASA's Scout Program, described by NASA as an "initiative for smaller, lower cost, competed spacecraft." The lander will use technology developed by the Pathfinder and Mars Exploration Rovers (MER), including a stereo camera similar to the one on the MERs. The mission is an offshoot of the cancelled Mars Surveyor program from which it inherits its design, and similar in looks to the Mars Polar Lander which crashed shortly before touching down in 1999.

Phoenix will land in the northern latitudes of Mars to search for submartian water during its planned 150-day mission (excluding the 10-month trip). The lander will dig about 3.3 feet and bury itself into the ice that's below the surface.

NASA is planning five space shuttle launches throughout 2007, all of them serving the ISS, though the last is expected to slip into 2008.

The first will be Atlantis on STS-117, with a planned launch just before dawn on Mar. 15. The mission will install the third set of giant solar panels to the station. Following that will be STS-118, Endeavour's first flight since 2002, which should be launched on June 28. The crew will deliver a small truss segment. The mission will feature the first flight of an educator astronaut, Mission Specialist Barbara Morgan, who participated in NASA's Teacher in Space Program and was Christa McAuliffe's backup in 1986.

STS-120, commanded by the second-ever female shuttle commander, Pam Melroy, is planned to be launched on Sept. 7. The mission, using Atlantis, will include installing the Node 2 connecting module and

moving the huge P6 truss and solar array pair to a different part of the station.

The long-awaited STS-122 launch is planned to occur later in the fall with Discovery to deliver Columbus, the European Space Agency's (ESA) first space laboratory. If a fifth flight, STS-123, flies this year, it will be the first flight dedicated to delivering the huge Japanese Kibo research laboratory module to the ISS.

2007 may also mark the launch of ESA's long-awaited Automated Transfer Vehicle (ATV). The craft will be used to launch people, but rather to transfer cargo between Earth and the ISS.

The spacecraft will be launched by the ESA Ariane 5 rocket from the Korou space center in French Guiana. The craft will be guided by sensors to dock with the space station and will be mostly powered by four solar arrays. The spacecraft will be used to support the ISS while docked to the Russian Zvezda module by using its liquid tanks to accept waste from the station as well as keep the ISS in orbit by firing its engines periodically.

ATV-1, named Jules Verne for the 19th century science fiction writer, may be launched in July. Mission complete, it will then undock and burn up in the atmosphere. The mission was already delayed after an incident in April 2005, when several structural failures occurred.

Late in February, the New Horizons probe, which is headed for an encounter with Pluto in 2015 and the Kuiper Belt beyond, will get a gravity assist from Jupiter.

The probe is already close enough for it to take pictures of Jupiter and its moons. It will scan Jupiter's moon Callisto and then do a fly-by of Jupiter, which will help it gain speed for its trip into the outer solar system.

The probe was the fastest to ever depart Earth; its launch was only a year ago. The last probe to visit Jupiter was Galileo, which took six years to get to the gas giant.

Space Exploration Technologies (SpaceX) will attempt the second launch of its Falcon rocket in mid-February. The launch was delayed from late January. Including the recent delay, the launch has already been postponed three times due to technical reasons. The first Falcon 1 rocket was launched in March of last year, but the mission ended in disaster

shortly after liftoff.

SpaceX claims the Falcon 1 is "the world's lowest cost per flight to orbit of a production rocket." Its Falcon 9 rocket, which can lift up to five times as much as Falcon 1, "will offer the lowest cost per pound to orbit." Falcon 1 is a partially reusable system, with the first stage parachuting back to Earth after use.

On June 21, another long-awaited mission marred by delays is scheduled to get underway. Dawn is a first-of-its-kind mission to send a probe to study asteroids in the asteroid belt, a region between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter which is filled with large space rocks, or asteroids. The mission hopes to unveil the asteroids' origins by studying them up close. The mission may reveal some missing pieces as to how the solar system was formed.

The probe will travel to two of the three largest objects in the belt, Ceres, which was recently classified as a dwarf planet, and Vesta, an asteroid. The two bodies differ greatly. Vesta is similar to the inner planets like Mars, while Ceres is closer to the icy moons of Jupiter. The two also differ in that Vesta may have had lava flows in the past and there seems to be a large crater at its southern pole. Ceres, on the other hand, appears to have frozen water.

The probe will utilize revolutionary ion engine, the first time it is being used on a deep-space mission since the technology-testing Deep Space 1 probe. The ion engine will provide the necessary thrust to reach the two objects quicker and more efficiently in October 2011 (Vesta) and February 2015 (Ceres). The spacecraft will be launched on a Delta 2 rocket from Cape Canaveral.

Finally there is GLAST, the Gamma Ray Large Area Space Telescope, also to be launched on a Delta 2 from the Cape on Oct. 7. The mission of the telescope will be to seek out and probe supermassive black holes by detecting gamma rays, which is a form of radiation plentiful in high-energy stellar explosions. The telescope will help understand other dense stellar phenomena, like pulsars, and identify unknown sources of gamma radiation in the Milky Way galaxy. It replaces the former Great Observatory program's Compton Gamma-Ray Observatory, launched by the shuttle in the early 1990s and which burned up several years ago.

Advertisement

Black hole devours planet

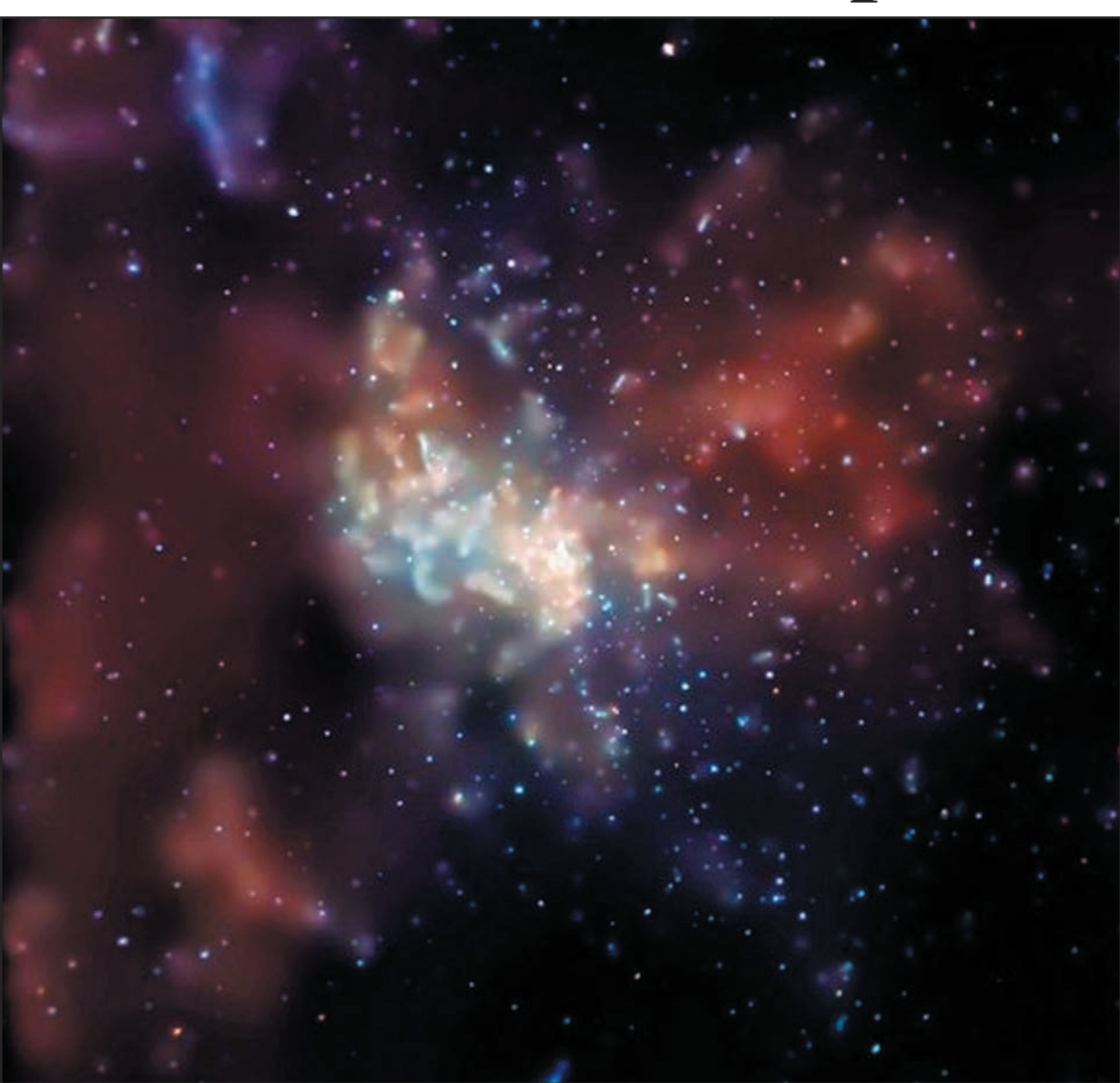


PHOTO COURTESY NASA

THE SUPERMASSIVE BLACK HOLE Sagittarius A has begun to emit outbursts that scientists believe were caused by the cosmic body engulfing a planet-sized object.

Astronomers believe black hole engulfed a mass the size of Mercury

Kira Vuille-Kowing
Guest Reporter

About 27,000 light years away at the core of the Milky Way galaxy, the gas clouds that surround the supermassive black hole Sagittarius A have become unusually illuminated, catching the interest of the scientific

community. According to researchers, the bright glow of the clouds is possibly caused by the black hole's inhalation of an object equal in mass to the planet Mercury.

Though they began reaching Earth nearly 60 years ago, NASA's Chandra X-Ray Observatory has only recently recorded these "light echoes," which are reflections of light from a primary source.

While the black hole has caused smaller, fairly recent outbursts, the most current one is thought to be both 1,000 times brighter and longer than its predecessors.

The magnitude of the outburst begs the question of what exactly the devoured object was that precipitated this unusual glow of lights.

Researchers have agreed that it would only take a trivial amount of matter to provoke the outburst,

but beyond speculation, no one can know for certain what the black hole consumed.

Michael Munro, of the California Institute of Technology, has proposed that on occasion, a disturbance in the swirling disk of matter that surrounds Sagittarius A will result in the discarding of its material into the black hole. This in turn will lead to an outburst.

A second hypothesis suggests that the clouds of dust and gas that circulate around the galactic center are occasionally swept into the black hole.

Despite this frequent activity, the supermassive black hole is strangely faint when compared to others of its size. While astronomers suspect that this may be attributed to the galaxy's mature age of several billion years, no one is certain.

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Huygens marks two years since Titan touchdown

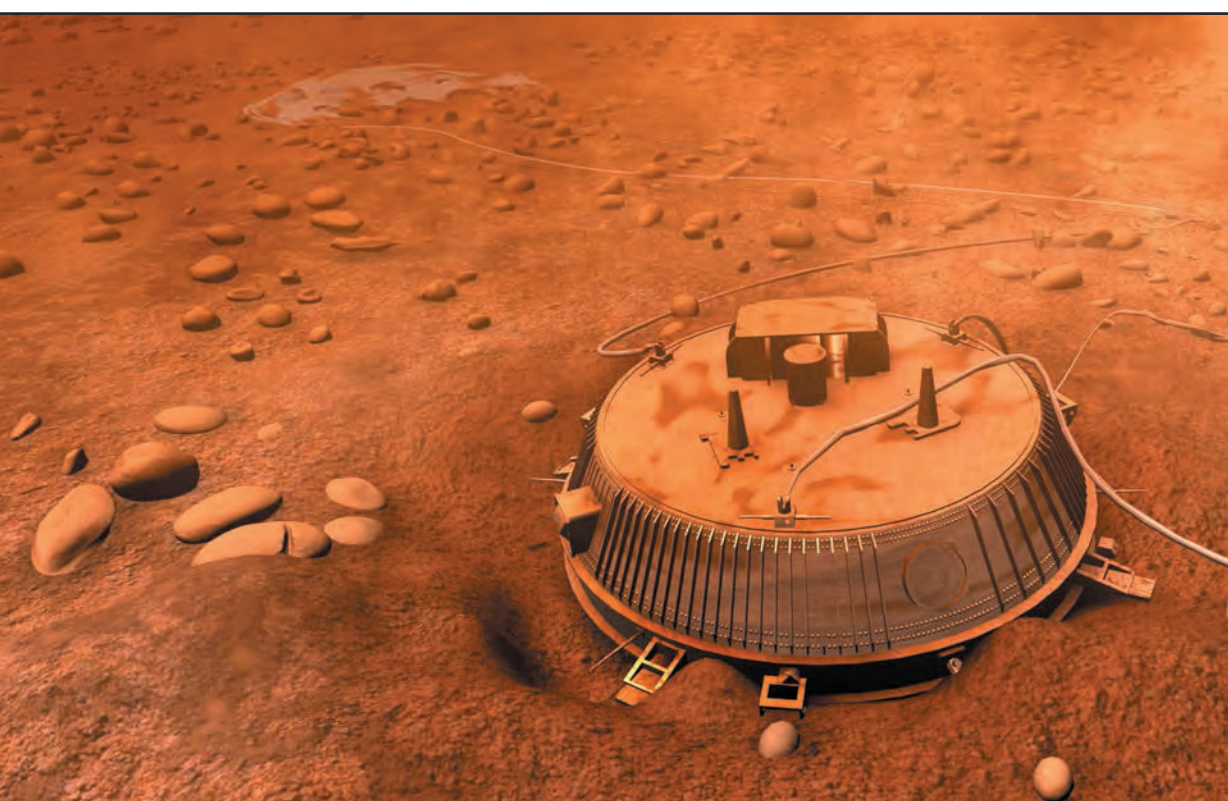


IMAGE COURTESY NASA

AN ARTIST'S DEPICTION SHOWS the Huygens lander as it rests on the surface of Titan. The lander became the first to touchdown on a body beyond Mars in January 2005.

Bob Scheid
Chief Copy Editor

Two years since the Huygens Space Probe penetrated the haze around Saturn's moon Titan, scientists are still making discoveries.

On Dec. 25, 2004, the Cassini probe released Huygens into the vicinity of the moon. 21 days later, on Jan. 14, 2005, Huygens entered the atmosphere of Titan. Huygens captured a total of three hours and 39 minutes of data during its descent and landing, including 72 minutes of data while the surface itself.

Since that day, scientists have been working through the mounds of data that the probe generated during its brief but incredible journey to the only moon in the solar system with an atmosphere. Many of the instruments made significant discoveries about the conditions of this place, from wind speeds to argon isotope proportions, from temperatures to surface geography.

One of the most widely publicized parts of the encounter was

the lack of wind starting at about 60 kilometers above the surface, something completely unexpected and that has given meteorologists something big to consider in the past two years.

Given the thickness of the atmosphere, as well as the methane and ethane that together generate a humidity level on the surface similar to that of Earth's water vapor, the data can be used to study how the Earth may have formed and how it may have formed differently under other circumstances.

Another major discovery was the relative amounts of argon-40 and argon-36 in the atmosphere. The former is produced by so-called "cryo-volcanos," indicating that the world is still geologically active and leading scientists to think that water and methane layers close to the surface may be insulating the interior.

The Gas Chromatograph and Mass Spectrometer and Descent Imager/Spectral Radiometers made one of the most important discoveries of all. The former detected methane around the landing site evaporating out of the soil, and the

latter took pictures of the landing site during descent. Combined, their transmissions back to Cassini showed that the surface was much less smooth than had been expected, and that methane played a role similar to that of water on Earth.

However, most of the discoveries are probably still to come, scientists think.

Huygens was successful in sending back raw data, but the interpretation of the data is more useful in conjunction with additional observations from Cassini. For instance, the surface temperature and atmospheric composition sensors helped explain the liquid methane lakes that Cassini detected during a recent flyby.

The latest flyby of Cassini was on Jan. 13 of this year. 21 more are planned before the predicted end of the mission in summer 2008, but talks are already underway to extend Cassini's operation, partially to study these new lakes on Titan.

Whatever the fate of the mission, however, scientists have already gained enough information to keep them busy for years.

Atlas 5 ready for busy year

Bob Scheid

Chief Copy Editor

The United Launch Alliance (ULA) (formerly Lockheed-Martin-built) Atlas 5 Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle (EELV) is gearing up to deliver its first military payload into orbit.

The rocket, a multistage vehicle, is most famous for launching the New Horizons probe to Pluto last January. Several other successful launches have proven its ability to launch probes and satellites, but its program was cut short last year due to payload delays; only one other satellite, a European television broadcasting satellite, was launched.

Now, however, the Air Force is ready to use an Atlas 5 to deploy Space Test Program-1, a pair of experimental satellites, into orbit on Feb. 22 at around 10 p.m. from

Cape Canaveral. These satellites are designed to simulate fuel transfer between a prototype service satellite called the Autonomous Space Transfer Robotic Orbiter and the NextSat spacecraft.

Four other satellites will be deployed using the secondary payload adapter: the Naval and Air Force Research Laboratory STPSat 1, carrying several experiments; the Los Alamos National Laboratory's CFESat; and one satellite each from the Air Force and Naval academies.

The launch vehicle will be in what is referred to as a 401 configuration. The numbers indicate that the nose cone fairing has a usable diameter of four meters; that there are no strap-on solid rockets; and that the second stage has one Centaur engine. More engines are used for heavier launches; the standard version of the Atlas 5 can lift 10,000 pounds into geosynchronous orbit, while the heavy version can

lift 13,000 pounds into a geosynchronous orbit.

Several more launches are planned for this year, some using the now-ULA (formerly Boeing) Delta 4 rocket, the other rocket in the EELV program, and others using the Atlas 5.

The Atlas 5 series for 2007 is planned to include a classified National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) payload on May 4, a 401 configuration; the first in the military's Wideband Gapfiller communication satellite series on June 28 in a 421 configuration; a commercial communications satellite on Aug. 28 also in 421 configuration.

Also slated for this year is the first and as-yet undated launch for the NRO from Vandenberg Air Force Base in Calif. This last launch will be distinguished by the 411 launch configuration, where only one strap-on booster will be used in the ascent.

Upcoming Cape Launches

The year's first launch from the Cape is slated for sunset on Feb. 15, and could make for one of the prettiest launches of the year due to the timing. A Delta 2 rocket will carry the five identical THEMIS probes into Earth orbit where they will conduct the first major satellite-study of the aurora and how the solar stream affects their development. Four of the probes will serve as the constellation, which will work in conjunction with ground stations across the U.S. and Canada. A fifth probe serves as a backup in case any one should fail.

Liftoff of the Delta 2 is slated for 6:07:37 p.m. EST, with a launch window lasting 19 minutes. Sunset occurs at 6:13 p.m.. If clear, the launch's smoke plume could become lit with multiple colors as it rises away from the setting sun. The last such launch of any rocket from the Cape to occur at sunset happened in 2002.

Three other launches are slated during this semester, highlighted by the Space Shuttle Atlantis in a pre-dawn launch March 15 and the second flight of the enormous 24-story Delta 4-Heavy rocket in April.

Feb. 15
Delta 2
NASA's THEMIS
Five probes will study aurora
Launch window:
6:07:37 p.m. - 6:26:37 p.m. EST

Mach 15
Space Shuttle Atlantis
STS-117 / ISS flight
Third set of giant solar arrays
Launch time: 6:42:48 a.m. EDT

NET April 1
Delta 4-Heavy
Last DSP satellite
Launch window:
12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. EDT

Feb. 22
Atlas 5
STP/Orbital Express
Air Force experiment
Launch window:
9:54 p.m. - 11:51 p.m. EST

EDITED BY BEN COOPER

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Derek Haynie
Horizon Air



Nathan Warwick
Atlantic Southeast Airlines



Matthew Wilcox
Express Jet



Thomas Maurer
Vintage Props & Jets



Shawn Bodreau
American Eagle

Not Pictured:
Randy Branch
Atlantic Southeast Airlines

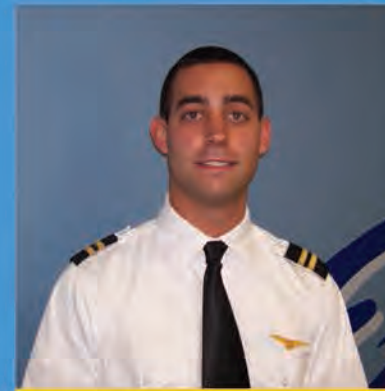
Joshua Odom
Atlantic Southeast Airlines



Ian Shamim
Express Jet

Not Pictured:
Jessica Fekette
Republic Airlines

Sean Tracey
Republic Airlines



Scott Medeiros
Atlantic Southeast Airlines

Not Pictured:
Adam Ton
Atlantic Southeast Airlines

Andrew Balsone
Express Jet



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Flavio Alvarez
Richard Underwood
Aaron Vanson
Frederick Albright
Joshua Morin

Welcome New Instructors:

Carlos Azara
Brian Case
Michael Dickerson
Jan Kuklinski
Patrick Tuttle
Marshall Zukis

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The Embry Riddle Flight Dept would like to thank everyone who helped us completely recover from the tornado. The Eagles are flying because of you!



'The Pursuit of Happyness' is a heartfelt story



The Pursuit of Happyness



Melanie Pugh
Business Manager

In "The Pursuit of Happyness," Will Smith and son Jaden Smith come to life as Chris and Christopher Gardner, the true life inner-city father and son duo doing in the 1980s just what the title suggests. The 117-minute film gives a nod to the dilapidated daycare center Christopher attends and its misspelled moniker.

Gardner shares a San Francisco row house with his son and double-shift-working wife and attempts to make ends meet by selling seldom-needed bone density scanners. After becoming several months behind on rent and taxes, then losing his car, a number of scanners and his wife, Gardner knows something's got to give.

After gathering Christopher and their meager belongings, Gardner moves into a

local hotel and begins pestering stockbroker executives in hopes of garnering a higher-paying job. He woos one such Dean Witter higher-up, Jay Twistle (Brian Howe), with his math wit and ability to solve the impossible and newly released Rubik's Cube, but comes up empty-handed with only a livid cabbie and another lost scanner to show for it. Eventually, Dean Witter offers him a highly-coveted internship. Problem solved, except not so much.

The internship is an unpaid position and offers only a one in 20 shot of further employment with the firm. Only making matters worse are the facts that Gardner is now the sole caregiver for Christopher and that the hotel has kicked them out, rendering the pair once again homeless.

Decidedly at his low point, Gardner shows up at friend Wayne's house in the middle of the night, demanding the few dollars he is owed from a bet made months previously. They find themselves at a train station, where Gardner does his best to put up a front for Christopher and make the situation into a lighthearted game. After motioning toward a "cave," the station's restroom, they enter to Christopher's delight and set up camp after covering the floor in paper towels, where Gardner ultimately cries himself to sleep.

Gardner trudges through his internship, leaving early every day to get in line for shelter, making time for playing basketball with Christopher and studying his books by moonlight and trying to catch up with his co-workers during the day.

Jaden Smith, in his motion picture debut, has some shoes to fill, but should be making his father proud. Will Smith comes out looking much more like an Oscar winner than the Fresh Prince of Bel Air in this heartfelt story of a rarely seen brand of legitimate hard work and determination. Move over, baby-daddies; sacrificing for your kids is in this year.



PHOTO COURTESY SONY PICTURES

'Children of Men' is shocking but chillingly realistic



PHOTO COURTESY UNIVERSAL STUDIOS



Children of Men



Eddie Drapkin
Opinions Editor

Watching "Children of Men" isn't so much watching a movie as it is an experience. The movie, set in the not-so-distant future tells the story of what the world would be like 18 years after women had stopped being fertile. The first scene opens up in a coffee shop, set so that anyone who has ever watched the news feels right at home and from there it just goes. The scenes flow flawlessly together, even as they span several settings and times, and yet it doesn't seem that much time as passed; the movie is directed in a

very terse, quick paced way, so that nearly every scene is filled with nervous tension. The settings also make this movie as realistic as it is. A few scenes are simply difficult to watch, because they're done so well; throughout the entire movie, there is a very strong feeling of "this could really happen."

The acting is, in a word, flawless; Clive Owen deserves every ounce of an Academy Award for his performance. Between the acting, the scenery and the directing, which also merits an Oscar, the movie comes across feeling gritty and, above all, chillingly realistic. Going to see this movie is not something to do on a date or before a party: this movie is a grim, disturbing prophecy of what our future can and maybe will hold. The last 15 minutes of the movie are some of the most intense, vivid scenes ever filmed, and the tension is easily felt both onscreen and in the audience.

"Children of Men" sells itself as a science fiction thriller, but it comes across as a vision into the future, and because of the quality of the acting and directing, it is entirely believable and no point in the movie is it overdone. The only thing wrong with this movie is that there are a few plot holes, but those small errors are overpowered by the sheer power of the cinematography and acting.

Every minute of this film is like living in an alternate reality, a feat rarely achieved, and while at the end you might be left with a few questions, you'll feel as if you don't really want to know the answers. Go and see this movie, but be prepared to be shocked and maybe a little disturbed. This is easily the best movie to have come from 2006.

Stomp steals the show

Stomp



Zach Mahone
Staff Reporter

The "Stomp" performance made a lot of racket this weekend for the sold out crowds at the Peabody Auditorium. The two-day performance was filled with nonstop rhythmic percussion on just about everything imaginable, from brooms, pans and trash cans to paper bags, newspaper, rubber tubes, and yes, even the kitchen sink.

"Stomp" portrays emotions, interactions, and conversations without using words. Its comedy and sexual innuendos kept the audience. By increasing or decreasing the tempo, the cast grabs your emotions for a tribal rollercoaster ride throughout the entire show.

One of my favorite scenes was when the cast creates an extremely appealing visual and audio sequence by igniting and distinguishing Zippo lighters in the pitch

black. Another scene which comes to mind is when the cast uses different length tubes to producing symphony of sounds. The different moods the cast set by their rhythms was only amplified by the spectacular lighting. The lighting was almost a show in itself, with a multitude of colors and shadows dancing on the walls.

"Stomp's" intensity is not for the light of heart. The noise might be enough to cause a headache if you let it, especially during the steel drums section which left a slight ringing in my ears. During the bass drum section the rhythm can be felt throughout the body. Don't let this be discouraging; the whole show was amazing and is definitely worth going to see again.

"Stomp" marks the halfway point through the Peabody's schedule for January with three more shows left in the month. The Peabody Auditorium will be hosting a number of wonderful events in February including the Boston Pops, Riverdance, and Chick Corea with Bela Fleck. As USA Today says, "Stomp finds beautiful noises in the strangest places. For more information about upcoming events at the Peabody Auditorium, you can call the box office at (386) 671-3460 or visit them online at www.peabodyauditorium.org.

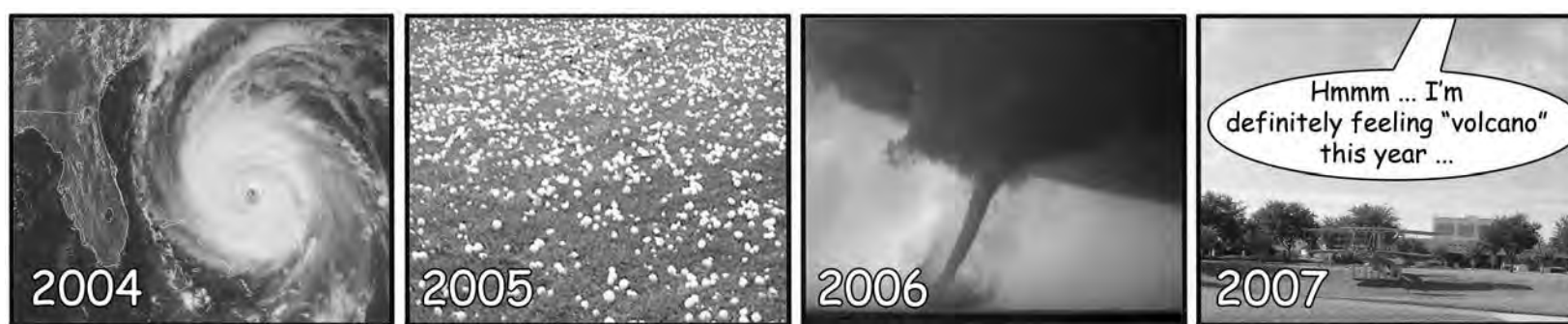
Upcoming concerts in Orlando

When???	Who???	Where???	How Much???
Jan. 27	John Mayer	Amway Arena, Orlando	\$39.00
Jan. 30	The Red Hot Chili Peppers	Amway Arena, Orlando	\$56.50
Feb. 6&7	Less Than Jake	The Social, Orlando	\$15.00
Feb. 8	Jimmy Buffett	Amway Arena, Orlando	\$26.00
Feb. 10	Billy Joel	Amway Arena, Orlando	\$49.50
Feb. 12	Journey	House of Blues, Orlando	\$50.00
Feb. 16	Guster	House of Blues, Orlando	\$18.00
Feb. 21	Hinder	House of Blues, Orlando	\$20.00
Feb. 24	The Roots	House of Blues, Orlando	\$22.00

The Riddle of Life

By Jonathan Mettin

Tomorrow's forecast ... aw, who cares?
We know Florida's screwed anyway.



SUDOKU

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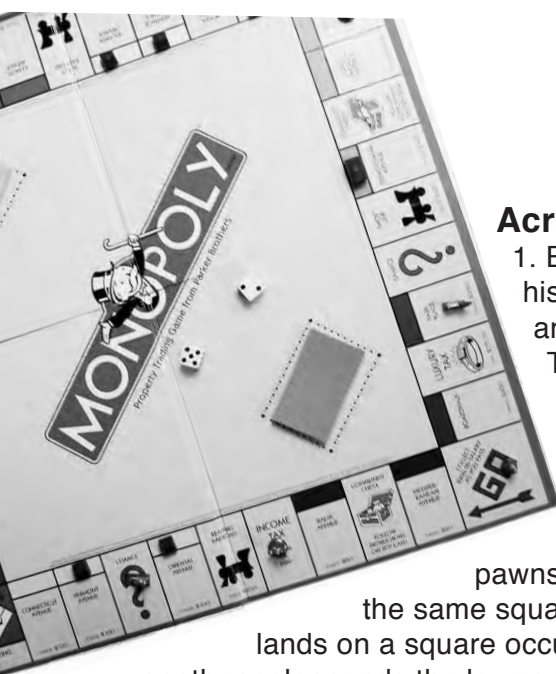
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DIFFICULT

Let's play a board game!



Across

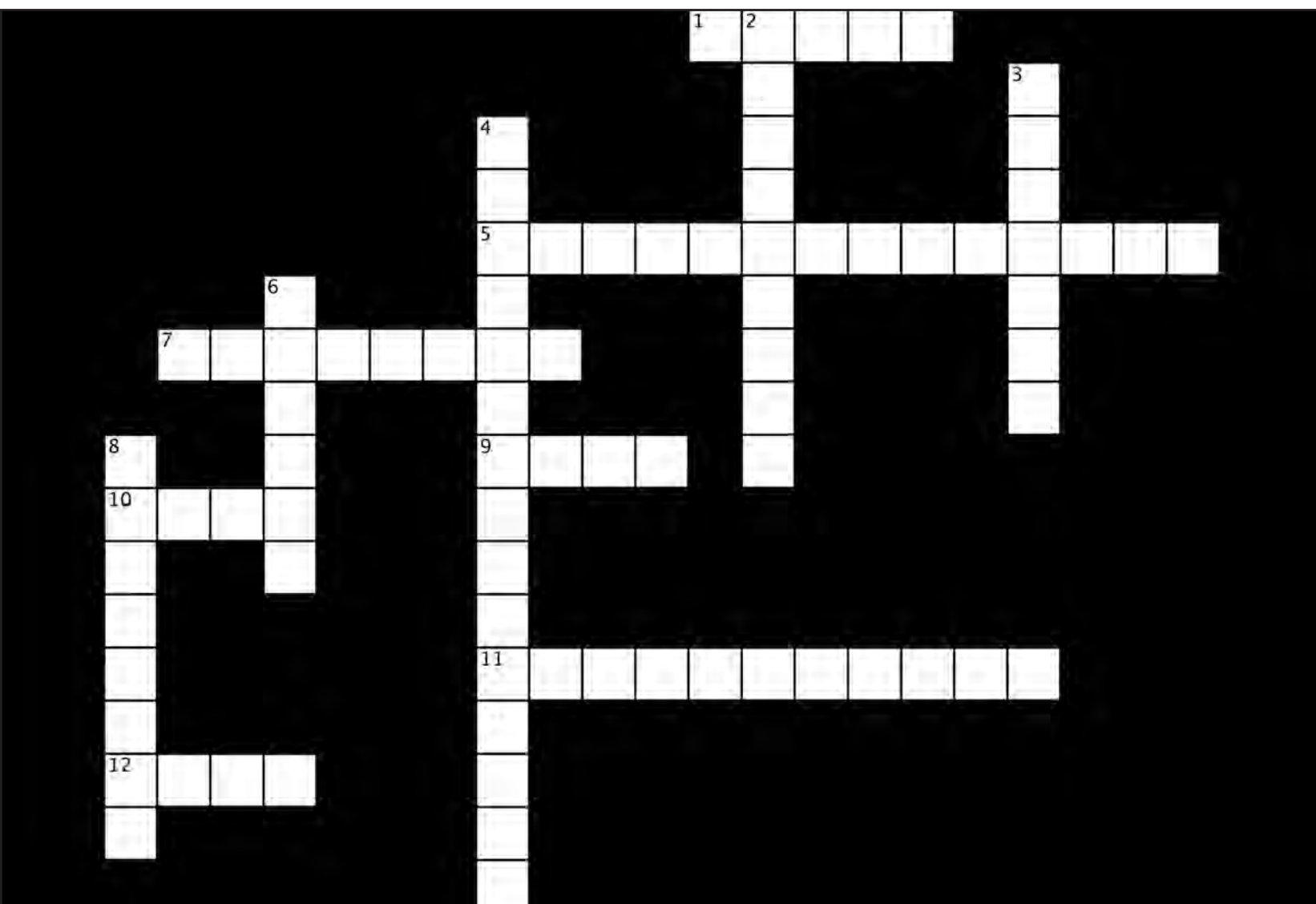
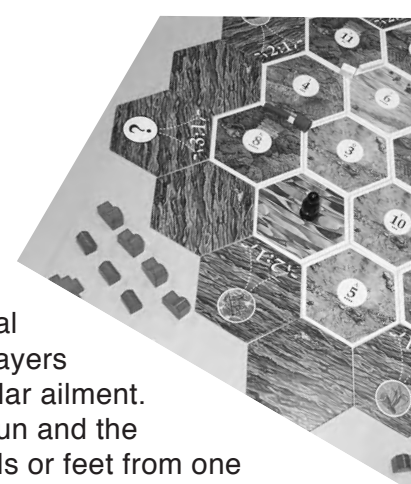
- Each player has his or her own start and home locations. The objective of the game is to be the first player to get all their pawns from start to home. Since two pawns cannot occupy the same square, the pawn that lands on a square occupied by a pawn of another color sends the lower pawn back to start.
- Board game where progress is determined by a player's ability to answer general knowledge or popular culture questions.
- The best selling commercial board game in the world where players compete to acquire wealth through economic activities involving buying, renting and trading

Down

- Battery-operated game that tests players' hand-eye coordination using an "operating table" with a comic properties using play money.
- Strategic board game depicting a stylized Napoleonic-era political map of the Earth, divided into forty-two territories. The players control the armies and attempt to capture territories from other players. The goal is to "conquer the world."
- Based on a crime fiction, where each player represents a guest staying at the house where the owner is found dead. The players attempt to solve the murder by providing a suspect, weapon and the room.
- A two-player game where each player takes turns dropping discs into a vertical grid with the objective of getting four of one's own discs in a line.
- Each player chooses a plastic car where they build their "family" throughout the game. Scenarios on the board relates to some "real-life event."

Across

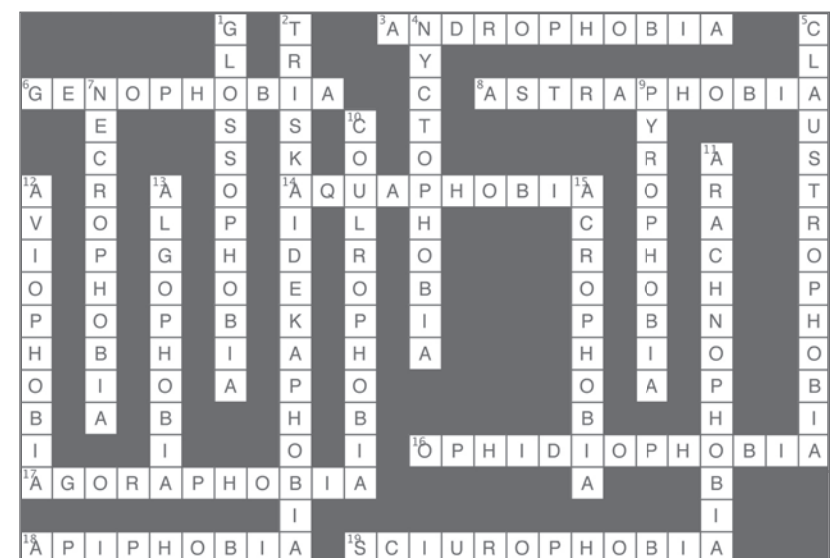
- likeness of a patient with a large, red-light-bulb for his nose. There are number of openings which reveal fictional named ailments where the players take turns removing a particular ailment.
- The game where a dial is spun and the players must move their hands or feet from one colored circle to another.
- A multiplayer game first published in Germany, where the players represent settlers establishing colonies on the uninhabited island. The island itself is laid out randomly at the beginning of each game from hexagonal tiles of different land types producing one type of resource.
- Also called "Chutes and Ladders," _____ and Ladders is a classic children's game.
- A word game, where players score points by forming words from individual letter tiles on a 15x15 game board and the word must appear in a standard dictionary.



Submit your completed crossword to our office in SC 110. All correct entries will be entered to win a \$10 gift certificate to Barnes & Nobles Bookstore. Entries are due Friday by 5 p.m. Good luck!

Last Issue's Solution Phobophobia

WINNER: Will Klein



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Colgan Air, Atlantic Southeast Airlines, Pinnacle Airlines and American Eagle Airlines will be in Jacksonville Beach on Feb 11-16 seeking ATP-recommended pilot candidates. Email interview@allatps.com to see if you qualify to attend.

ATP has hiring letters of agreement with the following airlines:



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