

7-17-2007

## Avion 2007-07-17

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

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## Facilities is on summer vacation too?

Brian Asbury

Advertising Manager

As most of you know, there is a myriad of unsightly construction in action across campus. Construction aside, however, regular maintenance across campus is being neglected. For instance, several locations across campus were found last week with grass taller than 12 inches. These were all in non-construction, easily accessible areas. In fact, the only place on campus where the grass appeared to be adequately maintained was in the front of the campus around the library circle while the areas around the dorms and flight line have been neglected.

Why, you ask, is the campus looking as poorly as it does? Dan Young, Director of Facilities who oversees the grounds keeping says he is understaffed. He currently employs 14 groundskeepers and has recently been approved to hire two more. Young says he still could use an additional three or four.

Even though the University is on a four day week for the summer, the Facilities Dept. works a five days a week, having multiple teams that work different days of the week. Young says all his grounds keepers work 40-hours-a-week throughout the summer. Young also blames the weather for allowing the campus maintenance to slack. He says added rain speeds up the growth of the grass. Because of this, according to Young, the majority of the grounds keep-

ing attention is focused on the athletic fields, which are being attended to two or three times weekly. However, according to the National Drought Mitigation Center, Central Florida has been in a state of moderate to severe drought since April '07 and has been in a continued drought for 18 months. The National Weather Service observes this year's rainfall at less than half than normal rate here in Daytona Beach.

Student Government Association President Nate Clapper voiced his concerns. "I like many students, have been disappointed in the appearance of campus since the end of the Spring '07 semester," he said. "In order to help this issue the SGA organized a campus cleanup during the week between Summer A and Summer B. Several students from the SGA went around campus picking up trash and sprayed weeds growing in Legacy Walk. Additionally, I spoke to Dr. Connolly about the issue and he is committed to improving the appearance of the campus as well. I've also noticed that the maintenance crews from the Facilities Dept. are working hard everyday to maintain the campus."

Since Clapper spoke with Chancellor Connolly, some work to clean up the campus has begun. The "moat" running north and south starting to the west of the Lehman building all the way to Doolittle Hall is being weeded. Once cleaned, Young plans

Please see "FACILITIES," A2



BRIAN ASBURY/AVION

## Embry-Riddle to host instructor pilot job fair

Press Release

Embry-Riddle

More than 85 instructor pilots at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – Daytona Beach have found great jobs in the airline industry in the last year. Because of this, Embry-Riddle is offering an opportunity for qualified instructor pilots to join its Flight Department and teach highly motivated collegiate aviation students in the most-advanced collegiate aircraft in year-round flying weather.

Embry-Riddle will hold a Job Fair for CFI/CFII instructor pilots Friday, July 20, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the atrium of the Aviation Building at Embry-Riddle's Daytona Beach campus, 600 S. Clyde Morris Blvd.

Embry-Riddle's compensation and employment program for instructor pilots is the best in the industry, with starting hourly wages that range from \$15.77 to \$22.05, free undergraduate and graduate tuition, excellent health benefits, paid holidays, retirement plans, personal-leave accrual, and a 100 percent uniform allowance.

Embry-Riddle offers the only all-glass cockpit primary training fleet in collegiate

aviation. All of its 41 Cessna 172s and Diamond DA42 Twin Stars are equipped with the Garmin G1000 glass cockpit and are model year 2005 or newer. The fleet also includes six Piper Arrows, one Decathlon (for upset training), 11 general aviation level-six flight-training devices with 220-degree visuals, and one level-six CRJ200 with a 180-degree display. Each aircraft is equipped with an ADS-B or TIS collision-avoidance system.

Job Fair attendees should bring with them a resume that includes current licensures, certificates, and medical; hours logged; total dual-instruction given; types of aircraft/simulators flown; employment history; business contacts; and references. Each candidate should be prepared for an onsite personal interview, a flight-training competency questionnaire, and a flight-training classroom demonstration that requires the candidate to teach one of the following three maneuvers: Lazy Eights, Chandelles or Eights on Pylons.

The minimum qualifications required are FAA Certified Flight Instructor/Instrument CFI, CFII Airplane, Single Engine Land, and a Class III Medical.

For more information, contact Chuck Kelley in Embry-Riddle's Human Resources Office at (386) 226-4956 or charles.kelley@erau.edu.



PHOTO COURTESY EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY

## Students named to space exploration advisory board

Press Release

Embry-Riddle

Embry-Riddle undergraduate student Kelly Billon and graduate student Damaris Sarria recently were named to the board of advisors of the Coalition for Space Exploration, an organization of space industry businesses and advocacy groups whose mission is to educate and inform the public on the value and benefits of space exploration.

Billon and Sarria are two of the seven "Generation Y" young adults named to the advisory board. Their primary role will be to promote the importance of space exploration to the next generation of explorers and enthusiasts.

They join space pioneers like Apollo astronaut Buzz Aldrin, Academy-award winning filmmaker James Cameron, renowned cardiovascular surgeon Dr. Michael DeBakey and other public leaders who share the Coalition's mission.

"Each new member brings exciting perspectives and insights to the challenge of communicating the value of our nation's investment in space to younger generations of Americans," said Joe Mayer, chair of the Coalition's Public Affairs Team. "We are pleased to have them collaborating with the team of

seasoned professionals and educators currently serving on our advisory board."

Billon is pursuing a communications degree at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. She was the team leader representing the University in the 2007 NASA Means Business competition, in which her team tied for first place. She has consistently been named to the dean's list at the

“  
Each new member  
brings exciting perspectives and insights ...  
-JOE MAYER”

University, worked as a peer mentor and has been named to Who's Who Among American College Students.

Damaris Sarria works for The Boeing Company at Kennedy Space Center in the Orbiter's Thermal Protection Systems division. She is currently working on her master's degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical

University and has a Bachelor of Science from Texas A&M University. Sarria's dream is to one day be an astronaut, which is detailed in her blog, "How I Am Becoming an Astronaut."

"The aptitude, knowledge and passion for space these young people like Kelly and Damaris have is truly incredible," said Joan Underwood, deputy chair of the Coalition's Public Affairs team. "We have several projects slated for this group, including outreach efforts on MySpace, YouTube and other youth-oriented outlets."

The Coalition for Space Exploration is a collaboration of space industry businesses and advocacy groups whose mission is to educate and inform the public on the value and benefits of space exploration and to help ensure the United States will remain a leader in space, science and technology - key factors that will benefit every American, strengthen our nation's economy and maintain our national security. For more information about the Coalition for Space Exploration and the nation's Vision for Space Exploration, visit [www.SpaceCoalition.com](http://www.SpaceCoalition.com). For more information on how to become an advocate for America's space program, visit [www.SpaceAdvocate.com](http://www.SpaceAdvocate.com).



PHOTO COURTESY DAMARIS SARRIA



PHOTO COURTESY KELLY BILLON

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Contact Information

**Main Phone**  
(386) 226-6049

**Advertising Manager's Desk**  
(386) 226-7697

**Fax Number**  
(386) 226-6727

**E-mail**  
avion.newsroom@gmail.com

**Website**  
www.avionnewspaper.com

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Newsroom@gmail.com.



TOM KILEY/AVION



BRIAN ASBURY/AVION

to complete a two-thirds re-roof of the Student Center -- at an estimated \$200,000 to \$300,000 -- and renovation of the air conditioning system for Corsair Hall.

When asked why there is a lack of a recycling program on campus, Young claims, "we cannot afford to do recycling ourselves." In Volusia County however, recycling is free. There is a disposal fee to have trash picked up, but the disposal cost of recycling is about 1/3 of that of trash disposal. The only other cost of the recycling is rental of bins, which we are already paying. The University's response was to place a student on the energy committee. The student then coordinates recycling efforts. Then recycling only happens during the nine month school year allowing the problem to go completely ignored during the summer.

Young says he has received complaints about the appearance of the campus, "we are in a response mode at this point, which we are in every year about this time," he said. "We are always trying to get to the top of the wave to keep the campus up, depending on our funding. Within the next 14-21 days we should start looking pretty top shelf." An Avion poll shows that 67 percent of students are unhappy with the appearance of the campus (see Opinions, A5). Young says he will have the campus looking the same for Orientation as it did at graduation in May.

Some students are not entirely happy with that timeline. "Of course Facilities is going to spruce things up for Orientation ... just in time for visiting parents," said Embry-Riddle alumnus and former Environmental Awareness Committee member, Thomas Kiley. "But the students are here year-round, and they deserve better than that. It's rather dishonest, if you ask me," said Kiley. Young invites students and faculty who have complaints about the way the campus looks to let him know and, "we'll clean it up."

**"FACILITIES" from Front**

to have the area sprayed to keep vegetation down. Some cleanup of overgrown flower beds has been completed, which Young says are on a three week maintenance rotation.

Young insists things have been accomplished so far this summer. He says 60 new trees have been planted since the tornado in December. The Advanced Flight Simulation Center has been repainted and their are plans to repaint the ICI Center and the Instructional Center. Young says the Facilities Dept. has a \$900,000 per year budget for projects on campus and has allocated all of that for campus related projects including replacing 6 of the Dept's 80-90 vehicles this year. Young's two main projects for the Fall are



BRIAN ASBURY/AVION



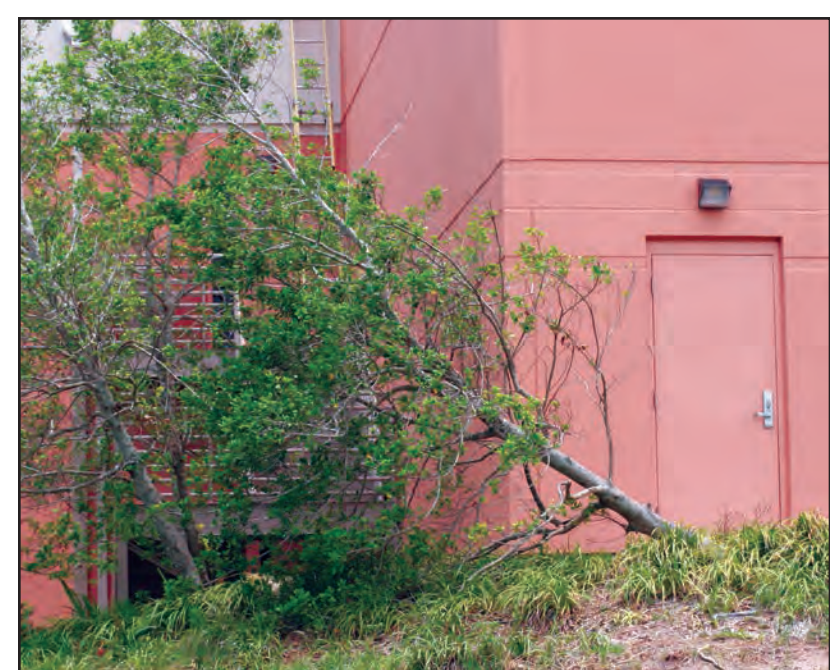
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# Two new trustees named to Embry-Riddle board

Press Release  
Embry-Riddle

Karen Holbrook, recently retired president of Ohio State University, and John Wing, founder and chairman of Wing Aviation, have been named to the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Board of Trustees. The appointments came at the Board's June 8 meeting.

Wing is a former vice chairman of Embry-Riddle's Board of Trustees. Holbrook recently served as a member of the Board of Trustees and the President's Advisory Board. She was the guest speaker at the university's May 2007 commencement ceremony in Daytona Beach, at which she was awarded the Eagle of Aviation Award for her significant contributions to aviation.

"We're pleased to welcome back Karen and John as highly valued trustees," said Jim Henderson, chairman of the Board. "Both are well-versed in Embry-Riddle topics and bring to the table an impressive history of expertise and leadership in their individual sectors."

Karen Holbrook was the president of Ohio State, the largest university in the nation, from 2002 to June 2007. Ohio State is ranked by U.S. News & World Report as one of the country's top 20 public universities, with a reputation for excellence in both academics and athletics.

At Ohio State, Holbrook made cutting-edge research a priority and an integral part of the educational process at all levels of the university. As a result, Ohio State's sponsored research funding topped \$652 million, an all-time high, with \$100 million earmarked for 10 high-impact research projects such as climate change and public health preparedness. In the category of research expenditures, the National Science Foundation now ranks Ohio State eighth in the nation among public universities.

Before joining Ohio State, Holbrook held executive-level positions at the University of Georgia and the University of Florida. She spent the majority of her academic career as a professor of biological structure and medicine at the University of Washington, School of Medicine.

Holbrook is the recipient of many awards and honors, including most recently the President's Award for Leadership in Technology Development from TechColumbus in 2007, the Empowered Woman Award from the Women Presidents' Organization in 2006, and the YWCA Woman of Achievement Award in 2006.

She earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in zoology at the University of Wisconsin in Madison and a Ph.D. in biological structure from the University of Washington, School of Medicine, where she pursued postdoctoral training in the Department of Medicine, Division of Dermatology.

John Wing is the founder and chairman of Wing Aviation, a full-service aviation company that supports principally the corporate jet and airline markets. The company provides maintenance, avionics, and paint and interior services for civilian and military customers worldwide and operates its own fleet of Gulfstream jets. Wing Aviation is headquartered at Lone Star Executive Airport in Conroe, Texas.

Since the 1980s, Wing has been recognized as a world leader in the creation of the independent power industry. He founded and led The Wing Group, a developer of multibillion-dollar power projects worldwide. These projects included Teesside in the United Kingdom, the largest global energy project of the 1990s, as well as a

\$700-million project in Turkey, the first-ever privatized power project in the Middle East. The Wing Group is known for its innovation and successes, as well as its use of personnel with military backgrounds in most key positions.

Wing is a founding owner of Boston Brewing Co., which produces Samuel Adams beer. In addition, he is the owner of several corporations, mainly in the areas of real estate and oil and gas investments.

He is a former board member of The Rocky Mountain Institute, which advises on energy and resource efficiency, and has served on various governmental commissions and committees throughout his career.

Wing holds a B.S. from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and an M.B.A. from Harvard University, where he graduated with high distinction and a Baker Scholar designation. He served as an Army pilot and is a Vietnam veteran.

## Get to know: Paul W. Bell

Associate Dean of Students

**Country/State you are from:** New York

**Why did you take this position:** It was a great opportunity and always in my career plan.

**What did you do before coming to Riddle?** Before going to graduate school, I worked full time for Sears Automotive as a Service Writer. Yes, I sold tires, batteries and tune ups, top sales for 2 years before I left.

**Family/children?** My kids are my horses, Tequila my mare who is 9 and Bailey, her brother who is 7.

**What scares you?** Evil people, you know who you are.

**Most embarrassing moment:** There are so many, its hard to choose, probably junior high school flag football, when I intercepted a pass and got disoriented and made the goal for the other team. It still haunts me.

**Favorite band/musical artist:** Toby Keith, I like what he has to say.

**Tattoos or piercing:** My parents are passed away, but they'd find a way to still kill me if I ever got a tattoo or a piercing.

**First thought when you wake up:** Pat McAllister in 1st Year Programs, she calls me every morning to wake me up. A habit we got into since we both have Nextel.

**Cell phone ring tone:** Umm... just a plain ring, I know I'm boring.

**Thing you hate most about Daytona Beach:** Most recently the weather, floods, hurricanes, hail, tornados oh my!

**Favorite vacation destination:** The Biltmore House in Ashville, NC.

**Something you must do or accomplish before you die:** Write a children's book called "The Adventures of Bailey and Timmy."

**What's in your freezer right now?** Frozen vegetables, hot dogs, and some very old popsicles.

**Favorite movie:** Lord of the Rings

**Store you would choose to max out a credit card:** Lowes

**Last movie you saw in the theater:** Spider Man

**The Simpsons, King of the Hill, South Park, or Family Guy:** Flintstones LOL

**Crest, Colgate or... other:** Crest in the stand up tube.

**Favorite holiday:** Thanksgiving

**Job you would have if money was no object:** Horse Rancher

**Favorite food:** Eggplant parmesan at the Italian Village (see Barbra, tell her I sent you.)

**First car:** 1980, Black Toyota Corolla SR5

**What do you do on the weekends?** Play with my horses, swim in the pool and the endless yard work.

**Favorite airplane or rocket:** 757, seems they can make a plane with leg room.

**Song you would sing for karaoke:** "America the Beautiful"

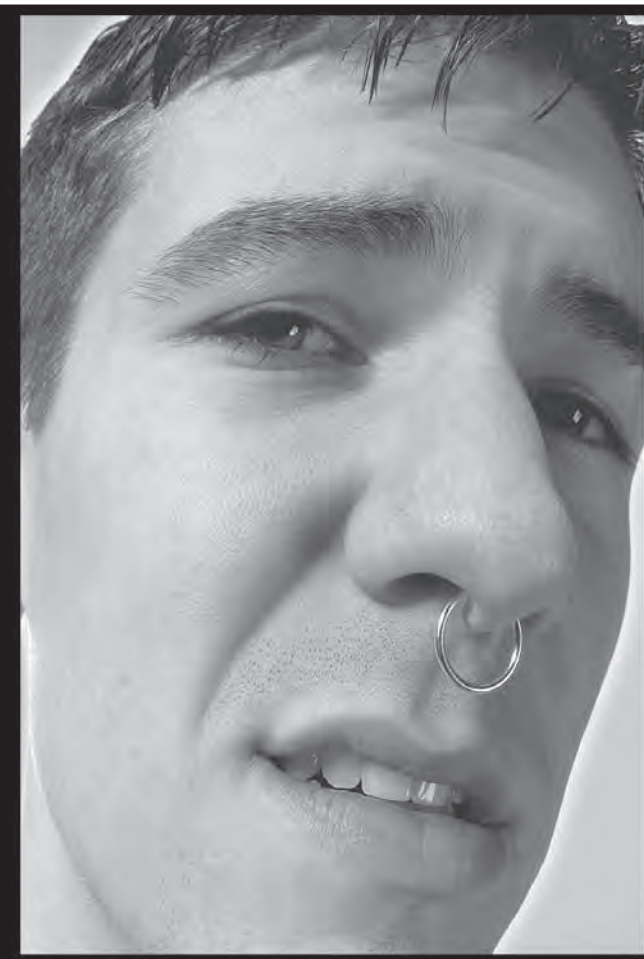
**Quote:** "Be positive and kind, forgiving, and most of all honest to yourself if not others."

**One thing you want to tell Riddle kids/advice:** Just one thing? Those who know me know I can't just say one. My advice, don't ever be afraid to ask questions and challenge ideas. Admit when you make a mistake and take responsibility for your life. Be independent, think for yourself and enjoy this time, every second of it, because before you know it, it will be in your past.



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## Apple's new 'iDesign'

Jura Koncius

The Washington Post

"Apple makes revolution accessible to everybody," says Paola Antonelli, curator of architecture and design at New York's Museum of Modern Art, hailing the glossy black iPhone as yet another milestone in product design.

Like the iconic Apple products that preceded it, the glass-face iPhone, with its rounded-edge, slim silver frame and multi-touch display screen combining phone, iPod and Internet access, is likely to influence the design of more-mundane household appliances such as refrigerators and microwave ovens. "The interface on this phone is not only easy to use and have fun with, it's universally understandable," Antonelli says.

The candy-colored translucence

of iMac computers, beginning with Bondi blue in 1998, set off a wave of color in irons, vacuum cleaners and sewing machines. Three years later, the clean lines and click-wheel control panel of the iPod started showing up in ovens and ranges.

Apple simply sets the bar higher for everybody, Antonelli says. "It's been decades since we have seen a company with such design power."



## Viewers give Al Gore's 'Live Earth' cold shoulder

Martin Miller

Los Angeles Times

Live Earth may have been the largest global entertainment event in history, as its organizers claim, but back on planet America it couldn't even beat ABC repeats of the kids' animated movie "Monsters, Inc." and "America's Funniest Home Videos" in the Nielsen ratings.

NBC's three-hour broadcast of concert highlights Saturday night, featuring musical acts such as the Police, Bon Jovi and Kanye West, averaged 2.7 million viewers — a figure that put it in last place among the four major networks.

Still, organizers put the best spin on the 24-hour musical event staged to raise awareness of global

environmental issues. MSN said it set a new record for most viewers of an online concert: 8 million.

"Live Earth is officially the largest global entertainment event in history," said former vice presi-

“ [It] is officially the largest global entertainment event in history. —AL GORE ”

dent Al Gore, one of the organizers. "And the numbers are still coming in."

## Wonders: the new list



Tracy Wilkinson

Los Angeles Times

The world's most wondrous wonder is actually the computer.

Millions of people from across the globe joined in what was essentially a huge publicity stunt, voting via the Internet to choose a new list of the Seven Wonders of the World announced Saturday.

And the seven winners, announced on the seventh day of the seventh month in the year '07, were: The Great Wall of China; the ancient city of Petra in Jordan; the statue of Christ the Redeemer in Rio de Janeiro; Machu Picchu in Peru; the Maya ruins of Chichen Itza in Mexico; the Colosseum in Rome; and India's Taj Mahal.

The lucky seven represented a collection of mystical, centuries-old places and more modern constructions of limited transcendence — chosen in a decidedly unscientific poll.

"We are celebrating the cultural diversity of our world," proclaimed actor Ben Kingsley, co-host of a glitzy ceremony late Saturday in Lisbon's Stadium of Light, where the winners were announced amid highly orchestrated fanfare.

The popularity contest was the creation six years ago of Bernard Weber, a Swiss filmmaker and self-styled adventurer. Nearly 200 early candidate sites chosen by Internet balloting were scaled down by a panel of experts to 21 finalists, each from a different country, from Greece's Acropolis to the Statue of Liberty.

Online and telephone call-in voting on the finalists began a little over a year ago. Nothing prevented multiple voting by fans, citizens, governments, tourism agencies, you name it.

Weber promoted the project with flashy appearances in hot-air balloons, on camelback and inside a blue blimp, traveling to each of 21 final candidates.

The reception was mixed.

In developing countries where the Internet is taking off, such as China, millions of people enthusiastically cast votes for their favorite monuments. Since the Great Wall was one of the candidates (and a winner), it was an easy guess just where most of those votes went.

In the fabled Incan capital of Cuzco, Peru, Internet cafes reportedly had been full for weeks with supporters clicking their votes for the nearby majestic ruins of Machu Picchu.

In Jordan, Queen Rania lobbied (successfully) on behalf of the ancient red-stoned desert city of Petra. The Spanish royals, along with Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, did their bit (unsuccessfully) to promote the candidacy of the Alhambra, the 12th-century Moorish citadel in Granada.

Elsewhere, there was indifference, and even indignation.

Chilean President Michelle Bachelet, referring to the enormous volcanic-rock carvings on remote Easter Island, her country's candidate, said: "None of us need a vote to know that Easter Island is a marvel."

Apathy and disdain apparently doomed Stonehenge, Britain's prehistoric collection of circularly arranged megaliths. "The polling arrangements" in the contest "are so flawed that they make even Eurovision Song Contest judges look objective," sniffed London's Independent newspaper.

And in Rome, the campaign never caught fire. Telephone calls last week to both the city government and the Culture Ministry could find no one who had even heard of the competition.

Fortunately for the 2,000-year-old Colosseum near downtown Rome, there is enough popular sentiment among Italians and, especially, among legions of foreign visitors to catapult the onetime amphitheater of the gladiators into the winner's circle.

# College woes widespread

Andrew L. Yarrow

The Washington Post

We've all seen the biting clever bumper stickers that proclaim, "My child and my money go to X University." I'm a college professor, and when my students gripe about \$50,000 annual costs and associated debt, I tell them they don't want to know what I paid a quarter-century ago (60 times less in current dollars).

But new research by Public Agenda and the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education indicates that Americans' unease — even bitterness — toward higher education runs deeper than Mercedes-a-year tuition bills. College administrators and education policymakers would be wrong to ignore the growing chorus of complaints among millions of American parents and students.

Going to college long has been the apotheosis of the American dream. Not only did college graduation signify that one had "made it," but the glamour of a four-year intellectual respite in ivy-draped classroom buildings with the world's great scholars attracted millions seeking the surest ticket to a better life. American universities have been world-beating institu-

tions, and the vast post-World War II expansion of public higher education and college loans and scholarships made college affordable to most Americans. From V-J Day to today, the number of U.S. college students soared from fewer than 1 million to more than 17 million, and the correlation between learning and earning has never been stronger.

More students than ever, of all ethnic backgrounds and ages, attend college. The world's best, most ambitious students flock to American universities.

Most young people and their parents believe that college and, perhaps, graduate school are extremely desirable.

Yet slowly but perceptibly, this faith has been eroding — even before the recent college-loan scandal. Stratospheric college costs, coupled with a surprisingly widespread belief in educational mismanagement and the accurate perception that all young people do not have equal access to college, have led ever more Americans to believe that something has gone seriously awry with the once-vaunted system of U.S. higher education. A new Public Agenda study, "Squeeze Play: How Parents and the Public Look at Higher Education Today," finds deep and growing worries

about many aspects of U.S. higher education.

Rapidly rising costs are high on many Americans' lists of complaints. Public Agenda found that 76 percent of parents are more than a little worried about tuition bills, and only 44 percent believe students get their money's worth. Nearly four-fifths of Americans think students have to borrow too much for college.

Most troubling for a nation that has prided itself on its belief in upward mobility, the percentage who say that many qualified, motivated students do not have the opportunity to attend college has risen sharply, from 45 percent in 1998 to 62 percent today. Such beliefs are disproportionately common among black and Hispanic parents.

Although Americans still give colleges generally high marks for quality, higher education is increasingly perceived less as a noble purveyor of knowledge and skills than as a "business." Fifty-two percent said that colleges "mainly care about the bottom line," with 44 percent blaming "waste and mismanagement" and 46 percent fingering cutbacks in state aid.

These streams of discontent led nearly half of the people surveyed to call for their states' higher-

education systems to be "fundamentally overhauled." Americans are divided about raising taxes for higher education, yet 75 percent believe it is a very high priority to make more grants and tax breaks available to students, and many believe that less-expensive community colleges should be expanded. Americans recognize the importance of a college education, but the halcyon days of the mid- to late-20th century, which contributed to higher education's enormous public esteem, are waning. The clear message is: Americans still value higher education, but the love affair is not the passionate romance that it once was.

Do defenders of the higher-education status quo have a tin ear? They need to think about how to make college more affordable, restore more equitable access and ensure that students and parents — their consumers — feel that their hard-earned dollars are used as fairly and effectively as possible.

If higher-education and education policy leaders do not heed and respond to this growing discontent, we may be in for a new era of campus protests — one in which students are joined by their parents in besieging campus administrators with demands for accountability and reform.

## Dodgy diplomacy in the Gulf

Borzou Daragahi

Los Angeles Times

ABOARD THE USS JOHN C. STENNIS — Iran and the United States remain so far apart on so many issues that they refuse to talk about them.

But in the cramped sea routes of the Persian Gulf, U.S. and Iranian warship sailors and fighter pilots speak to each other daily.

They have to. They're practically jostling one another in courteous games of surveillance, countersurveillance and geopolitical posturing.

"We are operating very close to their territorial waters in a very confined space with a tremendous amount of traffic, be it the small dhows, be it the supertankers going up to the oil platforms," said U.S. Navy Capt. Sterling Gilliam Jr., commander of air operations for this nuclear-powered supercarrier and its associated ships.

"The margin of error is smaller in that the space is more confined. That would be the case even if anyone was your ally, just because of the sheer small size of the Arabian Gulf," Gilliam said, using an alternative name for the body of water.

Even mundane changes of direction require chitchat with Iranian counterparts. When sedate gulf winds fade to a whisper, for example, this 100,000-ton carrier whips up to the 25 knots required to hurl jets into flight from the 1,092-foot-long flight deck.

But first the vessel alerts nearby forces of Iran's Revolutionary Guard and the organization's navy.

"We would do the standard international maritime measures," said Capt. Bradley Johanson, commanding officer of the aircraft carrier.

"We would call them on their radio and say, 'Sir, I just wanted to let you know that we're going to be turning to port and be coming to this course so that we're into the wind in support of our flight operation.'"

The Iranians respond professionally and courteously, Johanson said: "Thank you very much for the information. We will move off to the starboard position. We very much

appreciate the heads-up."

Nearly half the U.S. Navy's 277 warships are stationed close to Iran, alongside most of Tehran's estimated 140 naval surface ships and six submarines, according to GlobalSecurity.org. More than five dozen aircraft are aboard the Stennis, along with dozens more aboard the Nimitz, another U.S. aircraft carrier in the gulf.

Crew members on the Stennis say they are here to provide aircraft for peacekeeping and counterinsurgency missions in Iraq, Afghanistan and Somalia.

But few doubt they also are here to send a message to Iran, which the United States accuses of pursuing a clandestine nuclear weapons program and supporting anti-American militants from Lebanon to Afghanistan.

"My feeling here is, we're here to show our resolve, and to protect our friends," said Cmdr. Marcus Hitchcock, the Stennis' executive officer.

A flotilla of nine U.S. warships steamed through the Strait of Hormuz two months after the U.N. Security Council passed the last round of sanctions against Iran for continuing with its uranium enrichment program and Iranians seized 15 British sailors and marines in disputed waters off the coast of Iraq.

Positioning two aircraft carrier groups in the gulf gives the United States the capability to operate 24 hours a day and potentially conduct about 180 daily bombing and surveillance operations over Iran.

It also means the United States may be deploying nuclear weapons, believed to be aboard some of the ships in the aircraft carrier groups, within 10 miles of Iran's shores.

The aircraft carriers, each accompanied by four or five other ships, could become big targets for Iran in the event of a war. "It's going to be very hard to defend U.S. ships against small ships and volleys of missiles in the confines of the Persian Gulf," said Joseph Cirincione, a security analyst at the Center for American Progress, a Washington think tank. "This is not an ideal situation for the Navy."



THE USS JOHN C. STENNIS steaming at sea. The USS John C. Stennis entered the Arabian Gulf June 22, 2007 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as well as conducting maritime operations. Tensions are high while conducting operations close to Iran.

Tensions between Iran and the United States lie barely beneath the surface of the delicate maritime protocol. Both Iran and the United States regularly dispatch spy planes to watch each other. A photograph of an Iranian T-12 reconnaissance plane is posted outside the intelligence office of the Stennis. "Image of the day," says the caption.

"We would take a picture of an Iranian navy warship, to see if they've made any changes," said Vice Adm. Kevin J. Cosgriff, commander of the Bahrain-based 5th Fleet. "They do it, too. We pay attention and want to know where they are. Is their action routine, or are they getting ready for an exercise?"

Both countries accuse each other of bad behavior. Iran says the United States plays a disruptive role in the gulf and destabilizes the region. U.S. officials say the Iranians behave like bullies, sometimes getting on the radio to order Americans to leave what the Iranians claim as territorial waters.

Americans also complain that Iranians don't do enough to clear sea

lanes before conducting missile tests in international waters and that they fly their aircraft too close to U.S. planes.

"They're overt about it," Cosgriff said. "They're communicating."

Operating an aircraft carrier is an exacting task requiring precision and stamina even in the most spacious waters.

Stumbling into a hot conflict with the Iranians remains a constant concern in the overcrowded gulf, where nearby oil wells glow orange in the steamy night, and wooden dhows, steel-hull freighters and warships navigate the water by day.

On the ship's computer maps, a thick black line delineates Iranian coastal waters from the rest of the gulf. Shades of gray mark the waters off Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, allies of the United States. U.S. pilots are told to stay well away from Iranian airspace.

"We do worry about miscalculations," Cosgriff said. "That's one of the reasons we want to be transparent on the radio and be talking to them a lot."

## Robber just needed a hug

Allison Klein

The Washington Post

A grand feast of marinated steaks and jumbo shrimp was winding down, and a group of friends was sitting on the back patio of a Capitol Hill home, sipping red wine. Suddenly, a hooded man slid in through an open gate and put the barrel of a handgun to the head of a 14-year-old guest.

"Give me your money, or I'll start shooting," he demanded, according to Washington D.C. police and witness accounts.

The five other guests, including the girls' parents, froze—and then one spoke.

"We were just finishing dinner," Cristina "Cha Cha" Rowan, 43, blurted out. "Why don't you have a glass of wine with us?"

The intruder took a sip of their Chateau Malescot St-Exupery and said, "Damn, that's good wine."

The girl's father, Michael Rabdau, 51, who described the harrowing evening in an interview, told the intruder to take the whole glass. Rowan offered him the bottle. The would-be robber,

his hood now down, took another sip and had a bite of Camembert cheese that was on the table.

Then he tucked the gun into the pocket of his nylon sweatpants.

"I think I may have come to the wrong house," he said, looking around the patio.

"I'm sorry," he told the group. "Can

“ He was very aggressive at first; then it turned into a love fest. —MICHAEL RABDAU ”

I get a hug?"

Rowan, who lives in Falls Church, Va., and works part time at her children's school, stood up and wrapped her arms around him. Then it was Rabdau's turn. Then his wife's. The other two guests complied.

"That's really good wine," the man

said, taking another sip.

He had a final request: "Can we have a group hug?"

The five adults surrounded him, arms out.

With that, the man walked out with a crystal wine glass in hand, filled with Chateau Malescot. No one was hurt, and nothing was stolen.

The homeowner, Xavier Cervera, 45, had gone out to walk his dog at the end of the party and missed the incident, which happened about midnight June 16. Police classified the case as strange but true and said they had not located a suspect.

"We believe it is a true robbery," said Cmdr. Diane Groomes, who is in charge of patrols in the Capitol Hill area. But it's one-of-a-kind, she said, adding, "I've never heard of a robber joining a party and then walking out to the sunset."

The hug, she said, was especially unusual. "They should have squeezed him and held onto him for us," she said.

Rabdau said he hasn't been able to figure out what happened.

"I was definitely expecting there would be some kind of casualty,"

Rabdau said this week. "He was very aggressive at first; then it turned into a love fest. I don't know what it was."

Rabdau, a federal government worker who lives in Anne Arundel County, Md., with his family, said that the episode lasted about 10 minutes but seemed like an hour. Rabdau, who lived on Capitol Hill with his wife in the 1980s, said he thinks the guests were spared because they kept a positive attitude during the exchange.

"There was this degree of disbelief and terror at the same time," Rabdau said. "Then it miraculously just changed. His whole emotional tone turned—like, we're one big happy family now. I thought: Was it the wine? Was it the cheese?"

After the intruder left, the guests walked inside the house, locked the door and stared at each other. They didn't say a word. Rabdau dialed 911. Police arrived quickly and took a report. They also dusted for fingerprints, so far to no avail.

In the alley behind the home, investigators found the intruder's empty crystal wine glass on the ground, unbroken.



# The Avion wants to know what you think

## Here are comments you posted on opinion letters printed by The Avion.

### Lack of justifications for the Iraq war

**Abstract:**  
Some have called the continuing war in Iraq unjust. Most of these people in the US who share this view are on the left or are part of the anti-war movement. A substantial majority of those in the Middle East and in Europe also share the view that the U.S. is an occupying power whose reasons for going into Iraq were unjust....

~Chris Haas

**Joseph**  
posted 6/27/07 @ 9:45 PM EST

I suppose if you are looking for hard points to prove the war was unjust, it you can skew it anyway you wish. Like ignoring the fact that he had used chemical weapons before. Where did they go? Vanish? And yet, now there seem to be chlorine bomb stockpiles appearing in Iraq now. I suppose we can also ignore that Saddam invaded Kuwait for the exact same reason everyone claims we invaded Iraq. Oil.

Or ignoring the many years of

ignoring him while he did the Oil for Food monkey business and back room deals with most of the UN, including our supposed allies that refused to attack Iraq for that reason. I suppose we can also overlook the fact we gave him months of prep time to allow inspectors where they wanted to go unescorted, of which he remain to refuse. Because, seriously, why would you want to drop surprise visits on something that may be wrong going on?

Americans forget what history is, because that requires using more work than irrationality and conspir-

acy. Imagine the flip side if everyone realized what we did and are doing is in fact, just. If the Iraqis were told that we are there to help them, not steal their land, and trying to be an empire and subjugate them for their oil. I am sure Saddam was a saint. He did not deserve to die. The ones who set off bombs to kill women and children indiscriminately just to make the US look bad are good people, right?

Perhaps they are right. We are devils. After all, trying to save a people from a horrible life is bad.

**concerned American**  
posted 6/29/07 @ 12:43 PM EST

Prior to formally ordering the invasion of Iraq, Bush warned the Iraqis: "Do not destroy the oil wells". The war on Iraq was, reportedly, originally named Operation Iraqi Liberation, instead of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Someone realized, however, that the acronym would be OIL. That wouldn't make for good PR, not that it didn't clearly represent their interests, but not the interests they care to advertise. I suppose it was therefore a compromise, and a nod to their Capitalist-in-Chief, to name some of the U.S. military bases in Iraq after oil companies. Amazingly, they really did name a Base Exxon and a Base Shell somewhere in the deserts of Iraq, how ironic.

Bush and Cheney both have deep and dirty connections to the oil industry, not to mention National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, who actually has a Chevron oil tanker ship named after her. It is not just that so many in the Bush regime have worked for, and with-oil companies or in the energy sector more generally. There is also the issue of the legalized system of bribery called campaign contributions. With millions of oil dollars pouring into mostly Republican coffers, and with favorable legislation and tax laws for oil companies, the symbiotic relationship is powerful and sickening. Oil kingpin Bush and his gang are economically addicted to oil.

Iraq has the second largest proven oil reserves in the world (after Saudi Arabia), but with newer technology engaging in further exploration and analyses, Iraq may very well prove to have the most oil. Though Bush's wars are about oil, it's not just about controlling oil, what the Bush administration calls "energy security". It's also about controlling the price of oil, controlling those prices in U.S. dollars instead of Euros, and controlling the flow of oil dollars, the money made by selling oil which is then invested abroad. The Kuwaiti royal dictatorship, for example, makes more money from their oil-funded overseas investments, primarily in the U.S. and Britain, than they do through direct oil sales.

Though Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld quipped that the war against Iraq has "nothing to do with oil", other political and military leaders made much about securing Iraqi oil wells very early into the invasion. Documents from Bechtel and the government further evidence an obsession with Iraqi oil, and the Aqaba pipeline to carry it to Jordan, at least since Rumsfeld's December 1983 meeting with Saddam Hussein. The record also shows no concern, let alone obsession, with Saddam's use of torture or chemical weapons.

When asked by Charlie Rose how the war was going on 1 April, General Joseph W. Ralston, former supreme commander of NATO, didn't hesitate, stating "We own the

southern oil wells." Now, Philip Carroll, former chief executive of Shell, along with other former oil executives, are slated to run the Iraqi oil production industry. As with corporate leveraged buyouts, Bush & Co. seek to pay for its war and the privatized reconstruction of Iraq using revenues from future Iraqi oil sales. The U.S.-run regime in Iraq, whether a military or civilian dictatorship, will undoubtedly promote promiscuous privatization as a key plan of oil, of course, but also of other "commanding heights" (i.e., transportation, communications, water, and other prime resources and infrastructure), what Naomi Klein calls "privatization without representation".

During Gulf War I, Pulitzer prize-winning New York Times essayist Thomas Friedman remarked that "the U.S. has not sent troops to the Saudi desert to preserve democratic principles. This is about money, about protecting governments loyal to America and about who will set the price of oil".

Reflecting on the intimate "embedded" relationship between state and corporate power, what Mussolini referred to as fascism, Friedman laid it plain in The Lexus and the Olive Tree, his intellectual love letter to corporate globalization and U.S. imperialism: "The hidden hand of the market will never work without a hidden fist. McDonald's cannot flourish without McDonnell Douglas, the designer of the U.S. Air Force F-15, and the hidden fist that keeps the world safe for Silicon Valley's technologies to flourish is called the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps." Free markets? Not quite. The unspoken capitalist mantra has always been "free markets for thee, not for me".

In "The American Empire (Get Used to It)", (New York Times Magazine, 5 January 2003, cover story), Michael Ignatieff states that "because [the Persian Gulf region] has so much of the world's proven oil reserves", it is "the empire's center of gravity". Ignatieff refers to this as "the burden of empire". The following day the London Daily Mirror, also with a cover story, pictured a graphic showing a tough looking Bush with his tough words interspersed with oil company logos. Underneath, the tag line reads: "Now can you guess why George W. Bush is hell-bent on a war with Iraq?" It shouldn't surprise anyone, though it may disgust them, that while the U.S. military allowed the Baghdad library and museum to be looted of priceless Mesopotamian antiquities, it carefully guarded the Oil Ministry with heavily-armed Marines and razor wire.

Yes, there is an empire and there is a burden of empire. It is not, however, that the U.S. must "reluctantly" (as Bush says) be an imperial power it has often rushed to the occasion. Unfortunately for the misfortunate millions (and billions!), it is the citizens of the world who bear the burden of empire by paying its tremendous costs while the elite

reap the tremendous profits. Now, as Baghdad smolders and digs itself out, the bells of Operation Iraqi Freedom are ringing in the ears of Iraqis like the sound of nighttime air raid sirens.

Investigative journalist Jim Valette reflects on U.S. policy in Iraq: "Is this pursuit of oil or the pursuit of empire? Right now it's really two sides of the same coin." While it may seem that the U.S. empire is increasing its reach and strength with military victory in Iraq, it is also following in the footsteps of all other historical empires. Excessive military budgeting (equal to the rest of the world combined), rising deficits and debt (over \$300 billion each year), imperial overstretch (U.S. military bases in over 100 countries), the disregard and disrespect of allies and others (including France, Germany, Russia, Japan, in addition to the UN and international law, while enraging world opinion) and outrageous arrogance (the many offensive words and deeds of Bush, Cheney, Powell, Rumsfeld, Rice, et al.) all lead to an unsustainable system that frays from the edges inward and rots from the top down.

Much is the same in this imperialist "game" (as one military leader called it) of conquest, though a tragic line has been crossed: first-strike unilateralism with mass manipulation, mass murder, mass expense, mass ecocide, mass terror, mass destruction, including the use of weapons of mass destruction, such as napalm, depleted uranium, cluster bombs, Daisy Cutters and other massive bombs containing chemical slurries, and mass media warnography. The Bush regime also threatened to use nuclear weapons. The consequences of acting in these ways will reverberate in very painful ways, as history will demonstrate.

The fact that Saddam used weapons in his own country is known, but it wasn't the main reason we went there. We got him out, and the people were obviously happy about that when they were tearing down his statue, but he had nothing to do with Bin Laden. Saddam tried to distance himself from him after 9-11 because he knows what it's like to take on the US, and he didn't want to do it again. Getting him out of power was mainly a cover for the government to go in for it's other reasons. Now the people want us gone but we are still occupying the place and not really rebuilding it. We cant just leave all at once now or we would look bad because we left it in ruins, but we cant stay there defending the parts of it that we are interested in. We need to fix the place of the mess we made, and leave the whole region completely, not find another excuse to invade another oil rich country (Iran).

Another random fact is that cancer rates and severe birth defects in Iraq rose over 1000% after the first gulf war because of the so called "depleted" uranium we use in shells and armor. Look it up. We use it just because it kills stuff efficiently, not caring about the consequences.

### The tragedy of Imus

**Abstract:**  
Any individual who is part of an "oppressed" group that says offensive things will only be punished in nominal, inconsequential ways. Individuals who are not "oppressed", in other words, white heterosexual protestant males born in America who are right of the left, will be raked over the coals. This is the current way things are in America today. It is ironic that today the primary source of censorship and oppression of thought is the left, and that their censorship policies only apply to certain individuals.

~Andrew Ballouin

**Joanne Detore-Nakamura**  
posted 4/27/07 @ 12:26 PM EST

Andrew,  
I've really enjoyed these exchanges with you, and I'm glad you're writing into the Avion to express your opinion. I've got a couple of comments.

To paint Don Imus as a powerless person who is at mercy of the oppressed minority is really a mischaracterization. Don Imus is a very powerful opinion leader with a large following, particularly white, heterosexual males who are a fan of the shock jock's mean-spirited commentary. He's not powerless; he's a part of the majority culture who wields the power.

Rosie O'Donnell is an opinion leader as well, but the majority of women in our society do not command such power. I thought her comment about Asians was ignorant and disconcerting to me personally. My husband and his extended family are Japanese-Americans and are very educated, not at all like the way Rosie painted Asians. My husband's grandfather, Sheigo, was a principal at a school in Hilo, HI and is extremely intelligent and speaks English very well.

I'm also sensitive to Italian-American stereotyping too because my family is primarily Italian-American. My great-grand parents came here from Italy and the town that I grew up in was mostly Italian-American. Large companies were not hiring Italian-Americans at the time, so my great grandmother worked in a laundry and then at a knitting mill sweatshop. I was the first person in my family to graduate from college.

I can't tell you the last time my family saw a film without the Italian-American being cast as a part of the mafia, and these were in children's shows. We rented Racing Stripes one night and sure enough, the Italian-American sounding voice of the albatross announced that he was a "hit bird."

So who cares about that, right? It's just about cartoon characters. Well,

parents care for one. All of that gets absorbed by children and becomes a part of their cultural perspective. Children will also internalize these negative comments. My daughter thought there were hit men in our family, for instance.

Race, ethnicity, class, gender, ability, sexual-orientation in this country is complicated. I can't address everything about the complexity in this response, so I will limit it to one area-- race and ethnicity to show you how views can shift, causing us to re-evaluate our perception of reality.

Many people are unaware that Italian-Americans, especially Sicilians were lynched in the south too, although not in as great numbers as African Americans, or that they were detained in concentration camps in WWII like the Japanese in WWII but again not in as large numbers.

The lynching of Italian-Americans happened well before the war, mostly in the south. There's some great scholarship that traces the evolution of Italians from being considered Black in our country to being considered White.

Race can be fluid and some scholarship suggests it is largely a construct meant to divide us. There's a great documentary, Anti-Italianism: Discrimination and Defamation in the History of Italian Americans, a 30-minute documentary, directed and produced by Paul Budline for the Charles and Joan Alberto Italian Studies Institute at Seton Hall University, that I took part in, which discusses these realities. That evolution is a good example of Freire's Pedagogy of the Oppressed, which suggests that some oppressed people who obtain positions of power actually replicate the power structure rather than work to abolish oppression.

Unless we examine history and analyze why we believe what we do, we become inextricably enmeshed in our culture's perspectives. It's hard to see life from another person's point of view if you never peak out of the box. That box or ethnocentricity is

what sometimes causes conflict and even wars. No one is willing to compromise their views.

My position is complicated too by the fact that I'm a trained journalist who is a First Amendment proponent. I oppose censorship from the government. I also don't like political correctness. I don't like extremism in any form. However, in the case of Imus, whose advertisers pulled their ads, I feel that the marketplace of ideas is alive and well.

Imus was the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back. What many young people fail to recognize also is that it wasn't very long ago that racist ideas were legislated in the form of Jim Crow laws. There are many people here, even on our campus, who were brought up in segregated schools. In fact, just last week Taylor County High School, located in Georgia, decided to hold their first integrated prom. Heretofore, they had held two separate proms-- one for Whites and one for Blacks. Segregated proms in the year 2006? Sounds unreal, doesn't it. So how far have we come? Not far enough.

The tragedy is not that Imus was fired, but that Imus picked on some powerless women who were trying to better themselves through education and athletics. To demean the Rutgers women's basketball team by calling them pejorative, racist and sexist terms was not civil discourse. Moreover coming from an opinion leader, Imus's comments could provoke people to act out and/or just sanction that sort of behavior.

Women, racial and ethnic minorities, and the working-class carry the burden of a heap load of negative slang terms. I can't think of too many nasty terms for middle-class, white, straight men. Why do you suppose that is? It's all about the power.

Imus was fired because someone was very brave and became an ally. Rosie's contract wasn't renewed either. Perhaps the lesson here is that we just need to be nicer to each other. Wouldn't THAT be great?

Let's keep the dialogue open!

### Concealed carry could have ended VT shooting

**Abstract:**  
The heart-breaking massacre at Virginia Tech was a tragedy made all the more terrible because it could have been prevented had students and staff been allowed to carry firearms. Instead, they were helplessly slaughtered. The massacre proved that gun control does not work....

~Name Withheld

**Gene Schlesinger**  
posted 4/26/07 @ 10:31 PM EST

The idea that a student with a concealed weapon could have stopped the shooting, while it makes sense, completely misses the point. If using a gun to kill people suddenly became not an option, either because everyone has them or nobody has them, people like

Cho would find another way. He could have tossed a grenade in a classroom, or built a pipe bomb, or blown himself up in the middle of the cafeteria.

What we need to address is why young men feel like killing a bunch of people and then themselves is a good way to solve a problem. We need to put politics aside and have an honest discussion, involving

parents, teachers, doctors, clergy, and adolescents themselves. It's not about more gun control or less gun control. It's about figuring out what's making adolescent males so damn angry and how to mitigate that and give them a better outlet. That may sound boring, vague, and difficult, but in the long term it's the only thing that's going to address the root of the problem.

**Chris Hershberger**  
posted 4/27/07 @ 4:18 PM EST

Yes, they may try to find another way, but armed students, faculty and

campus safety now have a way to fight back. What way do we have now? None.

Allowing well trained, licensed individuals to carry a weapon on

campus, especially when they can carry them nearly anywhere else, makes perfect sense. Even though it may never prevent a massacre from occurring, it certainly won't hurt.

**Gene Schlesinger**  
posted 4/27/07 @ 5:04 PM EST

Let me preface my remarks by saying that I didn't grow up around guns. My family didn't own guns, I didn't know anyone as a kid who owned a gun, it just wasn't part of the culture where I grew up. But my gut says

that if guns were more ubiquitous on college campuses (where alcohol and testosterone are also ubiquitous), we'd have a lot more shooting incidents that otherwise would have been just fistfights or the like.

Something like Virginia Tech (despite what the media might want you to think) is rare. But drunken fist-

fights happen all the time. And logic would dictate that if you sprinkle a few guns into those situations, you're going to have more shootings. But like I said, I don't pretend to be an expert on guns. I'd just like to see some statistics before I agree that allowing guns on campus could do no harm.

Full opinion letters can be found at [avionnewspaper.com](http://avionnewspaper.com)

Yes we are still here this summer and yes we are still taking your opinions. Submit your opinions online at [www.avionnewspaper.com](http://www.avionnewspaper.com) or e-mail them to [avion.newsroom@gmail.com](mailto:avion.newsroom@gmail.com).

## Avion Online Poll Results

The Avion asks: "How do you think the campus looks?"

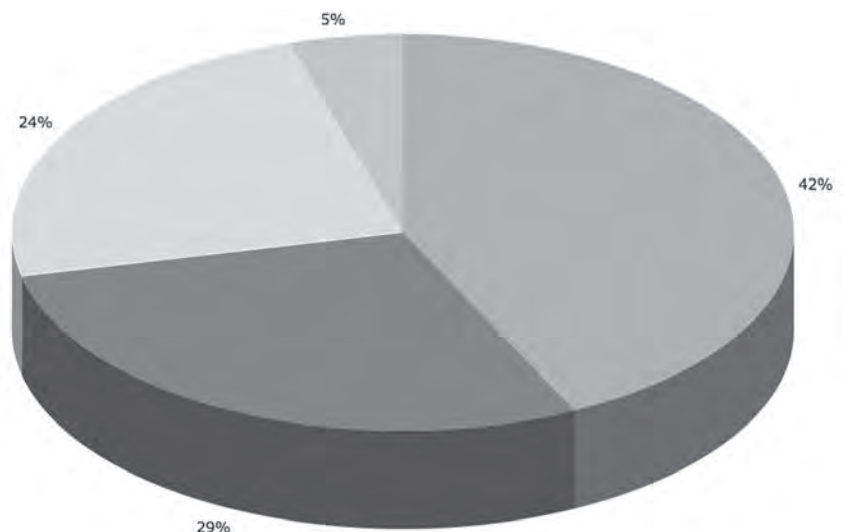
-New poll every issue at [www.avionnewspaper.com](http://www.avionnewspaper.com)

42% - I think our campus used to look great, but lately it looks really appalling.

29% - I think it looks fine considering all the construction.

24% - I think our campus has always looked awful.

2% - I think our campus looks amazing



BRIAN ASBURY/AVION



## Endeavour, Morgan ready to fly on STS-118



PHOTO COURTESY BEN COOPER/SPACEFLIGHTNOW.COM

**THE SPACE SHUTTLE ENDEAVOUR** sits atop a launch pad at Kennedy Space Center for the first time in nearly five years at sunrise July 11. STS-118 is due to liftoff from pad 39A on August 7 to deliver a small truss segment to the international space station. Onboard the flight will be teacher Barbara Morgan, Christa McAuliffe's backup in 1986 and formally chosen as NASA's first "educator astronaut" in 1998.

*ERAU grad.  
Benjamin  
Drew also  
among crew*

Bob Scheid  
Staff Reporter

The Space Shuttle Endeavour is setting up for a launch next month, a flight that will garner more publicity because of one its crew members. Barbara Morgan has been waiting 21 years to fly in space, after being named runner up and backup to teacher-in-space Christa McAuliffe in 1986.

Endeavour completed its rollout to launch pad 39A July 11. Starting at 8:10 p.m. EDT the night before, the rollout took about seven hours and was completed at just after 3 a.m. Endeavour will be used to deliver about two and a half tons of equipment, parts, consumables, and additional scientific equipment to the international space station (ISS). The Starboard 5 truss spacer and a storage deck will also be brought aloft to be attached, and refuse and used parts will be brought back.

This will be the first flight of Endeavour since 2002, when STS-113 flew two months and was the last flight before the Columbia accident. In the meantime, the orbiter underwent a major overhaul, from general inspec-

tion of the electrical systems and thermal blankets to replacing several thousand thermal tiles on the bottom of the shuttle and adding reinforced windows to the flight deck. Additionally, the reentry tracking system is being moved from the TACAN Tactical Air Navigation System to GPS.

More improvements include sensors in the leading edges of the wings to detect impacts from micrometeors or debris from launch, like the kinds that damaged Columbia and a power transfer system that will allow transfer from the new ISS solar panels to the shuttle.

STS-118 is expected to launch at 7:02 p.m. EDT on August 7. Depending on how well the power transfer system works, the shuttle may stay in orbit up to two weeks, the longest planned ISS flight to date.

The mission is expected to attract a great deal of attention due to Morgan's presence. Morgan, 55, although now a professional astronaut with duties including operating Endeavour's and the ISS' robot arms, will still carry out McAuliffe's legacy. Morgan will talk to many students on the ground in sessions during the flight.

Also onboard, and only recently named to the crew to replace a crew member who was moved up to fly earlier on STS-117, is Embry-Riddle graduate Benjamin Alvin Drew. Making his rookie flight into space, Drew received his Masters in Aerospace Science from ERAU in 1995.

Rounding out the crew will be four second-time flyers, including Commander Scott Kelly; Pilot Charlie

Hobaugh, who was the astronaut in communications with the Columbia crew during its fateful reentry in 2003; Mission Specialist Rick Mastracchio and Canadian Dave Williams. Also onboard are first time flyers Tracy Caldwell, Morgan and Drew.

Meanwhile, Discovery and Atlantis are being prepared for launches in October and December, both working toward the completion of the ISS.

Atlantis recently spent two weeks in orbit, most of it docked with the International Space Station (ISS). The six astronauts of the STS-117 mission and the three of the ISS' Expedition 15 were unloading a 17.5-ton, 240-foot solar array for generating electrical power on the station.

The mission was originally planned to be 11 days, but was extended by two days in order to repair the thermal blankets on the top of the shuttle. A fourth spacewalk was added on the 13th day to tuck the thermal blanket back in and attempt repairs of the smaller P6 solar panel, which failed to retract during a mission in December.

After waiting a day to see if weather over Florida would clear, it was decided that Atlantis would use the alternate landing site at Edward Air Force Base in California. The landing at the alternate site was problem free. A modified 747 ferry jet carried the shuttle back to the Kennedy Space Center July 3, making stops in Texas, Nebraska and Kentucky before landing in Florida.

More details on STS-118 and a launch viewing guide will appear here in the next Avion issue on July 31.

Space Technology editor Ben Cooper contributed to this report.

## Dawn off till September

Ben Cooper  
Space Tech. Editor

Dawn, NASA's mission to the asteroid belt, was postponed to September last week, an option mentioned in the last issue of The Avion. The decision, not unexpected, came after problems with adverse weather prohibiting fueling and the availability of a range support aircraft that first pushed the launch from July 7 to July 15.

Given that Dawn would had to have launched by July 19 to begin with, NASA opted to stand down until after

the Phoenix Mars Lander launch in August, which is NASA's stated priority as it has just three weeks to leave Earth or become a museum piece.

Dawn, on the other hand, had a planetary window extending to July 19 and reopening September 7 through late October. A factor leading to the decision was the fact that if NASA had decided to begin fueling the Delta 2 rocket to loft Dawn, and had it not launched, a new second stage would have been needed. The Delta 2's second stage, once fueled with its corrosive hypergolic propellants, has a 45-day lifetime to be used. A new

second stage would not have been available until October, NASA said.

Meanwhile, the world's biggest unmanned mission of the year, the Phoenix Mars Lander is due to launch at 5:35 a.m. EDT August 3 and touch down on Mars on May 25, 2008. If a success, it will mark just the sixth successful landing on Mars in four missions, joining Viking 1 & 2 in 1976, Mars Pathfinder in 1997 and Spirit & Opportunity, still exploring since their Jan. 2004 landing.

Stay tuned for a preview of Phoenix in the July 31 issue of The Avion, including a launch viewing guide.

Advertisement

An Award Winning Newspaper by Students for Students.



# THE AVION

A Division of the Student Government Association

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Daytona Beach, Florida

Don't just  
read

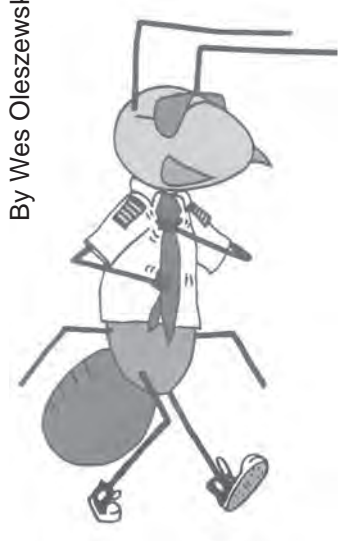
the headlines...

come  
write them!

Tuesday Evenings  
7:00 p.m.  
Endeavor Conference Room



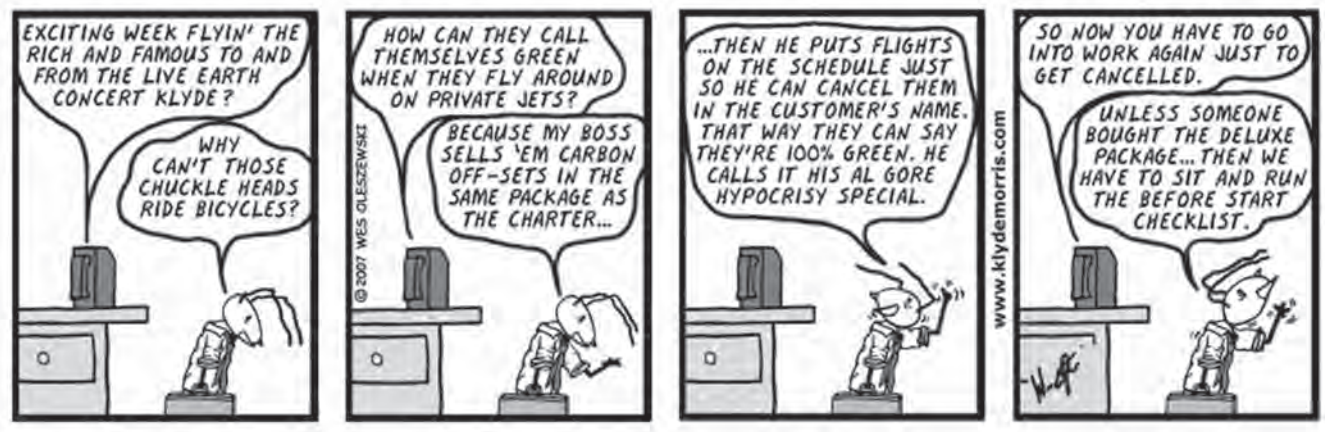
By Wes Oleszewski



**Klyde Morris**  
Aviation's Only Ant!™

*Kurrent Klyde*

*Klassic Klyde*



## SUDOKU

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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SIMPLE

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INTERMEDIATE

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INTERMEDIATE

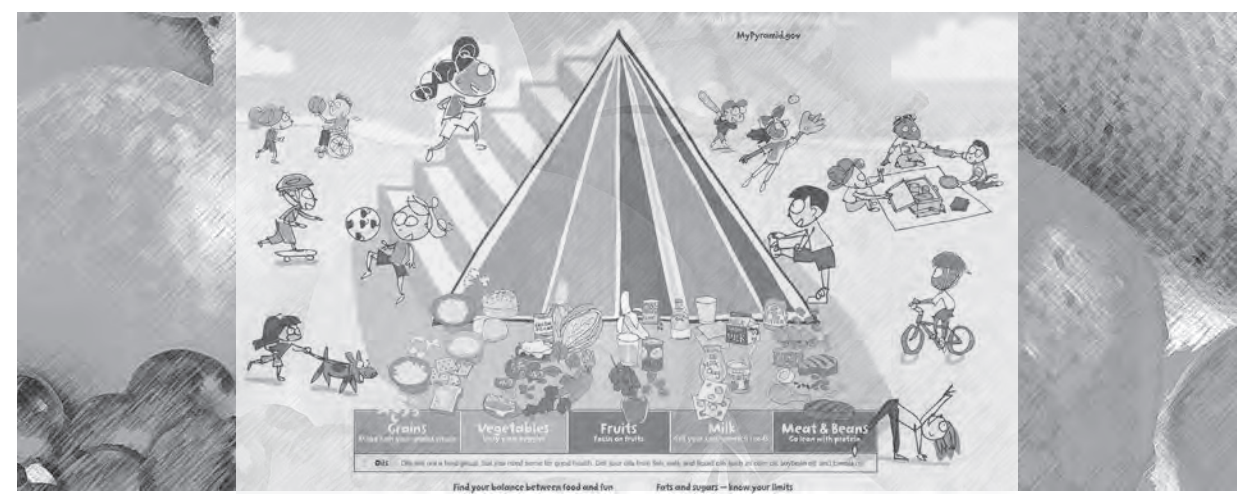
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DIFFICULT

## Let's eat

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Sweepings" author
  - 6 Accountant
  - 9 Parent teacher groups
  - 13 Fragrance
  - 14 Pig meat
  - 15 Comb
  - 16 Abate (2 wds.)
  - 17 American College of Physicians (abbr.)
  - 18 Juliet's boyfriend
  - 19 Caps
  - 20 Slight wind
  - 22 Stood opposite
  - 23 Much \_\_\_ About Nothing
  - 24 Opens lock
  - 25 "\_\_\_ what you sow"
  - 27 James Bond
  - 29 Difficult
  - 33 Yes
  - 34 Gone by
  - 35 Opp. of early
  - 36 Entertainment host
  - 39 You \_\_\_ my sunshine
  - 40 Lopsided
  - 41 Bluish green
  - 42 Large computer co.
  - 43 Farm credit administration (abbr.)
  - 44 Sensory appendages on insect heads
  - 46 Cupid's dart
  - 49 Exam
  - 50 Less than two
  - 51 Paris Airshow (abbr.)
  - 53 Ship initials
  - 56 Strong sticks
  - 58 Hill with flat top, steep sides
  - 59 What a marksman did
  - 61 "Blind as a \_\_\_"
  - 62 Irrigation ditch
  - 63 Fizzy drinks
  - 64 Tell a tall tale
  - 65 Self contained underwater breathing apparatus
  - 66 Tush
  - 67 Sea eagle
  - 68 Lukewarm

- 12 Tiny alcoholic drink
- 15 Bun
- 20 Second letter of the greek alphabet
- 21 Nothing
- 24 Leg joint
- 26 Type of star or watch
- 28 Shoelace hole
- 30 Grows acorns
- 31 Shoshonean, Amerian Indian
- 32 Stitch
- 34 Upper limb of human body
- 36 Estimated time of arrival (abbr.)
- 37 Males
- 38 Mouse catcher
- 39 Capable of being abated
- 40 Land measurement
- 42 Institution (abbr.)
- 43 Machines that rotates on the ceiling
- 45 Bird homes
- 47 Unseal (2 wds.)
- 48 Japanese green "mustard"
- 50 Many times
- 52 Lettuce & toppings



- 53 Soviet Union
- 54 Footgear
- 55 Cola
- 57 Unprejudiced
- 58 Spicy spray weapon
- 60 Rowing device
- 62 Central Standard Time (abbr.)

Submit your completed crossword to our office in SC 110. All correct entries will be entered to win a \$10 Barnes & Noble gift card. Entries are due Friday, July 27 by 5 p.m. Good luck!

Last Issue  
Mumbo-Jumbo

WINNER: Josh Taylor

|    |    |    |   |    |    |    |   |    |  |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 41 |    |    |   |    |    |    |   | 42 |  |    |    | 43 |    |    |
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| 17 |    |    |   |   |   | 18 |    |   |   |    | 19 |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| 20 |    |    |   |   |   | 21 | 22 |   |   | 23 | 24 |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| S  | T  | Y  |   |   |   | U  | S  | E | R |    | C  | R  | U  | M  | M  | Y  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| 34 |    |    |   |   |   |    |    |   |   | 35 |    |    |    |    | 36 | 37 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| 38 |    |    |   |   |   |    |    |   |   | 39 |    |    |    | 40 | 41 |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| C  | L  | O  | U | D |   |    |    |   |   | X  | I  | I  |    | O  | M  | E  | G | A |   |   |   |   |   |
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| 51 | 52 | 53 |   |   |   |    |    |   |   | 54 |    |    |    | 55 | 56 | 57 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| 58 |    |    |   |   |   |    |    |   |   | 59 | 60 |    |    | 61 | 62 |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| I  | D  | L  | E |   |   |    |    |   |   | E  | R  | I  | E  |    | N  | U  | R | S | E |   |   |   |   |
| 66 |    |    |   |   |   |    |    |   |   | 67 |    |    |    | 68 |    |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| D  | Y  | E  | R |   |   |    |    |   |   | R  | E  | N  | D  |    |    |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

- DOWN**
- 1 Lilly-like plant
  - 2 Potato-based frozen food, pioneer of tater tots
  - 3 Ballpark food
  - 4 Australian birds
  - 5 Catch some afternoon Z's
  - 6 Careful & cautious
  - 7 Walk back and forth
  - 8 Strength of electric current
  - 9 Professional (abbr.)
  - 10 "Calciums" antacid brand
  - 11 In the direction of the sea



**HOUSING / ROOMMATES**

**4 Bedrooms @ \$1,650**

4 Bedrooms @ \$1,650 includes utilities! 235 Lockhart Street, Daytona Beach - 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Rent includes heat, hot water, central AC, cable TV and high speed internet for downloading music and videos. Washer & dryer, new stove & refrigerator. Pets maybe. First & security, background check. Short term leases. Available July 1st. Call 386-763-1747.



**Roommates Wanted**

Rooms for Rent Two rooms available in a newer, huge 4bdrm/2bth house in Port Orange. 2 living rooms with separate dining room, Laundry room, Large screened in porch, and private, fenced in yard. Plenty of closet space. Close to everything; 5 min from local Colleges. Available June 14; just in time for Summer B. Summer or year lease. Bedroom 1: \$335/mo, Bedroom 2: \$380/mo. Utilities split 4 ways. Call Jamie 305-849-2152



**Condo for Rent**

Daytona Beach 2 Br 2ba First Floor Condo Daytona Beach Condo For Rent - Bring Your Toothbrush - Fully Furnished 2 Bedroom/2 Bath First Floor Unit On Intracoastal Waterway - One Block From Ocean. Pool, Fishing Dock, Picnic Area, Covered Parking, Laundry Room. Approx 4 Miles To Campus. Non Smoking Unit - No Pets Allowed In Building. \$1200/Month (Utilities Not Included) One Year Lease First And Last Months Rent At Signing Of Lease. Please Call Margo @ 203 314-4310 For Further Information.

**HOUSING / ROOMMATES**

**Port Orange House with Pool**

Port Orange Pool Home-Sleepy Hollow Subdivision I have a Port Orange pool home for rent. Formal living room for quiet study with French doors, formal dining room, eat in kitchen with island, family room with Quiet cul-de-sac. Will rent home for \$1500 with first, last and security or will rent individual rooms (3) one is master bedroom with private bath--individual rooms \$600 ea per month, and private room is \$800 per month. Contact Miriam at 386-473-4009 or write me at msusong@hotmail.com



For Sale - 916 Countryside West Great for faculty or student investment, within short drive to ERAU. Built in 1996, 1,757 sq.ft. 3Br/2Bath, large kitchen, great room with volume ceiling and 100% tile flooring. Beautiful yard with easy-maintenance concrete curbing, large river rock around entire house and automatic irrigation on reclaimed water meter. Includes aluminum hurricane shutters and washer/dryer, GE Profile refrigerator, glass top range and surround sound prewire in great room. Asking \$279,000. Call (386) 690-6361



**Room for Rent**

Room(s) for rent \$425 + utilities less with lease looking for 1-2 roommates to help split 5 bed house 2 bath house 4 miles from ERAU 1.5 blocks to beach. WIFI, cable in room, digital cable, Grill, Washer/Dryer, A/C, Garage (perfect for bike storage)for info call Russ 972-655-4647 or Jeremy 386-214-5673



**Female Roommate Wanted**

Female, nonsmoker To share 2/1 beachside house. \$450.00 month, plus \$150.00 utilities. Security deposit and lease required. If interested, call Sheryl 407-399-5607 for details.

**HOUSING / ROOMMATES**

**\$500/month room for rent**

\$500/month includes utilities Nice beachside home Looking for roommate. Rent includes utilities, plus cable and internet. Room can be furnished. Close walk to restaurants and the beach. We are looking for a clean, non smoker, and someone who likes dogs. Call 386-846-3222



**Roommates Wanted**

Roommates Wanted Two rooms available in a newer, huge 4bdrm/2bth house in Port Orange. 2 living rooms with separate dining room, Laundry room, Large screened in porch, and private, fenced in yard. Plenty of closet space. Close to everything; 5 min from local Colleges. Available June 14; just in time for Summer B. Summer or year lease. Bedroom 1: \$335/mo, Bedroom 2: \$380/mo. Utilities split 4 ways. Call Jamie 305-849-2152



**Master Bedroom for rent**

Master bedroom for rent Need a place to stay in JUNE and/or JULY? No lease. Share a 3 bedroom apartment with one other person. Master bedroom with bathroom. Call 386-316-8096



**Shared House for Rent**

2,000sq. ft. house for rent in Port Orange newly remodeled. Huge Kitchen, Florida room. 3/2 Homeowner middle-age nurse working second shift. Looking to rent one or two bedrooms. Quiet cul-de-sac near Dunlawton and Nova. One furnished bedroom, \$500/month utilities & cable included, \$500 deposit. Contact Diane 386-212-1953, 386-767-8850 - leave message if necessary. Available in Aug.

**HOUSING / ROOMMATES**

**Roommate**

Spruce Creek Condo Looking to rent one bedroom, in a private home. Furnished if needed. Looking for serious student/Working professional preferred, located in a quiet neighborhood only two minutes away. Occupants enjoy full house privileges for only \$425.00 Monthly, plus security. Utilities are included. Available on 20 July 2007. 813-205-2510



**Summer Housing**

Lake front 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1900 sq ft home. Unfurnished. Willing to rent house for \$1300/mo or a bedroom with shared bath for \$400/mo. Utilities split 3 ways. Full appliances including washer/dryer. Great for families, graduate or senior students. Call 386-871-9062.



**House Across From Beach**

3BR2BA with huge 2 car garage-lots of storage, hardwood floors, Florida room. Asking \$1000/mo, OBO. Available now! Please call Cher (305) 395-0500



**Duplex For Rent**

Holly Hill, unfurnished, 2 bedroom/1 bath duplex for rent. 10-15 minutes from ERAU. 824 May Ave., lower unit, \$900 includes wireless internet and cable. Available now! (386) 248-8333 or (90) 343-5181



**House For Rent**

Beachside: spacious 2 bedroom 2 bath 2 car garage home offers dining room, living room, family room and newer carpet and hardwood floors. Quiet, well kept neighborhood close to beach, river, and shopping. \$1050/month includes lawn care. \$1000 Security and last month rent required. 770-312-7949 jarklau@joimail.com



**Condo for Rent**

Steps To The Beach, Ponce Inlet 2br 2ba Ground Floor Condo. All Tile, New Paint, No Stairs. Open & Bright. Sparkling Pool. Water, Sewer, Trash, & Cable Included. Small Pet Ok. \$1100 Mo.+Elec. 1 Yr. Lease. Call Darlene 386-852-0118

**HOUSING / ROOMMATES**

**Roommate Needed M or F**

Pelican Bay Townhouse. Private bedroom. Shared bath with one other roommate. Large living spaces. Kitchen, living room, dining room. Off street parking. Gated community approx. 2 miles from campus. \$500/mo plus 1/3 utilities. Immediate availability. Contact Mike at 302-478-1995



**Port Orange House --Edgewater**

Lake front 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1900 sq ft home. Unfurnished. Willing to rent house for \$1300/mo or a bedroom with shared bath for \$400/mo. Utilities split 3 ways. Full appliances including washer/dryer. Great for families, graduate or senior students. Call 386-871-9062.



**Large Apartment**

3 bdrm 1 full & 2 half baths Large family room. LPGA & Old Kings Road, available immed, \$ 850.00 mo + 850.00 security.



**Condo For Rent**

Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo located in quiet, swim neighborhood in Deerwood Subdivision. 1 mile from Embry-Riddle. \$920/month, first and last month and security. Call for more information (770) 312-7949 or (386) 441-4583

**EMPLOYMENT**

**Immediate Openings for Flight Instructors!**

Daniel Webster College in Nashua, NH has immediate openings for CFI's! Excellent benefits, education benefits, free CFII, MEI and CFIG training plus much more! 4 yr. degree/CFI/2nd class medical reqd. See [http://www.dwc.edu/academics/aviation/emp\\_opps.shtml](http://www.dwc.edu/academics/aviation/emp_opps.shtml) for more info. Also seeking Pt 141 Asst. Chief Instructor...see [http://www.dwc.edu/academics/aviation/asst\\_chief.shtml](http://www.dwc.edu/academics/aviation/asst_chief.shtml) for more.



**Flight Instructors needed**  
ALICO AVIATION in Daytona Beach. Pvt to ATPL 386 742-1248. email: info@alicona.com

**HOUSING / ROOMMATES**

**House for Rent**

South Daytona lakeside home. Looking for one person to rent two furnished rooms with private bath and entrance. Shared usage laundry room and kitchen \$625/month includes utilities, internet and basic cable. Available Sept. 1, call 386-299-3783

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Entertainment Center**

Nice 4-piece pine entertainment center with space for 36 inch TV, stereo system, surround sound speakers and glass shelving with doors. Call for picture (386) 690-6361. Asking \$800 in Port Orange, FL. Sony 36 inch Wega Flat Screen TV also available for \$600.



**Furniture for Sale!**

Tired of your hard mattress? For sale now a full size pillow top mattress (box spring included). Bed is practically new, barely used, and must go. Also will throw in a five drawer dresser (Bas-set), and extra. Contact me: aaron83b@erau.edu if interested.



**Tires for Sale**

Price reduced to \$75. One set of (4) 255/45 17 in. Also one set of (2) 255/45 17 in. for \$40. Contact Sally at 761-8600 for more information



**Sony Wega 36" Flat Screen TV**

Model KV-36FV16. Great picture and Sony quality! See it at: [http://www.epinions.com/pr-Sony\\_KV\\_36FV16\\_Standard\\_Televisions](http://www.epinions.com/pr-Sony_KV_36FV16_Standard_Televisions) \$600 in Port Orange, FL Call (386)690-6361



**1992/1993 Kawasaki ZX11 Ninja's**

1992 Black/1993 Orange Kawasaki ZX11 Ninja's. Excellent running condition. \$3500 & \$3000. Vic/386-760-6333.

**AUTOMOTIVE**

**Great Starter Bike / Cruiser**  
Body: 1998 Honda Shadow VLX 600. Under 20,000 miles Asking \$2800. Contact: 386-852-0331 ingraef2@erau.edu

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**CONSIDER PELICAN BAY**  
**A gated golf course community**  
**just five minutes from campus**

**Homes, Town homes and Condos**

**Priced from \$129,900 to \$650,000**  
**1 to 4 bedrooms**

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## 'Transformers' is a must see movie flick



Transformers



Chris Haas

World Editor

We have been waiting since we were kids. Transformers has finally arrived. Planet Earth will see an epic battle between two forces of robots: good versus evil. Everyone's favorite, Optimus Prime, complete with a deep-throated voice, will take on his nemesis, Megatron. Evidently, some super all-powerful cube made its way to earth a long time ago and landed somewhere in the artic. The evil Decepticon, Megatron, followed it with the hope of harnessing its power for destruction. Unfortunately, Megatron landed off-course and was frozen until some artic explorer named Witwicky found him around 1900. This is where we find the connection to our teenage hero, Shia Labeouf's character Sam Witwicky.

Shia is just a normal teenager, trying to get through school and excited about his first car. But his first car is no lemon, it's a vintage racing striped Camaro, that picks him. Bernie Mac plays a caricature of himself as the funny car salesman, and indeed comic relief can be found throughout this film. Shia Labeouf is pretty funny himself, disarming and charming at the same time, eventually wooing the girlfriend of the high

school jock, Megan [she is a ] Fox. With a little help from what seems like his possessed vehicle (it plays love-themed music right on cue, and drives them to an overlook and conveniently dies), aka "Satan's Camaro," Shia gets Megan into his car, and they're romantic connection seems inevitable. But who can not help rooting for Shia?

Meanwhile, the Decepticons have already attacked the US military and are trying to hack into their computers to discover the location of Megatron and the "All Spark," a massive alien cube which can turn any machine (including a Mountain Dew vending machine) into a fearsome fighting robot.

The Pentagon scenes seem a bit unrealistic, but they advance the plot appropriately. And for added eye candy, the analyst that discovers the alien code just happens to be a gorgeous blonde with a Tasmanian accent. She tries to convince them of the alien nature of the threat while the government appears

“

*The rest of the film is a special effects spectacle ...*

-CHRIS HAAS

”

inept to fight the robots, until they hear from a special forces team that survived the initial Decepticon attack in the middle east. These soldiers, led by Captain Lennox as Army special forces Captain. [Josh Duhamel, Tad from 'Win a Date with Tad Hamilton'] and Tyrese as an US Air Force combat controller. Their depiction is fairly realistic, and they battle the robots valiantly, I felt like the "Army Strong" motto was running through every scene as the soliders were fighting...

Speaking of commercials, when the good sided Autobots reveal themselves to Shia and Megan, the car alter ego's they take on are like a made-for-film General Motors commercial. But even so, the cars are undeniably cool, led by Optimus Prime's blue and red Semi and Shia's yellow futuristic

Camaro (it changed styles when Megan called the car a piece of crap). The car scenes make for great product placement—after two hours of essentially a long car commercial, it's hard not to want to go out and buy one of the sleek looking cars.

Eventually, the government smartens up, but only after pictures of the robots filter in do they realize the nature of the threat. Then, out of nowhere a super top secret government agency known only as "Sector 7" emerges, with a fickle John Turturo as the team leader. They capture Shia's beloved Camaro, aka "BumbleBee" and freeze him for research. This is when we discover this secretive Sector 7 has been around since President Hoover, and the ominous Megatron is kept cryogenically frozen underneath the Hoover Dam (supposedly built for this purpose). The massive All Spark cube is kept here as well, to the surprise of the hapless Secretary of Defense, John Voight. But the Decepticons discover this location and launch an attack that frees their "Lord Megatron." With shrieks of adulation from the theatre, Megatron, comes on the scene and begins destroying everything.

The Autobots convoy to downtown Los Angeles, with the special forces in tow, to wage a battle royale in downtown LA. The battle that ensues is nothing short of epic. F-22's are set loose, and the Autobots take on the Decepticons. The special effects are amazing, and I am not even a fan of special effects. The robot fight scenes are well choreographed, as Optimus and Megatron go tearing through entire buildings. When one of the decepticons whose alter ego is an F-22 comes thundering down a LA street, flares sideways, and transforms into a robot, I couldn't help but be impressed. And for a movie about alien robots battling each other, the film makes the ensuing fight scences surprisingly realistic. The laws of physics evidently do apply, although the robots appear to be indestructible. Save one poor Autobot, who gets torn in half by Megatron.

The rest of the film is a special effects spectacle, not seen since Armageddon or Independence Day. If you want to see what happens, if the Autobots defeat the Decepticons, and if Shia gets the girl.... You'll have to see the movie. But if you do, you won't be disappointed. And there's even a cliffhanger for a possible Transformers 2.



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| July 20 | Motion City Soundtrack         | The Social                      | \$20.00     | Rock           |
| July 21 | Roy Davis Jr.                  | Club Firestone                  | \$10.00     | Soul           |
| July 23 | The Rocket Summer              | The Social                      | \$13.00     | Indie Rock     |
| July 24 | Beyonce                        | Amway Arena                     | \$29.50     | Hip-Hop/Pop    |
| July 25 | Reel Big Fish & Less than Jake | Hard Rock                       | \$18.00     | Alternative    |
| July 27 | Candlebox                      | House of Blues                  | \$22.50     | Rock           |
| July 28 | The Rippingtons                | Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre | \$32.50     | Jazz           |

## Fifth installment of Harry Potter has nothing new to offer



Harry Potter: Order of the Phoenix



Peter Richardson

Systems Manager

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (HP5) is the fifth installment in the every two year money making machine that is the

Harry Potter films. As with almost every film in the recently revived "movie adaptation of a fantasy book" genre there is little choice but to compare the movie to its original book. Like the Harry Potter films before it this comparison gives the HP5 movie a lot to live up too and many fans to please. In most cases this movie succeeds at bringing HP5 to the screen even though it is in no way an amazing movie.

Of course, the story in this movie follows along a similar path to the fifth Harry Potter book. Unfortunately for the movie crafters, the fifth book is quite a hefty read and thus is a lot to try and fit into a two and a half hour movie. Large portions of the book's plot are entirely skipped and almost all of the subplots explored in the book are entirely ignored. While this might anger many the hardcore "Pot-head" fans, it was necessary because the main plot is enough to take up all of the movie's running time. This story cut does leave a lot of the movies obvious questions unanswered and we have to assume that Harry actually learns something from this year at school, finds out more about his dad, passes his OWL's, and makes up with his girlfriend to name only a few of the loose ends. Overall, because of the plot cuts the movies story, while hitting all the major points, doesn't really manage to feel any more than a bunch

of strewn together moments from a year of Harry's. Still, with that said you won't really notice these details until you leave the theatre. The plot is serviceable enough to keep you in your seats.

The real main pull of the Harry Potter films are the characters. All the cast from the first four films return and have even recently signed contracts up and through the last (seventh) movie. Even though the main three characters all look 25 years old nobody mentions it and with a little imagination you can place them right back into the familiar wizarding world scene. A little character development happens throughout the film, and some decent acting occurs but most of the film involves similar acting to the last couple of Harry Potter films. While some characters don't rub you the right way, most are almost perfect for the film and their respective big shoes to fill from the books. Of course the previous four movies, or the first four books are definitely required material before viewing this film or else little will make much sense at all.

The special effects, location creation, and musical score in HP5 are, as expected, pretty decently well done. Unlike some other movies this summer, the special effects of HP5 are not the stars of this movie, but it does add a great deal to the film. All the magical crea-

tures look pretty good and all of the wizardly spell effects are appropriate and cool looking. The rousing John Williams score is as always excellent even if it is just a rehash of the last four Harry Potter films scores. All this just adds to the movie and helps create the magical fantasy world in which Harry Potter resides. The Harry Potter art department really does a wonderful job of bringing the magical locations of the Harry Potter world to the big screen. Overall the special effects, musical score, and art creation adds to the film without stealing the show and ruining the movie.

With a serviceable plot, lovable characters, and perfect special effects HP5 manages to bring the Harry Potter franchise to the multiplexes again. The fun thing about these Harry Potter films is that each movie has its own style and feel which often makes or breaks the movies in the eyes of movie-goers. This movies feel is very creepy, dark, and menacing, which really works for this movie's plot and character development. With this dark feel added to the other good attributes in this film, the end result is that it does manage to work as film. The overall feeling as you leave HP5 is satisfaction. Even if the film does not completely fill the desires of all the Harry Potter fans, it still manages to entertain.



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