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## Avion 2008-01-29

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

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## ‘We Were Soldiers’ author to speak

*War reporter to talk on experiences*

Brian Asbury  
Aeronautica Editor

The famed journalist Joe Galloway will be coming to Embry-Riddle tonight, Jan. 29. Galloway has an extensive combat correspondent career starting in Vietnam all the way into Iraq having accrued more combat time than most men and women of today’s military. Retired Gen.

Norman Schwarzkopf called said that “Joe Galloway is the finest combat correspondent of our generation---a soldier’s reporter and a soldier’s friend.”

A Texas native, Galloway first entered the United Press International in 1961 as a reporter. Galloway first went to Vietnam as a young, 24-year old reporter in 1965 where he photographed the Danang assault by helicopter. Galloway later co-authored the famous book “We Were Soldiers Once.... and Young” with Lt. Gen. Hal Moore. Galloway was portrayed by Barry Pepper in the 2002 movie “We Were Solders” based on the book.

In 1998, Galloway was awarded the Bronze Star with V for valor

from the U.S. Army for rescuing a wounded soldier under heavy fire during the battle. He is the only civilian to receive the Bronze Star from the Army in Vietnam.

Galloway returned to Vietnam three other times to cover the fall of Cambodia and South Vietnam. In 1971 he also covered the India-Pakistan War as well as six other engagements in that region over the next fifteen years.

In 1982, Galloway joined U.S. News and World as an editor. In 1990-91, he embedded with the Army’s 24th Mech. Infantry Division for the assault on Saddam Hussein’s forces in Iraq.

In 1991, Galloway accepted the National Magazine Award for a U.S. News cover story on

Oct. 29, 1990 marking 25 years since the first major battle of Vietnam. In 1992, for his coverage of Operation Desert Storm, he received the News Media Award of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Galloway added to his decorations with the President’s Award for the Arts of the Vietnam Veterans of America in 1999 and again in 2000 with the U.S. Army Infantry Association’s Order of St. Maurice, the patron saint of the Infantry.

Galloway later returned to Vietnam three more times, interviewing Vietnam Senior General Vo Nguyen Giap in research for his book. Galloway will be speaking tonight at 7 p.m. in the IC Auditorium.

## New committee tackling debt reduction

*BOT task force goes long term*

Andrew Striker  
Staff Reporter

Embry-Riddle is known by its students and many others all over the country to have some of the best programs in its field. The “Harvard of the Skies,” with one of the best flight schools in the world and one of the country’s best Aeronautical Engineering programs, has been seeing itself at the top of another list. The cost of the university is no secret, and many of its students are beginning to see, or already have seen, why Embry-Riddle is now at the top of the list for student debt.

As many of our students graduate with student loans or debts that sometimes can reach well over \$100,000, the university administration agreed that it should at least attempt to help its students deal with their present or future financial issues. To do so, the administration formed what is now the Student Debt Reduction Committee, headed by Vice-Chancellor of the Daytona Beach campus Nancee Bailey. Looking at all of the causes and possible measures that could be taken to help with student debt, the committee focused on the two largest programs at the school, the AE and AS degree programs.

A key target, the Aeronautical Engineering degree, accounts for approximately 35 percent of the student body. With many engineering students, large sums of money are spent taking extra semesters, retaking classes, and taking extra classes every semester, increasing their amount of tuition. To help prevent students from spending more money on tuition to take extra classes, students are now able to take up to 18 credit hours for the same cost as the normal 12-16 credit hour block. However, to do so, the student must have at least a 3.0 GPA and have 27 credit hours received from the university. This helps to relieve increased tuition

due to extra credits and also allows students to take more classes in one semester to prevent having to take extra semesters.

The AS program has also added several ways to decrease student flight expenditures. The CFI course taken by many students by their senior year can now be taken free of cost to those students willing to become flight instructors for the university. Twenty-three students have also received a \$10,000 debt forgiveness scholarship in exchange for becoming instructors for the university (note there are still two open, to total at \$250,000). Not only does this decrease expenses for the student but also provides them with an immediate job and path toward their career.

In addition to targeting specific degrees, the committee allotted \$1.6 million in scholarships to be added for upperclassmen, as well as \$1.1 million for incoming students. The \$1.6 million will also remain as upperclassmen rather than offering the scholarships as an incentive for incoming students.

Another way to help prevent student debt has also been implemented, most likely to the relief of many parents. Added to the UNIV101 courses is a block on fiscal responsibility. This block hopes to help keep many incoming freshman students from overspending during their first year away from home, as many upperclassmen will admit to have done. In many cases, the UNIV101 course has been replaced with classes including not only college success skills but also material focused toward their particular major. This is intended to teach not only skills to help you in college but your career as well.

With the additional scholarships now in place and paths to reduced tuition and flight expenses, the effect of the Student Debt Reduction Committee has already been felt by many students. The committee will remain for another five years and will continue its attempts to assist the students with financial issues. “They’ve done a great job,” said the chancellor. “The well being of our students is our primary focus.”



ERIC LORENZI AND TYLER DeBord continued to prove their worth in the Eagle’s lineup. Lorenzi (left) put up season highs for points and rebounds against Webber International while DeBord (right) scored his 1,000 point against Warner Southern.

## Lorenzi, DeBord vault Eagles to 20th win

Press Release  
ERAU Sports Info.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. – Sophomore Eric Lorenzi recorded season highs in points and rebounds to lead the ninth-ranked Embry-Riddle men’s basketball team to its fourth Florida Sun Conference win of the season on Wednesday. Lorenzi finished the game with 25 points, on 10-16 shooting from the field and 14 rebounds as the Eagles (19-2, 4-1 in the FSC) notched a 95-76 win over Webber International (6-14, 1-4).

It took a while for the Eagles to get their offense going as their first points of the game did not come until Tyler DeBord’s tip-in 2:30 into the game. Both teams traded baskets over the next five minutes and the Eagles eventually opened up a five-point lead when Denver Cobb hit a three at the 11:47 mark.

The Eagles got a spark from junior Danny Deaver off the bench. Deaver entered the game

with 11 minutes left in the half, and in eight minutes on the floor he tallied 11 points, two rebounds and came up with two big steals to help ERAU to a 50-36 lead at the intermission.

After a quiet first half, Lorenzi erupted for 22 points and 10 rebounds in the second frame. He converted on nine of 11 shot

Please see “BBALL,” page A3

## Astronaut alumni coming to campus during Black History Month

Press Release  
ERAU Media Relations

Daytona Beach, Fla., Jan. 23, 2008 – On Feb. 4 and 5, NASA astronaut and U.S. Air Force Col. Benjamin Alvin Drew will return to his alma mater, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, to launch Black History Month activities at the university’s Daytona Beach, Fla., campus. He will also speak to students at two Volusia County public schools. His visit is sponsored by the university’s Office of Diversity Initiatives.

On Monday, Feb. 4, Drew will visit Campbell Middle School in Daytona Beach, where he will speak to students from 9:15-10:15 a.m. In a partnership program at the middle school, Embry-Riddle uses aviation and aerospace to enrich the 6th grade math and science curriculum.

At 7 p.m., Drew will speak

at Embry-Riddle about construction of the International Space Station and his flight as a mission specialist on Space Shuttle Endeavor from Aug. 8-21, 2007. His lecture will be in the Willie Miller Instructional Center on the Daytona Beach campus, and is free and open to the public.

On Tuesday, Feb. 5, Drew will visit Cypress Creek Elementary School in Port Orange, where he will give a presentation to 3rd-through 5th-graders from 12:45-1:30 p.m. This spring, the university will begin an after-school aerospace club at the school.

That evening, Drew will be the featured speaker at the Black History Month Banquet co-sponsored by the Embry-Riddle student chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) at the Daytona Beach campus.

“It is an honor to host Col. Drew,” says Maranda McBride, Assistant Professor of Human

Factors and Systems at Embry-Riddle and faculty advisor of the school’s NSBE chapter. “It’s important for our students to realize that goals which appear to be impossible due to circumstances beyond their control are indeed possible if they are willing to devote their time, energy, and skills to achieve them. I’m certain that Col. Drew’s appearance will have a positive impact on all students, regardless of their race.”

A graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Drew earned a master’s degree in aerospace science from Embry-Riddle’s Las Vegas education center in 1995. He also has a master’s in strategic studies in political science from the U.S. Air Force Air University.

“Col. Drew’s visit to our local schools could very well change the course of students’ lives and inspire them to follow in his footsteps,” says Joanne Detore-Nakamura, Director of Diversity

Initiatives at Embry-Riddle.

Drew’s visit to the campus is part of the Diversity Lecture Series, which has held recent events at Embry-Riddle marking Hispanic Heritage Month, Disability Awareness Month, and World AIDS Day, among others. The lecture series is chaired by Jennifer Carney, an instructor of humanities and social sciences.



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**‘Heroes don’t die, they reload;’**  
**‘Rambo’ reviewed**  
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## GET TO KNOW THE ISSUES

### Amendment 1

Amendment 1 seeks to change the way the local governments collect property taxes. The Florida State Constitution grants the Florida Legislature the power to create requirements for local governments in collecting taxes. According to the state constitution, any taxes based on value, such as property taxes, must be set uniformly in every taxing district at a "just value."

The Florida Legislature has no authority to revise these property taxes because any revisions are set by the Florida Constitution. For that reason the Florida House and Senate passed a joint resolution to place this proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot today.

The proposed amendment would cut property taxes in four ways:

- Increase the homestead exemption
- Make the Save Our Homes benefit portable
- Cap the annual assessment of non-homesteaded properties
- Create a tangible personal property exemption for businesses

If passed, the amendment will save the average homeowner \$240 in property taxes a year. The cost to local county, city, and other district governments is estimated at \$4.7 billion over five years.

The proposed amendment requires 60 percent approval to become part of the state constitution.

Sources: [votesmartflorida.org](http://votesmartflorida.org) and the Palm Beach Post



### Rudy Giuliani

**In short:** Former two-term Mayor of New York City

**Current Delegates:** 2

**Abortion:** Pro-choice

**Iraq:** Opposes setting timetable for troop withdrawal. Supported Bush plan to send additional American troops to Iraq.

**Gun Control:** Supports the assault weapons ban, only for Constitutional

purposes

**Same-Sex Marriage:** Opposes same-sex marriage, in favor of domestic partnerships and legal benefits

**Healthcare:** Supports market-based approaches to reducing health care costs and improving quality of care, opposes federally mandated universal coverage

**Social Security:** Supports private retirement accounts as a part of Social Security, but not at the expense of guaranteed benefits

**Immigration:** Supports path to citizenship for some immigrants including back-paying taxes and learning English, supports fence and National Guard security along U.S./Mexico border

**Taxes:** Supports making Bush tax cuts permanent, opposes Fair Tax



### Barrack Obama

**In short:** First term Senator (D-IL)

**Current Delegates:** 152

**Abortion:** Pro-choice

**Iraq:** Supports phased redeployment and a cap on the number of U.S. troops in Iraq, supports withdrawal from Iraq by March 2008

**Gun Control:** Supports extending the assault weapons ban

**Same-Sex Marriage:** Opposes same-sex marriage, supports civil unions, opposes Constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage

**Healthcare:** Does not mandate individual health insurance coverage for all Americans, but does require for children, would create a national health insurance program for individuals who do not have employer-provided health care and who do not qualify for other existing federal programs

**Social Security:** Opposes Bush plan allowing workers to divert some Social Security payroll taxes into private retirement accounts

**Immigration:** Supports Bush-backed immigration reform legislation, voted to authorize fence along U.S./Mexico border

**Taxes:** Opposes extending 2003 Bush tax cut through 2010, supports eliminating marriage penalty and extending child tax credits, supports scaling back capital gains and dividends tax cuts and re-examining tax benefits for wealthy Americans



### Hillary Clinton

**In short:** Second term Senator (D-NY), former first lady

**Current Delegates:** 230

**Abortion:** Pro-choice

**Iraq:** Supports phased redeployment and a cap on the number of U.S. troops in Iraq, supports withdrawal from Iraq by March 2008

**Gun Control:** Supports extending the assault weapons ban.

**Same-Sex Marriage:** Opposes same-sex marriage, supports civil unions, individual states should decide

**Healthcare:** Mandates individual health insurance coverage for all Americans with federal subsidies for those who cannot afford it, in favor of increased Medicaid and children's health-care programs

**Social Security:** Opposes Bush plan allowing workers to divert some Social Security payroll taxes into private retirement accounts

**Immigration:** Supports Bush-backed immigration reform legislation, voted to authorize fence along U.S./Mexico border

**Taxes:** Opposed 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cuts, opposes extending tax cuts through 2010



### Mike Huckabee

**In short:** Baptist minister, former two-term Governor of Arkansas

**Current Delegates:** 29

**Abortion:** Pro-life

**Iraq:** Supports Bush plan

**Gun Control:** Opposes reauthorization of the assault weapons ban

**Same-Sex Marriage:** Opposes same-sex marriage

**Healthcare:** opposes federally mandated universal coverage, supports market-based approaches at the state level, would make health care more affordable by reforming medical liability, improving electronic record-keeping, promoting portable health plans, expanding health savings accounts, making health insurance tax deductible, and offering tax credits to low income families

**Social Security:** Supported Bush plan allowing workers to divert some Social Security payroll taxes into private retirement accounts, proposes offering higher income retirees a one-time opportunity to purchase a tax-free annuity

**Immigration:** Supports Bush-backed immigration reform legislation

**Taxes:** Supports Fair Tax



### Ron Paul

**In short:** Ninth term Rep. (R-TX), 1988 Presidential hopeful (Libertarian)

**Current Delegates:** 6

**Abortion:** Pro-life, but should be decided by individual states

**Iraq:** Supports withdrawal of troops from Iraq

**Gun Control:** Opposes reauthorization of the assault weapons ban, NRA member

**Same-Sex Marriage:** Opposes same-sex marriage, opposes Constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, individual states should decide

**Healthcare:** Supports market-based reforms encouraging greater private sector competition and personal choice

**Social Security:** Opposes Bush plan allowing workers to divert some Social Security payroll taxes into private retirement accounts, opposes government-run private retirement accounts, opposes taxation of Social Security benefits

**Immigration:** Opposes Bush-backed immigration reform legislation, supports strict legislation that does not allow a path to citizenship for some illegal immigrants, voted to authorize fence along U.S./Mexico border

**Taxes:** Supported 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cuts, supports extending tax cuts through 2010, supports Fair Tax



### John Edwards

**In short:** Former one-term Senator (D-NC), 2004 Presidential hopeful, Kerry's 2004 running mate

**Current Delegates:** 61

**Abortion:** Pro-choice

**Iraq:** Supports withdrawal from Iraq by March 2008

**Gun Control:** Supports extending the assault weapons ban

**Same-Sex Marriage:** Opposes same-sex marriage, opposes Constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage

**Healthcare:** Mandates individual health insurance coverage for all Americans by 2012 and requires employers to either provide health coverage for employees or help defray their insurance costs, in favor of increased Medicaid and increased children's health-care programs

**Social Security:** Opposes Bush plan allowing workers to divert some Social Security payroll taxes into private retirement accounts

**Immigration:** Supports legal status and citizenship for some illegal immigrants, proposes to work with Mexico to curb illegal trafficking

**Taxes:** Opposed 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cuts, supports eliminating tax cuts for oil companies and wealthy Americans



### John McCain

**In short:** Fourth term Senator (R-AZ), former two-term Rep. (R-AZ), 2000 Presidential hopeful

**Current Delegates:** 38

**Abortion:** Pro-life (except in cases of rape, incest, or danger to mother)

**Iraq:** Supports Bush plan

**Gun Control:** Opposes reauthorization of the assault weapons ban

**Same-Sex Marriage:** Opposes same-sex marriage, opposes Constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, individual states should decide

**Healthcare:** Opposes federally mandated universal coverage, supports health care tax dividends for low-income Americans, medical malpractice reform, improving electronic record-keeping, expanding health savings accounts, and encouraging small businesses to band together to negotiate lower rates with health care providers

**Social Security:** Supported Bush plan to allow workers to divert some Social Security payroll taxes to private retirement accounts

**Immigration:** Supports Bush-backed immigration reform legislation, voted to authorize fence along U.S./Mexico border

**Taxes:** Voted against 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cut laws, later voted in favor of extending tax cuts through 2010, opposes Fair Tax



### Mitt Romney

**In short:** Former one-term Governor of Massachusetts

**Current Delegates:** 73

**Abortion:** Pro-life (except in cases of rape, incest, or danger to mother)

**Iraq:** Supports Bush plan

**Gun Control:** Supports reauthorization of the assault weapons ban, NRA member

**Same-Sex Marriage:** Opposes same-sex marriage, opposes civil unions

**Healthcare:** Supports covering the uninsured without raising taxes or creating a government-controlled system, encourages states to develop their own plans to cover the uninsured using market-based approaches, supports providing greater financial assistance to help uninsured Americans buy private insurance

**Social Security:** Supports private retirement accounts

**Immigration:** Opposes Bush-backed guest worker plan, opposes path to citizenship plan, opposes state benefits for illegal immigrants

**Taxes:** Supports making Bush tax cuts permanent, neutral on Fair Tax

\*Information compiled from CNN Election Center 2008 and Project Vote Smart

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By students, for students.

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## Cheerleaders win state title

## Eagles defeat WSC

Press Release  
**ERAU Sports Info.**

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – The Embry-Riddle cheerleading squad won its first state title at the Florida State Cheer and Dance Championship hosted by the American Open Championships on Saturday. The Eagles competed at Coed Level 6, the highest level the

program has ever achieved. The Eagle team consisted of only eight individuals compared to the other squads in the competition that were at least 16 strong.

“We were at a slight disadvantage with eight,” head coach Erica Baldrige commented. “Mistakes are more easily seen and it’s harder to come up with pyramids with only eight people. Overall,

our scores were better than we expected.”

The eight-member squad included Fletch La Barge, Jeremy White, Rebecca Cucciare, Danielle Sands, Caitlin Crowley, Corinne Griffith, Leah Henderson, and Sarah Watts. The routine was two and a half minutes long and included a pyramid, partner stunts, jumps, a cheer portion, and tumbling.

The American Championships produces four State level events each year. The State Championships are a great way for your athletes to showcase their talents and to stake their claim to state titles, and bragging rights. These State level events are only open to the competitors of the state in which the event is held.

Next year’s state competition will be held in Daytona Beach.

□ “BBALL”  
from FRONT

attempts and was 2-for-2 from beyond the arc.

The 14-point halftime deficit was as close as the Warriors would get as the Eagles extended the margin to as many as 25 points before closing out the 19-point win.

DeBord also recorded a double-double, his seventh of the year, with 15 points and 11 rebounds. Deaver finished with 17 points and Cobb added 13 points and eight rebounds.

Halston Schaffer registered a double-double of his own to lead the Warriors with 25 points, 10 boards and four steals. Alex Carmona scored 17 points and handed out three assists and Michael Floyd contributed 12 points.

the Royals on a 17-2 run. But the Eagles were undaunted and began their comeback with 8:34 left in the first half on a Danny Deaver three-pointer. The Eagles then scored six straight to make the score 29-24.

Both teams traded baskets over the next 5:30 and Warner Southern closed out the half carrying a 37-34 edge into the lockerroom at the halftime break.

The second half belonged to the Eagles. The Royals built their lead back up to seven points on a Hamilton jumper with 17:54 left, but those were the last points Warner Southern would score for the next five and a half minutes as a layup by Lorenzi marked the first of 20 unanswered Eagle points, resulting in a 56-43 Eagle lead.

The Eagles played stifling defense for the remainder of the game as the Royals managed only seven baskets in the last 12 minutes of play. Warner Southern had a seven-point spurt to cut the lead to five, but once again, the Eagle defense held its ground and didn’t allow a single Royal point over the last 2:40, while the offense tallied the last 10 points of the contest.

Adams finished as the game’s high scorer with 21, while Hamilton added 18 and Tommy Kleinschintz contributed 10.

The Eagles travel to West Palm Beach on Wednesday to take on Northwood. Game time is 7 p.m..



MELANIE PUGH/AVION

**THE ERAU CHEERLEADING SQUAD** won the Florida State Cheer and Dance Championship at the highest level of competition the school has ever entered. The eight person squad took on teams double their size.

## Walls, Williams set records

Press Release  
**ERAU Sports Info.**

GAINESVILLE, Fla. - Howard Walls and Alexis Williams showcased the talents of the ERAU Eagles at the Tom Jones Memorial Classic on Saturday at the University of Florida.

Williams put her mark on the ERAU record book for the second consecutive week as well, hitting the ‘A’ standard and setting the program indoor record in the long jump with a 5.69m (18-8) performance.

Williams also set the indoor school record in the 55m with her ‘B’-qualifying time of 7.36.

Walls continued his 2008 success that he began a week ago with his indoor school record and NAIA ‘A’ qualifying time of 7.79 in the 55m hurdles. Chance Finstad also ran in that race, finishing in 8.35. Robert Peterson completed the 55m in 6.70.

The Eagles will be in full force on Feb. 2, when both the men’s and women’s teams return to Daytona Beach to compete in the ERAU Indoor/Outdoor Challenge at the ERAU Track Complex.



MELANIE PUGH/AVION

**HOWARD WALLS CONTINUED HIS** his early season excellence after setting multiple indoor records last week. Walls put up a time of 7.79 in the 55m hurdles.

| Upcoming Basketball Events                                   |
|--|
| <b>Jan. 30</b> - vs. Northwood at West Palm Beach, Fla.      |
| <b>Feb. 2</b> - vs. Edward Waters at Jacksonville, Fla.      |
| <b>Feb. 7</b> - vs. St. Thomas (Fla.) at Daytona Beach, Fla. |

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PHOTO COURTESY JOHN O'CONNOR

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## THIS IS WHY WE DO IT

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# Hazy truth behind Colombian village massacre

Juan Forero

The Washington Post

The ceremony to remember Chengue's dead included a puppet show for children, free groceries and bagpipes wailing "Amazing Grace," all courtesy of Colombia's military.

And then Adm. Edgar Cely, the navy's operations chief, lamented how paramilitary fighters roared into this town seven years ago and, wielding truncheons, split open the heads of 27 villagers in one of the more egregious displays of depravity in Colombia's long civil conflict. "We want punishment for those criminals," Cely told families of the victims.

Luis Barreto, who lost six relatives in that pre-dawn attack, could only shake his head at Cely's words. In his view, justice is still glaringly absent in Chengue — as is the truth about the government's culpability in a crime that made this northern hamlet a monument to terror.

"So many of us say they should be punished, but nothing happens," said Barreto, 54, one of the few villagers who returned after the massacre displaced Chengue's 500 residents. "How much more proof do you need? Everybody knows what happened."

The truth, as villagers see it, is that the paramilitary commanders who carried out the killings received uniforms and armaments from the military, and passed unmolested through this region, which was controlled by the navy. Once inside Chengue, the paramilitary fighters went about killing villagers they had branded rebel sympathizers.

In the aftermath, only one paramilitary member was convicted, a low-level fighter who confessed after nightmares spurred by memories of the massacre haunted his sleep. Authorities implicated several officials from the navy, but none was ever convicted.

Indeed, justice has been as elusive here as in the rest of Colombia, even after the



PHOTO COURTESY BY WASHINGTON POST

official disarmament in 2006 of a powerful paramilitary army, the United Self-Defense Forces, opened the door to an extraordinary judicial process designed to catalog paramilitary violence, punish those responsible and force them to pay reparations to victims' families.

The cornerstone of that process has been a series of special judicial hearings in which 3,300 top and mid-level commanders have been required to admit their roles in atrocities, or face penalties for omission. Since the hearings began in November 2006, two dozen of the most feared paramilitary commanders have begun to testify, as have 1,200 underlings, said Luis Gonz lez, who leads a team from the attorney general's office that is investigating paramilitary crimes.

To be sure, some of the information provided in the "free versions," as the testimony in the closed-door hearings is called, has been blood-

curdling.

One commander, Ivan Laverde Zapata, known as "The Iguana," said he was responsible for 2,000 murders in the northeastern Catumbo region. Another, Ever Veloza, better known as H.H., described how his fighters in the banana-growing north would force

**“ We want truth, justice and reparations. ”**

-JULIA MERINO

their victims into a four-by-four vehicle, which was dubbed the "road to heaven." Sometimes they would abduct 20 people a night — victims who never came out alive. Other lower-

level fighters spoke of academies where they learned to dismember victims, the better to hide evidence of their crimes.

The testimonies of a handful of commanders have helped forensics teams exhume 1,300 bodies from mass graves.

"They've announced that they would confess to 15,000 crimes, and they have already confessed 4,000," said Gonz lez, of the attorney general's office. "Now they're providing the names and circumstances and the manner in which things happened, some 4,000 crimes that were in total impunity."

The Bush administration, which has provided billions of dollars in aid to Colombia, has hailed President Ivoro Uribe for his efforts to dismantle paramilitary groups.

But human rights groups are pressing Uribe's government to do more to hold old commanders to account and have called on U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who arrived

in Colombia on Thursday night for a one-day visit, to deliver that message.

Rights advocates who have been closely tracking the free versions, or testimonies, say that the attorney general's office has failed to adequately turn up evidence against hundreds of paramilitary fighters, some of whom committed widespread atrocities. That has prompted those fighters, facing the questions of prosecutors, to be less forthcoming in hearings.

"Most interviews are going nowhere," said Jose Miguel Vivanco, the Americas director for Human Rights Watch. "In many cases, interviews last just long enough for paramilitaries to withdraw from the process and refuse to recognize responsibility for any crimes."

Gustavo Gallon, director of the Colombian Commission of Jurists, a human rights group, and an observer at the hearings, said fewer than 100 of the free versions have been substan-

tive. "There are hearings where the paramilitary dedicates himself to justifying his crimes and the prosecutor permits it," Gallon said. "There are hearings where the paramilitary denies everything, he's silent. And there are hearings, very few, where the paramilitary has confessed."

Here in Chengue, the truth remains hazy. What is known, based on the testimony of some paramilitary fighters and an official investigation, is that the orders to kill came from Carlos Castano, then the leader of the United Self-Defense Forces, and that the massacre was carried out by a local paramilitary commander, Rodrigo Mercado Pelufo, known as "Chain."

Investigators believe navy sergeants provided uniforms and guns to the death squads at a paramilitary farm called El Palmar, which later became notorious for the mass graves discovered there. As paramilitary units headed for Chengue, the navy's marine units stood aside, Huber Enrique Banquez, a local commander, said late last year in his free version.

"The navy knew, and they didn't do anything to stop it, even though they had people in that whole area," police Capt. Jaime Gutierrez, who commanded a local garrison and later testified against naval officers, said in an interview. "I told them this was a chronicle of a death foretold."

Since the massacre, the Defense Ministry has removed tainted naval officers and replaced them with hard-charging commanders who have won praise from residents for pursuing paramilitary units as well as the guerrillas those units long hunted.

Still, Chengue remains haunted by the slayings, with only 20 families settling here, down from 104 before the massacre. Those who stay here, scratching out a living growing corn and avocados, remain bitter.

"We want truth, justice and reparations," said Julia Merino, who lost three close relatives. "Perhaps with the truth we can then pardon."

## Life in Iraqi colleges

Joshua Partlow

The Washington Post

During his eight-year endeavor to complete his undergraduate degree, Haider Swadi Kareem has witnessed more than he'd care to remember at Baghdad University.

From the vantage point of a plastic table in the student cafeteria, Kareem witnessed the point-blank slaying of a 22-year-old U.S. soldier, shot in the back of the head after buying a 7-Up. That was in the summer of 2003. In the same cafeteria, Kareem later saw fliers scattered on the concrete floor demanding that all students abandon the university, by the order of al-Qaida in Iraq.

He has watched as friends have died and teachers have left the country. His family fled for southern Iraq and insurgents took over his childhood home in Baghdad, forcing him to live alone in a dorm room on campus.

"When I first got here it was safe," he recalled wistfully.

And how is it now? For Kareem and some other students, professors and administrators, the answer is "better," but a tentative, heavily qualified better. As levels of violence have fallen in Baghdad over the past six months, the tension at the university has lessened, with more people returning to their studies and trying to turn their thoughts to the future.

The campus is something of an oasis in Baghdad, and the diverse student body, from all over the city and the country, offers a glimpse into the national mood at a time when Iraqis are experiencing a relative lull in the war.

With 80,000 undergraduates, Baghdad University is the largest in Iraq. It is protected on three sides by water and on the fourth by plainclothes gunmen. Its location on a peninsula formed by a bend in the Tigris River, in a relatively peaceful neighborhood where several prominent politicians have their compounds, has helped keep it from suffering the kind of gruesome bombings inflicted on other campuses in the capital. Still, about 80 professors, and many more



PHOTO COURTESY BY WASHINGTON POST

students, have been killed since the war began, university officials said.

During the last school year, about 50 percent of students went to class regularly, and hundreds of faculty members took unpaid leaves of absence. This year, attendance is about 80 percent, and many teachers have returned, said Riyadh Aziz Hadi, the university's assistant president.

"Of course there are many challenges, but less than before, because the security situation, while not 100 percent, has improved," he said. "I can't say that I'm optimistic. But I hope."

**“ I can't say that I'm optimistic. But I hope. ”**

-AZIZ HADI

Outside Hadi's office, on a stone bench shaded by a small tree, first-year student Sajar Khudair Abed, 18, surveyed the courtyard, filled with groups of chatting friends and students rushing to class. Her threshold for judging improvement was admittedly low.

"Look around, you cannot see people killing each other, bombing each other. Of course it's safer," she said. "We feel we are safer here than being at home."

Several students, however, described a persistent culture of intimidation and intolerance.

Fliers celebrating the family of Muqtada al-Sadr, the leader of one of Iraq's most powerful Shiite militias, are tacked to campus buildings, despite the administration's ban on political activity on campus. The majority of women wear head scarves and say that dressing in a more Western style, which many claim to prefer, attracts dangerous attention in the strict religious climate.

"You know, for example, we are two girls and a man," said computer science student Nour Kamal, 21, as she sat with friends eating popcorn in the cafeteria. "Some people don't like this idea at all, girls talking to a man. They will instantly mark you with an X. These people are savages."

Abbas Saad, 21, recalls a heated conversation about Islam he had with a group of classmates during his freshman year. Two days after the argument, a dozen of the students involved were abducted as they left the campus; he said their fates were unknown. "I don't talk about religion very much anymore," he said.

Saad took a year off while his family was moving from Mahmudiyah, a town south of Baghdad in what is known as the Triangle of Death, after his uncle was beheaded by insurgents.

"If you will compare the security situation to last year it is much better. Last year even the professors were afraid to come to class," he said. "But of course the militias are inside the university, and they're involved in almost everything."

Special correspondent Dalya Hassan contributed to this report.

## Creating peace with comedy

P.J. Huffscutter

Los Angeles Times

Comic Ray Hanania nervously paced backstage at the Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies and occasionally peeked around the velvet curtains to gauge the mood of the school's packed theater.

The downtown audience -- Arab businessmen, a Palestinian professor, Jewish students and Israeli families -- glanced curiously at one another and quietly chatted in their seats. Some fidgeted nervously.

"Think it'll be like Tel Aviv?" asked fellow comedian Charley Warady, an Israeli who grew up in the same South Side neighborhood in Chicago as Hanania. "Or will it be like East Jerusalem?"

Hanania, a Palestinian American, grinned and rolled his eyes in memory.

The Israeli-Palestinian Comedy Tour -- which also includes Aaron Freeman, a black Jewish convert from Chicago, and Yisrael Campbell, an Orthodox Jew from Jerusalem (and formerly a Roman Catholic who lived in Philadelphia) -- has shared some unlikely stages and pushed the boundaries of political humor over the last year.

The comedians' goal is to help people laugh at the tensions between Israelis and Palestinians through their brand of stand-up diplomacy.

"You can take a joke that, if we had a serious discussion, would really create an emotional argument," Hanania said. "But when you do it as a joke -- me making fun of the wall, Charley making fun of the checkpoints -- then everyone laughs. And everyone's unified for the moment."

Still, it's tough to imagine anyone being able to giggle over the region's ever-growing tensions.

But the comics insist that, during times of intense stress, people are hungry for the chance to laugh. "We're a bunch of comedians. We're not going to solve anything. We're not going to cause peace," said Warady, who moved from the U.S. to Israel in 1996. "What we want people to understand, and to point out, is that the fighting is stupid."

A tongue-in-cheek mood

emerged on the streets of Israel in 2006, after the militant group Hamas won a landslide victory in the Palestinian parliamentary elections: Taxi drivers reportedly riffed about how their orange-hued cabs would have to be painted green -- the color of Hamas -- and residents exchanged quips through cell-phone text messages about how beer brands would be renamed with holy monikers.

The idea to develop the Israeli-Palestinian show came about in late 2006, when Warady read online that Hanania was writing a book about their childhood neighborhood. He e-mailed Hanania, and the pair became friends.

After discovering that they were pursuing careers in stand-up comedy, the men decided to work together. They recruited Freeman and Campbell, and booked a series of gigs in Israel, including stops in Tel Aviv and East and West Jerusalem.

There was rejection from both sides of the borders. An Israeli company declined to book them because it didn't "want to alienate anyone's sensitivities," Warady said. "I said, 'Yeah, I understand, it's because we're promoting peace.'"

When Hanania returned to Chicago last summer, several Arab American organizations that had previously booked him as a solo act canceled.

"No one would come out and say it, but it was because I'd shared a stage with an Israeli," said Hanania, who's also an author and a political columnist. "It's one thing to perform with a Jew. But the political ramifications of crossing that Israeli-Palestinian line are too much for some people."

Still, the quartet found a welcoming audience in a variety of venues, traveling from Haifa to Beersheba. Whether the audience was predominantly Israeli or Palestinian, Hanania said, the desire to laugh was universal.

Now the quartet is getting ready to crisscross the U.S. over the next two months, performing at college campuses, community centers and faith-based festivals.

The 15-city tour starts at the University of Wisconsin, Madison in early February, with a stop in Southern California later in the month.



PHOTO COURTESY BY LOS ANGELES TIMES

Before hitting the road, they recently tested their material back in Chicago.

For two hours, the four men joked about such subjects as taking classes from a "master suicide bomber" with missing limbs ("Can I defer to next semester?" quipped Campbell) and took swipes at President Bush.

"Our goal is to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in six shows," Freeman told the sold-out crowd of more than 400. "This is our 20th show. But we're making progress. Our beloved president, George Bush, was in Israel and he announced to the world that it is time that the occupation must end."

Freeman waited a beat. Then, he deadpanned, "Thus, we are giving Washington back to the Indians."

The audience laughed at that one, but sometimes the punch lines fell flat. When Warady delivered a joke about how a series of earthquakes in Jerusalem made him think "that if we can't figure a way to divide up Jerusalem, somebody else will," the largely Israeli audience was uncomfortably silent, before politely laughing.

After the show, as the comics chatted with friends in the theater's lobby, audience members approached to say thanks -- and make a suggestion.

"You should have even numbers of Israelis and Palestinians on stage. And a woman," said Miriam Joyce, 71, a history and political science professor from the Calumet campus of Purdue University, in Hammond, Ind. Otherwise, Joyce pointed out, it's not truly "a fair division between Israelis and Palestinians."

Hanania replied with a grin, "When we perform in Ramallah, we call ourselves 'Ray Hanania and the Three Hostages.' That better?"



# What kind of govt. do we have anymore?

*Political parties don't let citizens vote for who they want to*

The United States is in serious need for government reform, for obvious reasons, and a lot will say that, even if they may give different reasons why. We are probably by far the most hated country in the world, and in all reality other countries have every right to, or at least they should hate the United States government. If someone came into my house and pointed a gun at me saying that I need to do what they want or I die, then of course I would hate them, and I'd defend my family and I.

The dual party system (Republican vs. Democrat) is a huge failure because it makes people pick a side and think of the other as the enemy. This can be seen everywhere in government, as well as in the news. It's practically a political civil war. I've seen speakers and other people pick sides on an issue just because that is what their party would say, and not what they truly believe or what is morally right to them; it's pathetic. It shows that the people who participate in this cannot stand up for what they believe. There are the other parties, but they have no say, they are just there for people to say, "well, if you don't want to be part of these two, you can pick one of the others, but you'll never have any power in government." People need to realize that they don't have to conform to two parties that are just at war with each other, each trying to promote its own agenda. The party system should be done away with to prevent this problem and just let presidential candidates act on their own. This would allow a greater variety and not force the candidates to act like someone they aren't and to lie

about what they really think. They will go against moral and ethical values and act in a way that promotes the party that they belong to. This kind of behavior should not be accepted in our government any longer.

The government's severe ties with large corporations, specifically oil companies, is really hurting the image of the United States and the wellbeing of its citizens. It's obvious that the government plays favorites with large corporations that have a lot of economic power. The people in the government have been known for a long time to make laws that play in favor of corporations, while the little guys are the ones left in the dust that have to pay for this. Most people, and especially business people, know that corporations get massive breaks when they are involved with the government. The

“*We couldn't pick who we wanted to run, WE could only pick out of the selection we were given; the lesser of two evils.*”

—BOB WILSON

biggest legal bribery comes from campaign contributions. I'm sure just about everyone knows about the unbelievable contributions that Bush's campaign got from oil companies like Halliburton. So why wouldn't Bush act in a way and make policies that favor those that gave him money like that to pay for his presidency? The campaigns should be given a set amount of money to work with, and nothing more. Then we can see who can really use that money in the most efficient way, rather than it just being a competition of money. This would give us a good insight on how they would use the government's money if they

are elected.

The sad thing is that the common people have less and less freedom in the country, and almost no power to change the government and help end the large scale corruption. Even voting can't be trusted anymore, with the things that happened in the past two presidential elections, and voting was pretty much the only power we had. We couldn't pick who WE wanted to run, we could only pick out of the selection we were given; the lesser of two evils. The United States government now follows in the footsteps of corporatism or fascism. No one will want to think of it, but they need to realize what is happening. Corporatism is a form of government where power is in the hands of civic assemblies such as business corporations that represent economic power, industrial power or professional groups. As said before, the government already gives a lot of power to business corporations, and they have also been known to give some power to other groups as well. Fascism, on the other hand, is where social interests and wellbeing are below that of the state in power and the government will act in ways that benefit itself and those in power. The United States government has shown strong signs of both of these forms of government, and they show it all the time. Knowing how these forms of government work, it's hard to disagree that the government doesn't act in a corporatist or fascist way. We may know our government as a democracy, and they may say they are a democracy, but there is a big difference between what they say and what they do.

People really need to take a stand and confront the corruption by letting others know what is happening and letting the government know that Americans will no longer take this corruption and that we want our democracy back. Knowledge is power and ignorance is taking that power away from us.

~Bob Wilson

# ERAU student talks with Will Daly

*Harassed student an advocate of GBLTQ rights*

"Death to Fags," these were the cruel words that were written with a magic marker on the laundry room door of Will Daly's dormitory by a fellow student at Stetson University on Nov. 18. This was not the only attack. A week earlier, on Nov. 11, the word "Fag" was etched on his dorm room door with an unknown sharp object that broke through both the paint and metal. Will Daly responded to these terrible acts of hate saying, "the first time, it didn't bother me so much. I figured the person was drunk. It happened between three to 10 in the morning. The second time was in the laundry room. It happened in broad daylight and it was a threat, it wasn't just graffiti." This is the story of one man's quest for acceptance in a world where he and other members of the Gay, Bisexual, Lesbian, Transgender and Questioning (GBLTQ) community have the minimum of rights. Will did not let these senseless acts bring him down; instead, he has risen and has become stronger than ever before.

I sat down with Will Daly for lunch in Deland to show my support and more importantly because of the impact that these events have had upon the local community here at ERAU and the GBLTQ community. Will Daly revealed to me that he went to the Director of Residential Life at Stetson University. The director informed Will that the door would be fixed. And it was, but only a couple weeks later. For weeks, Will had to sleep behind a door carved with the most embarrassing, humiliating, and degrading word to the GBLTQ community, "Fag." Will explained, "Gays don't have

rights, especially in Florida. You can get kicked out of a restaurant or denied housing just for being gay. In the State of Florida, gays can't adopt children. We're second class citizens when it comes to it." Will Daly prides himself in that he has read over 150 books with topics about homosexuality and homosexual rights. He dedicates himself to learning about the rights that he and so many of his peers are denied, and to bring hope that one day, things will be changed.

I asked Will what he would have preferred the school to do. He said he would have liked it if the school had a policy against discrimination based on sexual orientation, or if the school had simply followed up on the policy that they have in place. To even show any kind of support to the GBLTQ community would have been more than what the school has done, for it has no "Zero Tolerance Policy" written at all. He would have appreciated the school to inform the students of what had happened. In fact, Will would have liked any kind of swift response.

Will Daly planned to continue his education at Stetson, but has now decided to study at a culinary arts school in New York City. I asked him why and he explained he should leave because of the delayed reaction from the university and how they had poorly handled the hate crimes. Will feels that other students at his school resent him for his stance. He reveals his philosophy that, "this is only the beginning of how things get started. It starts with a little intimidation; they get you to be afraid and back down and go into hiding. Then it gets worse and ends up like Matthew Shepard." Ultimately this is the reason Will is leaving: fear!

For years, Will Daly and other members of the Organization of Students Actively Pursuing Equality (OSAPE) at Stetson University had struggled to get Judy Shepard, mother of Matthew Shepard, to visit. These plans became reality on Jan. 23, 2008, and that day will live in Will Daly's memory forever. For that day

was not just about Matthew Shepard, but also a tribute to Will Daly. There, Will received a well-deserved standing ovation, a dedication from the Orlando Gay Chorus and a strong, heartfelt opening from Judy Shepard. Mrs. Shepard informed the entire audience that she couldn't believe that the school had done nothing about these senseless crimes. She also gave a plea to the student body to do what is right and let officials know any information, and that they are no better than the perpetrator(s) for letting this happen without any consequences.

Will Daly believes that there is no known investigation currently in the works. One would think that these cruel acts would bring a person to his lowest, but that is not the kind of character you will find in Will Daly. He is a strong individual that is still fighting for his God-given and inalienable rights and trying to get his story heard. He is the embodiment of what one person can do. Will Daly is living proof that hate crimes toward the GBLTQ community still exist. Matthew Shepard was slain on Oct. 8, 1998, and on Mar. 14, 2007, in Polk County, Fla., Ryan Skipper was stabbed 28 times and had his throat slit by two men who attempted to use the "Gay Panic" defense (retaliation for unwanted sexual advances) for this horrific murder. Will Daly is merely a survivor of hate crimes.

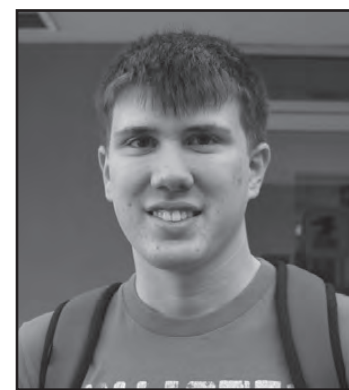
On Jan. 24, Will came to ERAU to speak with students and faculty about his passion for equality, his nightmare at Stetson, and what it was like to have personally met Judy Shepard. There, he encouraged the students and faculty to, "Speak up! You shouldn't be afraid to fight for your rights. They are your rights!" His story truly touched the audience who came to show their support for Will. This remarkable individual, student, activist, and friend will be dearly missed. The members and faculty advisors of the Gay Straight Alliance at Embry-Riddle wish Will Daly all the best in all of his endeavors.

~Ryan Corcoran

**Have an opinion?**  
**Submit your opinions online at**  
***www.avionnewspaper.com***  
**or e-mail them to**  
***avion.newsroom@gmail.com.***

## Student Forum

*The Avion asks: "What is your favorite bathroom on campus?"*  
 -Compiled by Matt Goldberg and Bob Scheid



**Bobby Shepherd**  
Freshman  
Homeland Security  
"The one by Eagles FM."



**Andrew Kirkwood**  
Freshman  
Aerospace Engineering  
"The first floor of the Student Village."



**Brian Dreyer**  
Master of Science  
Aerospace Engineering  
"The one we can't talk about."



**Christian Swan**  
Freshman  
Aviation Maint. Science  
"My dorm, it's really clean."



**Kristen Seaman**  
Junior  
Meteorology/Comm.  
"The third floor of the COA."



**Matt McAllister**  
Senior  
Aeronautical Science  
"The first floor of the COA."



## Sigma Chi Rush

James McCarthy

ΣΧ

Sigma Chi would like to welcome everyone back from winter break and welcome all students to come out and enjoy the activities of Rush Week.

We would also like to discuss who we are. Sigma Chi is a leadership based Fraternity. Our goal is to become a pre-eminent unsurpassed collegiate leadership development organization. Our members all demonstrate leadership qualities, which we strive to improve through membership in Sigma Chi. We offer a tremendous opportunity for our members to gain real and relevant leadership experience. Sigma Chi has two national leadership courses set up for its members: Balfour Leadership Training Workshop and Sigma Chi Horizons. These two programs focus on improving undergraduate brother's leadership skills. Our primary purpose is "the cultivation, maintenance, and accomplishment of the ideals of friendship, justice, and learning." Sigma Chi does not just stop at friendship; we aspire to obtain a

true brotherhood among our members. We also feel that equality and justice are important and therefore believe in conducting ourselves as gentlemen. We are responsible for our actions and must act responsibly.

Last, but certainly not least, it is our understanding that scholarship is a college student's primary responsibility. We are all here at college to get an education, and being such, we must keep that first.

Our chapter has been known for keeping a high average GPA on campus. We also believe that college is meant to stimulate your desire for knowledge and that learning is a lifelong process. Sigma Chi, similarly, is a lifelong commitment.

The Sigma Chi Fraternity was founded in 1855 and currently is one of the largest fraternities in Greek society with over 220 active chapters in the U.S. and Canada and over 230,000 living members. Some of Sigma Chi's alumni you might recognize include:

-Entertainers David Letterman, Tom Selleck, Brad Pitt, and John Wayne;

-Athletes Mike Ditka and Drew Brees;

-Marriott Hotels founder Bill Marriott Sr. and CEO, Bill Marriott, Jr.;

-Astronaut John Young and many others.

Finally, we would like to encourage all students to come out to the Rush activities this week. You are welcome to stop by our house on 520 S. Ridgewood Ave or come up to any brother to talk. Sigma Chi's Rush activities are:

-Monday (Jan. 28): Poker tournament - Meet at 6:30 p.m. in the UC Cafeteria.

-Tuesday (Jan. 29): Dodgeball - Meet at 6:30 p.m. at the racquetball courts.

-Wednesday (Jan. 30): Bowling - Meet at 6:30 p.m. in front of the ICI.

-Thursday (Jan. 31): Go-Karts, Mini Golf, Batting cage - Meet at 6:30 p.m. in front of the ICI.

-Friday (Feb. 1): Dinner at the Fraternity house at 7 p.m. - If you need a ride meet at 6:45 p.m. in front of the ICI.

John Wayne, the famous film actor and Sigma Chi alum, once said "Men join fraternities; Leaders of Men join Sigma Chi."

## ΦΔΘ—What we stand for

Christopher Haas

ΦΔΘ

There are a number of unique reasons to join Phi Delta Theta. You may be looking to make new friends, or you want to get involved on campus and in the community, or maybe you are looking to make connections—and build a network that will help you in life after college. Whatever the initial reasons, Phi Delta Theta and its Florida Mu chapter here at Embry-Riddle offers many opportunities for individuals to further their goals and to discover things about themselves that may have otherwise gone unnoticed.

For over 150 years more than 225,000 members of our organization have shared the bond of friendship, pursued high ideals, and strived for excellence. Many have done so with tremendous success. A brief list of famous Phi Delt brothers includes astronaut Neil Armstrong, President Benjamin Harrison, baseball legend Lou Gehrig, hotel founder J. Willard Marriott, and architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

While every Greek organization has famous members to call their own, the Phi Deltas at Embry-Riddle are proud of our accomplishments at ERAU. For the past two years, Phi Delta Theta has been awarded the Chapter of the Year award by Student Activities. We have done this by consistently applying our principles of Friendship, Sound Learning, and Moral Rectitude in a number of

and organizations such as Order of Omega and the Inventor's Club.

Another important facet of Greek Life is giving back through community service. In addition to participating in Up 'til Dawn events this semester Phi Delta Theta is excited to host a major event on-campus in April to help fight ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. In addition to bettering ourselves as well as our fellow man, Phi Delta Theta offers many social opportunities to make the college experience more enjoyable. As a social fraternity, the Florida Mu chapter of Phi Delta Theta holds events every semester where brothers and new members can enjoy each other's company as well as seek to complement the Riddle ratio. These events include camping trips to local parks such as Ginnie Springs, group trips we like to call "Bus to Nowhere," and of course our annual Formal.

We wish everyone the best no matter which fraternity they choose and we look forward to another great semester here at Embry-Riddle.



ways. Currently, we hold the highest GPA of all fraternities, above the all-men's average as well. Furthermore, Phi Deltas are some of the most involved Greeks on-campus with brothers holding leadership positions such as Chief Justice of SGA, Chairman of Touch-N-Go Productions, Editor-in-Chief of *The Avion Newspaper*, as well as heads of other clubs

## Date Auction ΣΑΕ - The True Gentlemen

Kate Cormier

Up 'til Dawn

It's that time of year again. Valentine's Day is coming up and of guess what that means... the Up 'til Dawn Date Auction!! It will be held on Feb. 8 at 7 p.m.. This Tuesday, Jan. 29, there will be a meeting for all of the dates. We have plenty of date openings so do not hesitate to stop by the Up 'til Dawn office and pick up a Date Auction packet! If you are part of an organization, you can sponsor a date for \$15 and of course that money goes directly to St. Jude to help the kids. If you do not want to be auctioned off alone, you can get auctioned off

as a pair. To sponsor a pair we have a deal of \$25. So everyone get ready for a great night and remember this is all "For the Kids!" If you have any questions at all, do not hesitate to



stop by the Up 'til Dawn office or you can contact me at [cormie2a@erau.edu](mailto:cormie2a@erau.edu). Hope to see you all there!

Will Gons

ΣΑΕ

If you are looking to go greek this is the week to explore. All of the fraternities are having events each day so it is a perfect time to get to know the different fraternities and see if you like any of them. Here in Sigma Alpha Epsilon we focus on our motto, the True Gentleman. Our main focuses are on scholarship, friendship, service and sportsmanship.

Currently, we have over 40 brothers in our chapter. This semester we have tons of fun events planned out. We will

have several teams in the different intramural tournaments for all who are interested. If you want to learn more about us, visit our website at [www.saeffrho.com](http://www.saeffrho.com), or come to our rush events.

If you missed the Bowling on Monday do not worry, we have plenty more events: Tuesday night we are going to the Wing-House at 5:45 p.m. for, you guessed it, wings and a great time.

Wednesday we are going to play billiards at 6:15 p.m., and Thursday we are playing an all time favorite, dodgeball at 6:15 p.m. at the street soccer court. For all the events we will be meeting at the Doolittle bridge.



PHOTO COURTESY ΣΑΕ

## Pre-flight challenge

Dodd Allen

Flight Department

Ever wonder just how well you preflight? Recently, our students were provided this opportunity. The name of the game; identify as many discrepancies as you can in one walk around. Pretty easy, right? Recently, we let maintenance have a little fun with a Cessna 172, turning a normal preflight into a nightmare. Problems ranged from having panels on backwards, placing towels in the exhaust, leaving tools behind the rudder pedals, and setting an alligator between the seats. We wanted to see just how well our students took the challenge.

On November 6th, students lined up to participate. Some participants completed the task in 10 minutes, while others took their time. The enthusiasts ranged from 18 year old students to ERAU alumni. It was great to see so many participants.

The winner of the chal-

lenge and the free flight in the Diamond was Sean Edwards. He identified 28/30 errors. Among the runners up were: Arkady Chernov and Latchezar Hristov. A special mention to Steve Pellegrino Jr. and Ellen Skinner, both members of the Eagles Flight Team, who did a

great job.

Of course, none of this would be possible without all of the help from our IP core and our maintenance personnel. The popularity of this annual event is well worth the effort. Thanks to everyone who attended and helped out.



PHOTO COURTESY DODD ALLEN

Advertisement

### Why fly with M.C. Flyers? Think about it...

George & Lauren McCallman have been operating M.C. Flyers out of Spruce Creek for the past 16 years, with a safe and reliable record. We offer friendly, flexible, & personal service - treating you like family. Our aircraft are maintained to the highest standards, ensuring that you have a safe & reliable aircraft ready when you want it! Maintenance is often preformed overnight, so you don't have to wait for an airplane to fly. Our rates are straightforward, with no gimmicks...

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**Avia Aero Services, Inc. (Avia)** is pleased to announce the arrival of our exceptional new aviation center at Flagler County airport (KXFL), conveniently located just 20 minutes north of Daytona.

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Avia's training center is located just 1 mile west of Flagler County airport on State Road 100 in the Marvin's Garden Business Center. From Daytona, take I-95 north to exit 284 (SR 100) and head west on SR100. Continue past the airport about 1 mile, and make your first left after crossing Belle Terre Pkwy.

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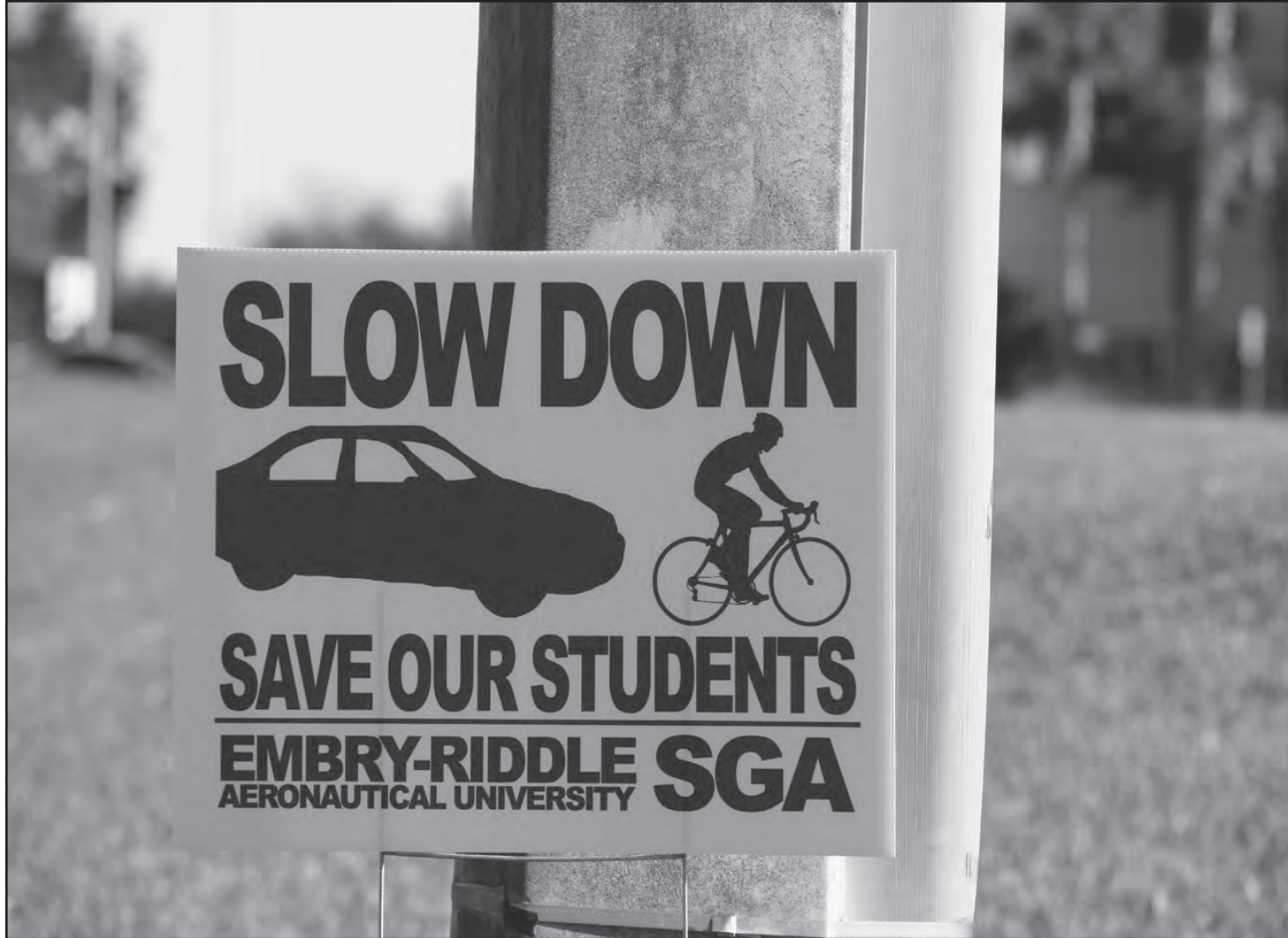




## Student Government Association

*"Driving the change ... Setting the standard."*

### SGA continues Clyde Morris bike lane efforts

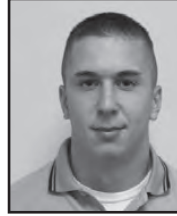


RYAN HATTAN/ SGA

IN AN ATTEMPT TO ensure the safety of Embry-Riddle students, the Student Government Association has taken the lead and continues to push for a Bike Lane to be placed along the West side of Clyde Morris Boulevard. Numerous students traverse this path on a daily basis to and from school. The intended bike lane would widen the road, to include a safe amount of space for bicycles and the current amount of traffic using the road.

Ryan Hattan  
Vice President

As you drive southbound along Clyde Morris Boulevard along campus you may notice a new sign that pops up about every 25 yards or so. That sign was placed by the Student Government Association in efforts to make drivers conscientious of our student bicyclists and pedestrians that traverse the roadway to and from campus every day. If you've ever driven down the road you'll definitely have noticed the numerous students that can be found on its sides at any given time.



Ryan Hattan  
SGA V.P.

Unfortunately the roadway's sides are not suited for pedestrian use and our students are continually subjected to unsafe conditions while they travel. In addition to small shoulders, the roadway is lit poorly if at all in many places seeing as how it runs right along side a major runway. This is especially problematic when students are traveling in the early morning hours or in the evening. After the accident of Palance Powell last semester we are avidly pushing for those that use the roadway to do their part in paying attention and slowing down on the heavily

used road.

While we continue to work with the city and local officials to achieve our long-term of paving a bikelane, we also realize the current gravity of the situation and have numerous short-term efforts in place. We have spent the past few weeks gathering resources and will now be unveiling our works in full. The most noticeable of which are the signs along the roadway pictured at left. We currently have 50 signs placed to hopefully remind drivers of others that utilize the roadway.

In addition to caution signs, we will also be hosting a safety seminar on Jan. 30 and 31. This seminar will last the morning and take place in front of the main entrance. We will have information on hand for

**"Students are continually subjected to unsafe conditions while they travel."  
-RYAN HATTAN"**

bicyclists as well as donated safety equipment, such as LED lights, from local vendors. If you would like to help out and do your part, please simply be aware of your fellow Embry-Riddle members as they seek safe travel along this roadway until we can provide a more practical and safe solution.

**Wednesday, 1/30/2008 & Thursday, 1/31/2008** **7:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.**

**RESCHEDULED!**

**Project Save Our Students**

If you are a cyclist that travels along Clyde Morris Blvd, please stop by to receive important Safety Information and a free LCD Light (while supplies last).

Campus Safety will also be available with their "Lease a Lock" program and for students to register their bikes.

If you have any questions please contact your SGA.

**ERAU Main Entrance**

"Light Deck if raining"

**Eat Lunch With the Provost!**

Bring Your Own! **Dr. Richard Heist** He Will Too!

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| The Student Center | The Student Village |
| January 30th       | February 13th       |
| February 27th      | March 5th           |
| March 26th         | April 16th          |
| April 23rd         |                     |

**Wednesdays 11:30-12:30**

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**Task Force One & Campus Outreach**

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**Super Bowl Bash!!!**

**February 3rd**

**University Center**

**10:00 am**

for Madden Competition

Sign up @ the Student Center

**6:00 pm**

For kick-off & food

Watch the game on the big screen!

**BBQ and Pizza is on us!**

**Come join us for the biggest and best Super Bowl Sunday!**

**SUPER BOWL XLIII**



# 777 undefeated streak ended

*First 777 crash leads investigators to Chinese fuel*

Bob Scheid

Chief Copy Editor

Near the end of last week, investigators of a British Airways 777-200ER that crashed short of a runway at London Heathrow Airport said that the problem may lie in the fuel feed system, Aviation Daily reported.

About two miles from Runway 27L, the aircraft lost power at an altitude of about 600 feet. The pilots kept it in a glide, missing houses nearby and eventually coming to Earth about 1,000 feet short of the runway. None of the 152 passengers and crew traveling from Beijing were seriously injured.

This is the first crash of a 777 aircraft since it entered service in 1995. However, The Independent reported that this is the sixth engine failure on 777 aircraft in its history.

Initially, investigators

believed that the aircraft was not providing thrust just before the crash, despite flight recorder data showing the autopilot

So while problems with the aircraft from a design stand-

**BRITISH AIRWAYS**

and autothrottle systems trying to increase power. Now, however, investigators believe that the engines did begin to spool up, but that the right engine began failing after three seconds and the left after eight. Post-accident photographs taken of the engine debris indicates that the left engine was still providing some power at the moment of crash, but that the right engine was at a much lower setting.

The Air Accidents Investigation Branch (AAIB), a British government agency investigating the crash, released on its web-

site that the engines were providing thrust, just not at the level requested by the flight computer. Also, "Recorded data indicates that an adequate fuel quantity was on board the aircraft and that the autothrottle and engine control commands were performing as expected prior to, and after, the reduction in thrust."

point have not been ruled out, the investigation is now turning to something in the fuel system that failed, probably due to external influences. One possibility listed in the Aviation Daily article was unusually low temperatures along the flight path, with some segments having a temperature of about minus 100 F. Along with impurities in the fuel, the low temperature may have caused blockages in the bottom of the tanks or in the fuel lines or injectors.

Aviation Daily also reported that fuel samples were being taken from all flights outbound from

China. Boeing, Rolls-Royce

built the Trent 895 engines on the aircraft) and British Airways are continuing to work with the AAIB by providing technical information, and details are still emerging over time. A full investigation may take several years to complete.



# Polish military crash

Maciek Majewski

Staff Reporter

On Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 7:07 p.m. local time, a CASA 295M crashed approximately 2,600 feet short of the runway on landing in the military base of Miroslawiec in Northwestern Poland. On board were four crew members and 16 passengers, mainly high ranking Polish Air Force officers, who, by cruel irony, were returning from a military aviation safety conference in Warsaw. The plane departed the capital about two hours prior and has stopped in Krzesiny and Powidz. Miroslawiec was the last stop before returning to Krakow, where the Polish CASA aircraft are based. The aircraft crashed in a wooded area before the runway and immediately burst into flames. There were no survivors.

Weather at the time of arrival in Miroslawiec was poor, and the crew had already made one approach and executed a missed approach after reporting not seeing the runway. On the second

approach they told the tower the runway was in sight. The airport does currently not have a precision approach system. The cause of the crash remains unknown; the flight data and voice recorders have not been salvaged yet due to the state of the wreckage.



Both Prime Minister Donald Tusk and President Lech Kaczynski visited the crash site, and a national sorrow lasting until Saturday, Jan. 26, was declared.

Poland acquired 10 new CASA 295M aircraft made by the European Aeronautic Defense and Space Company (EADS). The company has sold 50 of the aircraft to six countries. To date, 25 have been delivered. The one that crashed was delivered in 2007 and had less than

500 hours of flight time. This crash was the first ever for that aircraft type, and now stands as the worst accident in Polish military aviation since the 1970s.

# Gulfstream, Honeywell receive RNP approval

Matt Goldberg

Guest Reporter

Recently, the Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation received approval from the FAA for four of the aircraft it produces to fly newly emerging specialized approaches. The approaches use what is called Required Navigational Performance, or RNP, which ICAO defines as, "a statement of the navigation performance necessary for operation within a defined airspace." This essentially means that an RNP approved airplane has to meet certain navigational performance standards before it is allowed to fly an RNP route. The approaches themselves are called RNP Special Aircraft and Aircrew Authorized Required airport approaches (RNP SAAAR).

Obtaining FAA approval was a yearlong endeavor by Gulfstream, NetJets, and Honeywell International. The company had to show that it had a system that could prove the accuracy of the vertical and lateral distances being shown on its instrument dis-

plays. The approval covers only Gulfstream's PlaneView-equipped jets to fly approaches. PlaneView is part of Gulfstream's digital flight deck that is based on Honeywell's Primus Epic avionics suite. According to their website, Gulfstream released its newest version of PlaneView in March last year, which works to more precisely determine the accuracy of the aircraft's onboard navigation systems.

The RNP SAAAR approaches require the use of GPS and inertial navigation reference systems working in conjunction. An inertial navigation reference device is a completely self-contained navigational device that, by using a built in computer and motion sensor, is able to track aircraft location without the need for external navigational aids.

An added benefit of the approaches is that they are programmed into the aircraft's flight management computer so pilots can access them easily.

In a statement released by Gulfstream they say that the RNP capability will, "allow pilots to fly safer, more-direct

and lower-minimum approaches, thereby reducing typical diversions," and "[reducing] the time aircraft are in the air, saving operators both time and fuel." The company also has produced specialized RNP SAAAR Operation Manuals for each aircraft approved for the system, and released a maintenance document on how to maintain the system so that it meets FAA standards for conducting the approaches.

Honeywell, through its work with Gulfstream on this project, has received an RNP SAAAR consultant designation from the FAA. This means that the company will be allowed to act as a consultant for companies looking to get their certified for conducting RNP SAAAR operations.

With rising fuel costs affecting all aircraft operators, the fact that these aircraft are proven to reduce fuel costs by decreasing their flight time during the enroute and approach segments of flight will definitely be an added selling point for individuals and corporations looking to purchase an efficient aircraft.

## Aircraft of the Week

### REPUBLIC P-47 THUNDERBOLT



PHOTO COURTESY U.S. AIR FORCE

#### Factoid

**Maximum Speed:** 376 knots

**Range:** 800 combat miles, 1,800 for ferry

**Armament:** 8 x .50 cal M2 Browning Machine Guns, 10 x 5in unguided rockets, up to 2,500 lbs of bombs

**Service:** U. S. Army Air Force 1942-1955.

Affectionately nicknamed "Jug," the P-47 was one of the most famous AAF fighter planes of World War II. Although originally conceived as a lightweight interceptor, the P-47 developed as a heavyweight fighter and made its first flight on May 6, 1941. The first production model was delivered to the AAF in March 1942, and in April 1943 the Thunderbolt flew its first combat mission -- a sweep over Western Europe. Used as both a high-altitude escort fighter and a low-level fighter-bomber, the P-47 quickly gained a reputation for ruggedness. Its sturdy construction and air-cooled radial engine enabled the Thunderbolt to absorb severe battle damage and keep flying. During WWII, the P-47 served in almost every active war theater and in the forces of several Allied nations. By the end of WWII, more than 15,600 Thunderbolts had been built. ~U.S. Air Force

Aviation briefs brought to you by

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## Corona Midair Victims Identified

Investigators from the NTSB are trying to figure out why a Cessna 172 and a Cessna 150 collided in mid-air about a mile south of the Corona Municipal Airport in California on Sunday, killing the pilot and passenger of each aircraft plus one person on the ground. According to The Associated Press, the Riverside County Coroner's Office identified the dead as Scott Gayle Lawrence, 55, of Cerritos; Paul Luther Carlson, 73, also of Cerritos; Brandon William Johnson, 24, of Costa Mesa; Anthony Joel Guzman, 20, of Hesperia; and Earl Smiddy, 58, of Moreno Valley. Smiddy was reportedly crushed inside a car dealership when one of the aircraft pierced the building's roof.

## Roadable Aircraft To Fly This Year

The MIT grads who embarked on the heretofore impossible dream of creating a practical roadable aircraft (they dislike the term "flying car") have found the funding they need to keep going on the project. Terrafugia, as they call it, will fly before the end of the year and they hope to be delivering the \$148,000 vehicle in 2009. What's more, they were displaying the engineering mock-up and folding-wing demo at U.S. Sport Aviation Expo in Sebring because the Terrafugia will be an LSA, powered by a single Rotax 912 engine. "We're very happy with the development so far," said Dick Gersh, the company's VP of business development.

## Cessna Large Cabin Jet No Longer a 'Concept'

Cessna Aircraft Co. said on Thursday it will move ahead with its Large Cabin Concept jet aircraft. The aircraft will have intercontinental range and will be the largest ever in Cessna's fleet. "I'm ecstatic to announce we are extending the Citation line upward and grateful for the patience of the customers who have urged Cessna to add a large cabin Citation," said Cessna CEO Jack Pelton. The company has been showing a mock-up of the concept since late 2006 and customer feedback will be incorporated into the final design, Pelton said. "We have invested a great deal of time in evaluating this concept to determine a solid business case and involved customers very early in this program. We're confident our efforts will result in an aircraft that is right for the marketplace," he said.

# Continental achieves highest quarter profit in seven years

Maciek Majewski

Staff Reporter

Despite signs of economic slowdown, Continental Airlines surprised many by achieving a pre-tax profit for the fourth quarter. This was the first pre-tax fourth quarter profit for the company since 2003, as well as the largest operating profit for the quarter in the past seven years. Taking the whole past year into account, the pre-tax profit was \$566 million, a 53 percent improvement from the previous year. Currently, the carrier is only reporting pre-tax figures as the special tax charges due to changes in pilot retirement age are still being calculated.

Analysts are saying that airlines should consider capacity cuts due to predictions of an

economic recession. However, Continental CEO Larry Kellner said "I am pleased with the

factor is up slightly. Continental recently consulted representatives from

**Continental Airlines**

strength of bookings, and the carrier does not see a demand slowdown based on current booking levels." The yield outlook also appears stronger than last year.

"There was some softness in bookings over the holiday period, but the first quarter is looking good," Kellner said. This agrees with the observations of American Airlines, which recently reported that the load

major corporate customers to gauge travel predictions. Little change is expected in domestic travel; however international travel is projected to increase. Kellner said that with reports of the U.S. being on the verge of recession, the airline will be watching bookings closely and that it can reduce spending by postponing projects and scaling back pension plan payments safely.



## Sea Launch marks successful return

Andrew Zaback  
Sports Editor

On Jan. 15, a fiery glow lit up the equatorial region of the Pacific Ocean at 154 degrees west longitude. Just shy of one year after a Zenit 3SL rocket exploded, another one took its place and successfully launched.

The Zenit launch system has a RD-171 engine, capable of delivering 1.6 million pounds of thrust: the most powerful liquid-fueled engine ever built. The 200-foot-tall rocket has three stages and is commonly used to deliver communications satellites to geosynchronous orbit.

The recent launch will position an Arab mobile communications satellite 22,300 miles above the Eastern Indian Ocean. Once in its final orbit, the satellite, Thuraya 3, will extend two solar panels reaching 134 feet across along with a 40-foot communications antenna.

Thuraya 3 will provide mobile communications service for the Thuraya Satellite Telecommunications Company based in the United Arab Emirates.

This launch is considered a victory by Sea Launch personnel after a devastating accident took place in January 2007. The previous Zenit rocket mounted on the converted oil platform suffered massive engine failure when a piece of metallic debris got caught in the first stage engine's liquid oxygen turbopump.

This small fragment of metal caused the engine to combust, bringing about a total loss of thrust. Following the engine failure, the rocket lost all thrust and sank into a flame deflector below the launch pad.

The ensuing fireball caused major damage to many critical components of the Sea Launch Facility, known as the Odyssey platform. These components included the loss of the 600,000 pound flame deflector, hangar doors, communications

antennas, as well as miles of wires and cables. The damage ultimately disabled the launch facility for approximately 10 months.

A new flame deflector had to be assembled in Russia to replace the crumpled remains left in place by the rocket's explosion. In addition, the platform was sailed to a shipyard in Vancouver, British Columbia for replacement communications installations and a new paint job.

After the repairs were finished in November 2007, Sea Launch scheduled the next launch later that month. Due to high winds and violent sea conditions the launch was pushed back to January 2008.

Valery Aliev, Manager of Sea Launch's rocket operations says "This is one of the biggest victories we've had in the history of Sea Launch." Her opinion was shared by many working on the first flight since the 2007 mission failure.

Sea Launch's next mission is scheduled for March.



PHOTO COURTESY SEA LAUNCH

**ON YEAR FOLLOWING A** devastating explosion on its floating launch platform, Sea Launch's Zenit 3SL rocket lifts-off with the Thuraya-3 communications satellite Jan. 15. The mission was a complete success.

## NASA's airborne telescope passes key flight testing

Ashley Roper  
Staff Reporter

NASA's airborne observatory passed its initial flight test on Jan. 8. The test was conducted at NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

The Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy, or SOFIA, is a modified Boeing 747SP aircraft equipped with a 10-foot-wide infrared telescope.

SOFIA is the largest observatory of its kind and is designed to complement the Hubble Space Telescope as well as many Earth based telescopes. SOFIA is a joint project between NASA and

the German Aerospace Center (DLR). Other organizations such as MT Aerospace and the University of California are also working on the project.

The infrared nature of the telescope offers an interesting, rare look at the universe. SOFIA is able to pick up infrared light that ground telescopes cannot. Many objects in space cannot be seen because they emit only infrared light. Sometimes clouds of

gas and dust block visible light from other objects. An infrared telescope can view these blocked objects. SOFIA is designed for these types of cases. The telescope

will also be able to study other outstanding phenomena such as the formation of new solar systems, black holes, and the birth and death of stars.

The main mirror on the telescope that is featured on SOFIA is almost nine feet across. A 16-foot-wide door was cut into the fuselage of the 747 in order to accommodate the telescope.

At the recent testing in California, the aircraft was flown five times with this external door closed. The aircraft's aerodynamics, handling qualities, stability, and control were all under close surveillance during the test.

SOFIA is scheduled for test flights later this year in which the door will remain open. Testing will continue through 2010.



Advertisement

## ERAU Electronics Recycling

January 30th  
Flight Deck  
10a.m. - 3p.m.

- Bring in your used or old:
- CD's and DVD's
- Batteries
- Computer equipment
- MP3 and CD players
- Monitors and tv's
- Speaker/AU cable and wire
- Headphones

or nearly anything with a circuit board.

**Support the environment and dispose of your waste properly.**

For questions on recycling or information on what you can do to help, come to the SGA Environmental Awareness Committeemee meetings, every Wednesday at 5 p.m. in the SGA office.

## Upcoming Cape launches

### Shuttle heading for Feb. 7 afternoon liftoff

NASA is expected Wednesday to formally confirm Feb. 7 as the launch date for the second go-round at getting STS-122 and Europe's Columbus science laboratory module off to the International Space Station. Mission managers will meet for the Flight Readiness Review that day and follow with a press conference announcing their decision. Launch is slated for a few seconds past 2:45 p.m. EST that Thursday afternoon from Launch Pad 39A at the Kennedy Space Center, where Atlantis has sat since its first launch attempts were scrubbed Dec. 6 and again Dec. 9.

NASA also announced this past week that they are reverting to the "three out of four" rule for working Engine Cutoff (ECO) sensors (instead of having all four required to work), as had been the case prior to December. While NASA believes they did find and fix the problem during the two months since then, they will not know for sure until Atlantis is filled up with its more than half-million-gallon load of supercold hydrogen and oxygen on launch morning. The idea of testing them with a full-up tanking test first was passed over. On Dec. 6, only two functioned properly, while on the second try Dec. 9, three worked.

In addition, NASA formally set March 11 as the new launch date for STS-123/Endeavour; the spectacular night launch - just the second since Return to Flight - would occur at 2:31 a.m. that day. It is unclear if a Delta 2 launch slated for March 13 is in conflict with it; the eastern range typically needs at least 48 hours between launches.

Stay tuned for an article and STS-122 launch viewing information in next week's issue of *The Avion*.

Feb. 7  
Space Shuttle Atlantis  
STS-122 / ISS flight  
Europe's Columbus module  
Launch time: 2:45 p.m. EST  
+/- 5 min. window

March 13  
Delta 2  
Next GPS sat.  
Launch window:  
2:19 - 2:32 a.m. EDT

Apr. 24  
Space Shuttle Discovery  
Japan's main Kibo lab  
Launch time 8:26 a.m. EDT  
+/- 5 min. window

March 11  
Space Shuttle Endeavour  
STS-123 / ISS flight  
Japan's smaller Kibo section,  
Canadian robot hand Dextre  
Launch time: 2:31 a.m. EDT  
+/- 5 min. window

March 21  
Atlas 5  
ICO mobile comsat  
Launch window:  
5:46 - 6:26 p.m. EDT

Delta 2  
NASA's GLAST  
Gamma-ray telescope  
Launch window:  
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. EDT

EDITED BY BEN COOPER

## More Mercury details revealed in photos

Amy Treutel  
Opinions Editor

NASA and the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory released more images - some in color - of Mercury last week following the MESSENGER probe's second-ever visit to what is now termed the solar system's smallest planet.

The solar system's innermost planet, Mercury, has been a mystery and source of questioning for scientists and space enthusiasts alike. On Jan. 14, the space probe MESSENGER arrived at Mercury, to be the second space probe to ever visit the planet. A unique aspect of this mission is that Messenger is equipped with wide- and narrow-angle cameras to capture images of a never-before-seen side of Mercury.

Mercury is more than one and a half times warmer than Earth, but only one third of the size. The atmosphere of the smallest planet in the solar system is nearly a vacuum. Mercury has the highest orbital velocity and the smallest axial tilt of all of the planets.

John Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory scientists have made sure that all of Messenger's scientific instruments are on, in order to study the planet's composition and terrain, and make the most of the probe's trip. On the first fly-by, Messenger came within 124 miles of Mercury.

Messenger completed the first of three scheduled fly-bys of Mercury, taking over 1,213 photos in 55 hours. The shots include the never-before-seen side of the planet and Mercury's southern pole. So far, a crater that has been previously unseen was photographed with bright rays of

material being expelled from the center of it. Also, several basins and depressions have been found on the surface of Mercury.

Messenger is scheduled to enter Mercury's orbit on March 18, 2011 and spend a year in orbit to answer researchers' questions about the planet. Scientists hope to get information about Mercury's high density, thin atmosphere, and magnetic field.

Messenger is expected to enter orbit at about 16,000 mph and slow down about 5,000 mph using the planet's gravitational pull.

Even though Messenger has only completed about half of its journey into Mercury's orbit, scientists are ecstatic on the progress it has made so far and have high hopes of the data it will bring them and the questions that will be answered.



PHOTO COURTESY JHUAPL

**MERCURY'S LIMB IS SEEN** in color, a composite created from three images of different wavelengths by the MESSENGER probe about 80 minutes before closest approach. The image is slightly false-color to accentuate subtleties on the surface.



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## 'Rambo' is a bad film but good time



Rambo



William Sohl

Entertainment Editor

It's been nearly 20 years since John Rambo last entered the jungle to fulfill our action fix. But Sylvester Stallone decided to dust off his fatigues and assault rifles to bring us a brutal fourth chapter. Though "Rambo" is still a fun movie,

there's really not much there apart from violence.

The story starts with a disturbing overview of the violence currently plaguing modern Burma. After the news footage stops, we are introduced to a company of Burmese soldiers betting on a game near some rice patties. The game consists of lining up four clearly terrified villagers, making them run through the field and seeing which one is blown up by a landmine first. This pretty much sets the tone for the rest of the movie.

The plot is laughably simple. A group of relief workers hire Rambo to take them into Burma. After Rambo gets back, he finds out the military men who liked playing "exploding villager" attacked the village the workers were stationed at. In order to free them, he joins up with a group of mercenaries hired by the workers' church. That's it. As though to make up for this, early on there is a flashback to all the other Rambo movies so you can get their plots as well. In the end though, this is like putting a bandage over a severed limb.

The characters that make up this cast are all stereotypical in the extreme. There is no character development. From the first line of a character you learn everything about them. The majority of them fall into two categories: bleeding heart pacifist or death machine. The relief workers threaten to report Rambo as he kills someone to save them. For the counter to that, the most prominent mercenary enjoys using a .50 caliber from whatever distance he happens to be. The largest change in character occurs when one of the workers picks up a rock and kills a man about to shoot him. When they open their mouths, it only gets worse.

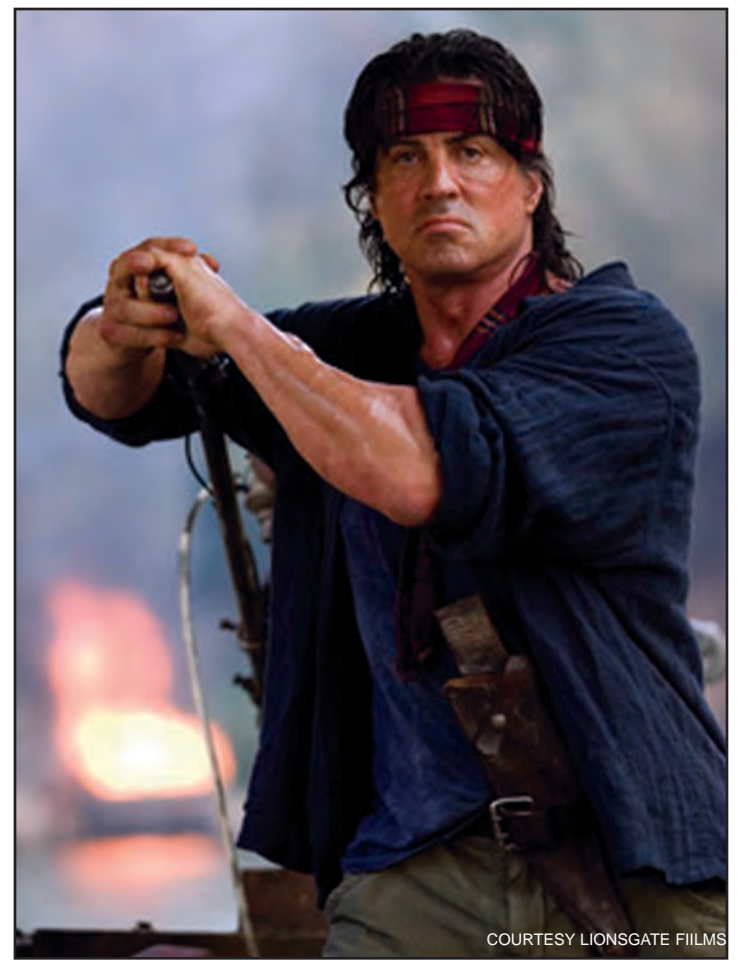
The dialogue is nearly as laughable as the plot and characters. Stallone's age is clearly catching up to him and most of his lines sound as though he is recovering from a mild stroke. Overall the dialogue is curt, disjointed and overacted. Every line feels cliché and out of place. The only saving grace is that there isn't much of it.

There is plenty of violence to make up for it though. This

is the first movie I've seen in a while that deaths could frequently be described as liquefaction. Nearly every bullet fired must be no less than .50 caliber, given the damage they inflict. People are frequently shot in half. They even find a World War II era bomb, conveniently not cleared, despite its proximity to a military base. The only explanation that makes sense for the amount of violence in "Rambo" is an extreme overstock of fake blood and prosthetics in Hollywood.

So in summary, the movie is violent, gory, poorly acted, and lacking in anything more than the most basic storyline. But despite all of this, I had a great time seeing it. It goes right back to the action movies of the 80s, with chauvinism and machismo thick enough to cut with a knife. If you liked "Commando" or "Bloodsport," you'll like "Rambo."

I wouldn't recommend seeing it in theaters without a big group. But in a few months when it's out on DVD, it's the perfect movie to gather around on a slow Friday night and laugh at.



COURTESY LIONSGATE FILMS

## Pure chick flick gold Pregnancy can be funny



27 Dresses



Amy Treutel

Opinions Editor

Jane is an average, everyday, quintessential "Always a bridesmaid, never a bride," BUT 27 times over! The movie "27 Dresses" focuses on the life of Jane, played by Katherine Heigl, who is, by choice, des-

igned to be a perpetual bridesmaid, and concentrates her life on being the best one possible.

If the movie genre of romantic comedy had been lacking in new, original plots, "27 Dresses" more than makes up for it. "The movie was the epitome of a chick flick, but still wonderful," says Taylor Sandelius, a fellow Embry-Riddle student and moviegoer. "27 Dresses" certainly does put a new spin on romantic comedies. Instead of Jane feeling sad and depressed that she has never been a bride, she looks forward to each wedding and insists that she loves them. As a bridal attendant, she even helps her friends plan their weddings.

The film starts with Jane attempting to juggle bridesmaid duties for two weddings in one night. At one of the weddings, Jane meets handsome Kevin (played by James Marsden), who helps her up after an overzealous guest knocks Jane over in a desperate attempt to catch the bridal bouquet. Although not initially attracted to Kevin, Jane agrees to let him escort her home but absentmindedly leaves her wedding date plan-

ner in their cab. Kevin comes to the rescue again by finding it for her, but has marked every weekend with his name, much to the annoyance of Jane.

When Jane's younger sister, Tess, comes to town for a visit, she meets and falls head over heels in love with a man she meets at a party she and Jane attend. This man also happens to be Jane's boss and the object of Jane's desires in an unrequited, unknown love triangle. When Tess and Jane's boss, George, become engaged, Jane agrees to help Tess plan her wedding. As Jane painfully helps plan the wedding to the man she loves and her sister, she realizes what she wants and in life, and in the process, is finally able to stand up for herself and articulate her newfound freedom to others.

Lindsay Henson, another Embry-Riddle student, said, "My favorite part of the movie was the ending. It was really cute!" Indeed, the movie ending was wonderful. While the movie is slightly predictable, it is perfect for the hopeless romantic, or for a fun, "girls only" movie night.



Juno



Bob Scheid

Chief Copy Editor

"Juno" has received a lot of hype, a bit more than I would have predicted considering the content matter. Comedies about 16-year-old high school students getting pregnant aren't real common, and after the row about "The Golden Compass," I was thinking that the conservative elements of the movie industry might have more to say about it. Juno, played (extremely well) by Ellen Page, starts the movie

drinking a gallon of Sunny D in the space of about four minutes. Having done so, she takes her third pregnancy test of the day, and with a "well, crap" attitude accepts the fact that in about eight months she'll be a mother. The film is split into seasons, with this event coming in the fall; by winter, her stomach is becoming more pronounced and the crowded halls in the school part for her as she walks to class. She finds a couple willing to adopt the baby when it's born, a woman obsessed with having the perfect life for her perfect baby and a bored looking man who is about as excited at the prospect as Juno's father.

As time goes on, she falls out with some friends, makes others, and witnesses breakdowns of love she never thought could happen. The baby is changing her life, but not in the way she ever thought it would. But for all the changes she goes through, she remains remarkably the same.

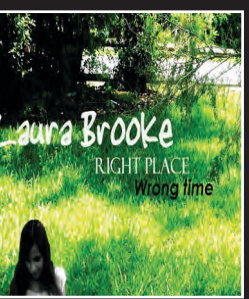
Juno is a simple character, a normal teenager with a normal lack of respect for authority, a normal short-sightedness common in high school, and a disturbingly prolific wit and cutting sense of humor. The characters around her are simple, too, without much in the way of subtle motivation. But what the movie is about is the interactions between Juno, her best

friend, her stepmother, her father, her orange tic-tac-popping former boyfriend (and father of her child), the adoptive parents, and a selection of other supporting characters. As the year passes, stress mounts and relationships change.

The biggest problem I have with the movie is the way that some of the plot moves. Teenage pregnancy is a real concern that real parents have, and the relatively easy way "Juno" approaches and deals with it, with so much humor and so little worry about the longer-term ramifications, seems inordinate at times. I understand it's a comedy first, but it's hard to tell if the filmmakers wanted to concentrate on Juno and her life to the exclusion of this crucial element, or if they were pushing it under the rug for some reason.

But this doesn't keep it from being a great movie. It's rough to keep the audience laughing pretty much straight through for an hour and a half, but they did it, and not through sight gags or dick and fart jokes. There's good chemistry on the screen, a worthwhile plot and wit and wisdom throughout, and it's not just me who thinks that; "Juno" has been nominated for four Oscars, including Best Director, Best Writing or Screenplay, Best Actress and Best Motion Picture. I'll be rooting for it for all four.

## Florida girl's last songs



Right Place Wrong Time Laura Brooke



Bob Scheid

Chief Copy Editor

You know how bands sometimes like gimmicks? Something special that no other group has, be it costumes or makeup or a propensity for biting the heads off live animals onstage, being teenage Russian lesbians, those kinds of things. Something that makes them stick out in your mind.

Laura Brooke Buonpastore probably has the worst one ever. It's an outright tragedy: She was 14 years old, an aspiring musician with several songs in progress, when she was killed in a car accident last summer. Her parents and music tutor of seven years, Melody, took what had been written and recorded by the girl and published the album

Right Place, Wrong Time in her memory.

What do you say to that? I don't know, but it'll sure stick in my head.

Buonpastore started voice lessons when she was seven, and learned the guitar along with it, frequenting karaoke places early on and then performing with her mother. She was growing up in Florida, and was writing music about all the usual subjects (love, travel, friendship, growing up) with a relatively large spectrum of styles, from '80s-ish country to folk to rock to modern pop when the accident happened.

And for all its roughness, for all the "first go at recording" feel it has, I don't have many problems with her or her voice or instrumentation. I like the unfinished quality she exhibits; it's amazing to think that a 14-year-old could sing about these things with such native

talent. She has a strong voice, one that sounds much older than I expected, and a good sense of what music goes with what lyrics. The music has heart, and energy, but is missing the refinement and perfection that most bands strive for.

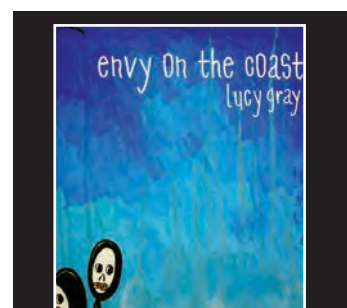
But there are problems with the CD, of course; nothing's perfect. There was work left to do on these songs, and Melody and Laura's parents added some MIDI and background vocals to fill in and fill out the songs. I find these things incongruous and perhaps unnecessary. They're obviously out of place, and far too blatant or close to the front, and they tend to distract you from Laura. It just takes away from the music, and while I'm not sure, I'm thinking it was added by her friends and family afterward. It's just too much. Given time, she could have done better.

And that's the theme I got from the album. Considering her age and what she's got on this CD, she could have done some incredible, world-class things with five, or even two more years. It might not be your kind of music, and frankly, it probably won't appeal to many on this campus (we're in the wrong age group), but your annoying younger sister or cousin might have ranted on and on about her in a few years. As it stands, this is what we've got of her work, and it might be worth buying as a present for someone (all proceeds go to the Laura Brooke Music Foundation).



COURTESY LAURA BROOKE MUSIC FOUNDATION

## New York band rocks Social



Envy on the Coast



John W. Smith III

News Editor

If there is one word to describe this band, it would be progressive. Envy on the Coast is one of the few bands that knows how to pull from everything they hear. From bands as early as Third Eye Blind, The Deftones and The Foo Fighters, you can find a little bit of everything in the music that is Envy on the Coast.

Third in the lineup on the Pac Tour with Another Day Late, Danger Radio, and The Audition, Envy on the Coast put on a hell of a show for an opening band. With songs like "Paperback"

and "Artist and Repertoire" the guys from Long Island know how to make your heart sing and your ears cry for more.

Opening the show with their hit single "Sugar Skulls" off their first full-length album *Lucy Gray*, the band captivated the audience in the downtown Orlando venue The Social. On stage along with three guitars, bass, keyboard, and drums were

a series of industrial work lamps that were perfectly synched with every song, which created an incredible viewing experience. Something else you could find on stage was the talent of both Ryan Hunter who leads Envy on the Coast in vocals and occasionally would pick up a guitar mid-song only to add to the intricate sound and Sal Bossio who adds vocal harmony, background guitar, and at some times breath-

taking piano rhythms. Talented none the least, I felt watching Envy on the Coast was also listening/watching Incubus blended with vocal extracts of Saosin and elaborate melodies of a jazz band.

Truly a pleasure to experience, Envy on the Coast ended their set with "The Gift of Paralysis," which left the crowd in absolute satisfaction.



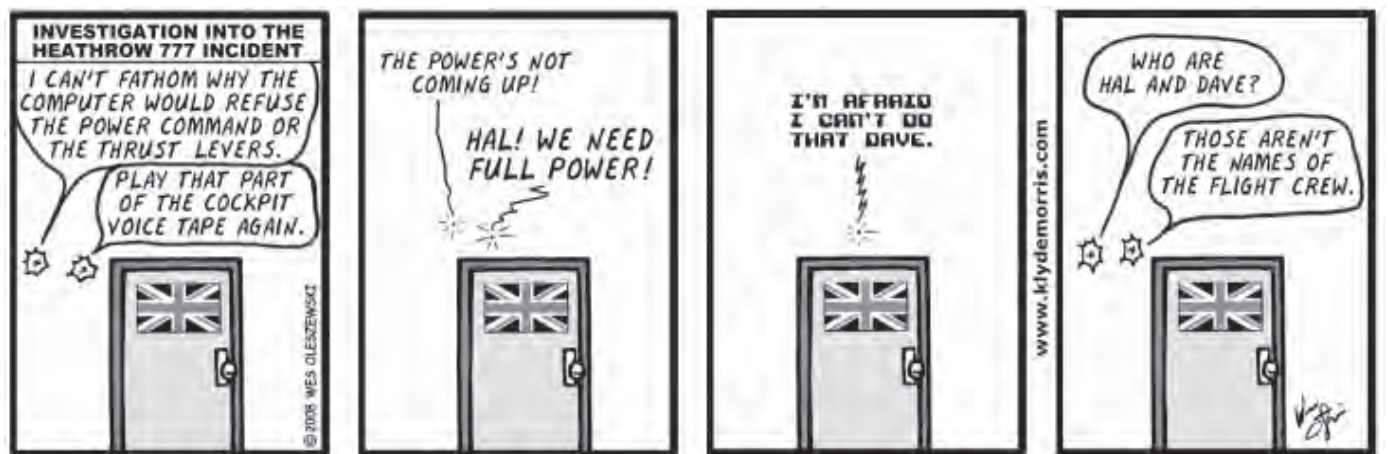
COURTESY FLICKR USER ASHELY...R



By Wes Oleszewski



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## SUDOKU

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DIFFICULT

## Airliners Past and Present

ACROSS

- 3 Please light up all cigarettes while on board
- 5 Luck o' the Irish airline
- 6 Aussie air freighters
- 7 Formerly Allegheny Airways
- 9 World's First airline
- 10 One of three leaving from DAB
- 12 Euro low cost, rival to 25 down
- 15 Based in Phoenix
- 16 God save the queen
- 17 Also a record company
- 19 Kangaroo friendly airline
- 21 Crane logo
- 23 U.S. partner of 11 Down
- 26 Hammer and sickle airline
- 28 Carrier used in 9/11 crashes
- 32 Used "M.I.L.F." as ad slogan
- 33 First flight Rome-Torino

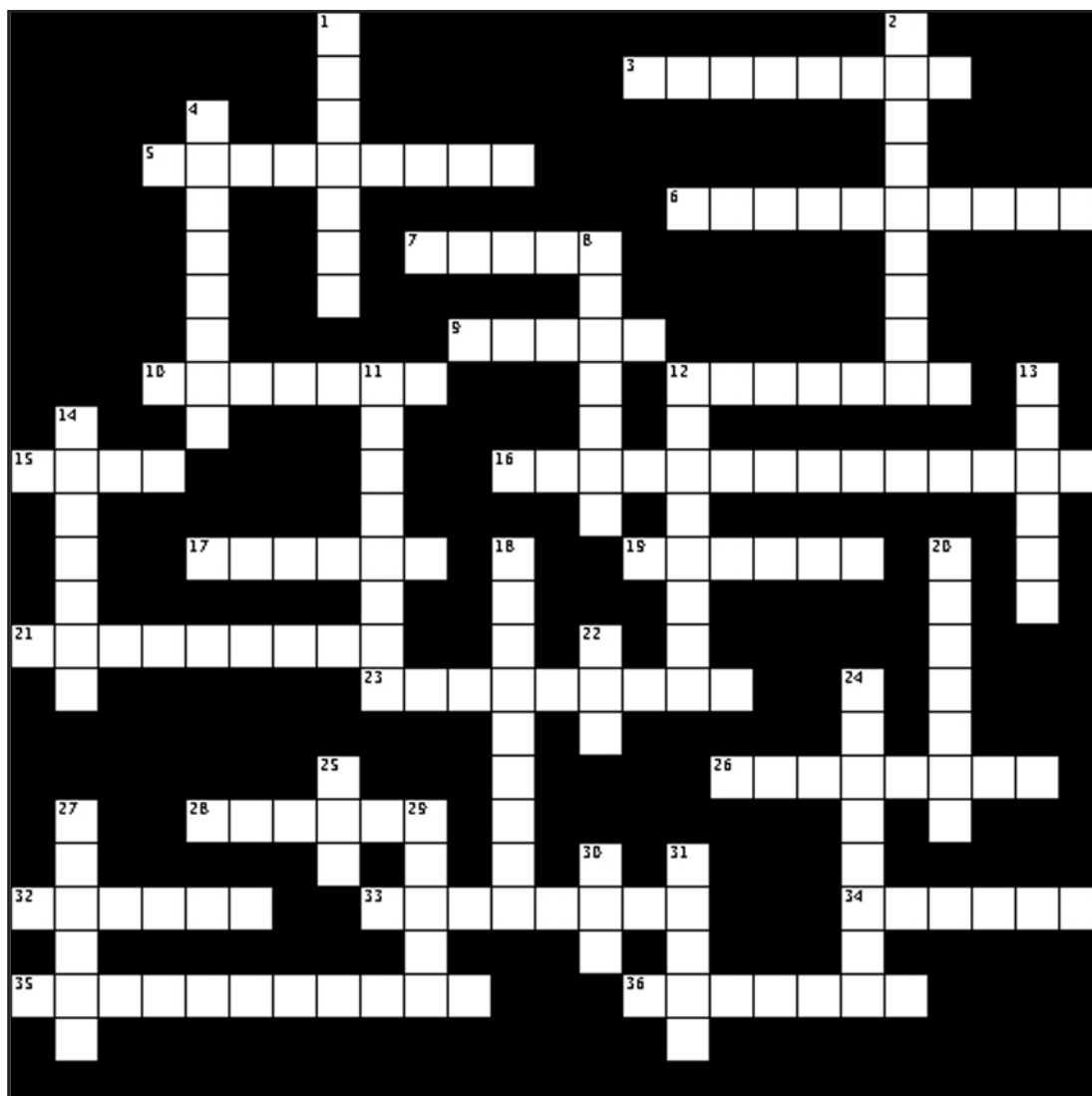
- 34 Has 60% of traffic in Madrid Barajas
- 35 "The proud bird with the golden tail"
- 36 Sold to Donald Trump

DOWN

- 1 Based out of SeaTac
- 2 These "girls" are the main ad for the company
- 4 Ukrainian airline
- 8 Safety card where your tray table should be
- 11 First to use the DC-10
- 12 Owned by the government of Dubai
- 13 Get exactly what you pay for
- 14 This airline turns eight 02/11/08
- 18 Known for amusing flight attendants

- 20 "You shall not pass!" airline
- 22 Had 75 accidents and fatal events
- 24 Denver based with animals on out tails
- 25 "American Dream" written on first aircraft
- 27 Pokemon painted planes
- 29 Calls Atlanta home
- 30 Royal euro airline
- 31 Former principal U.S. carrier

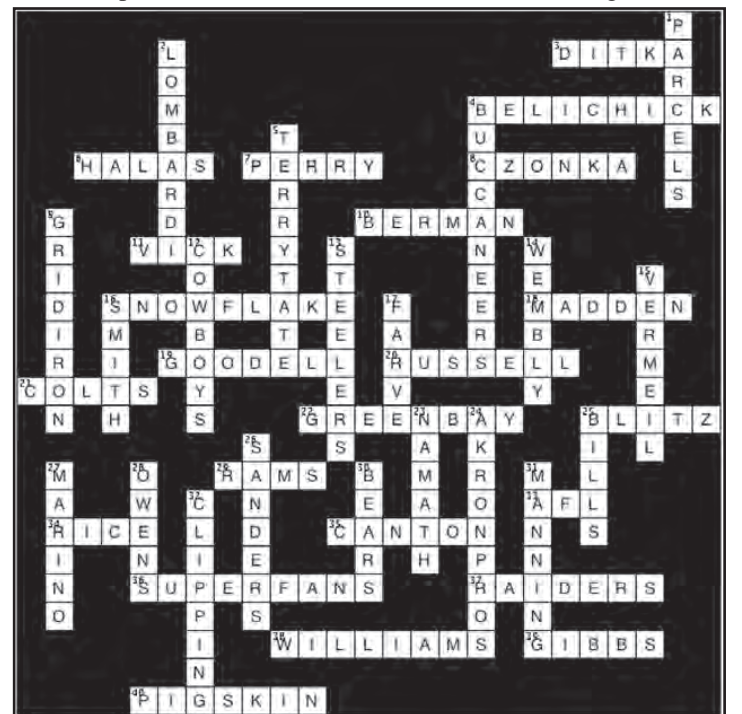
Submit your completed crossword to our office in SC 110. Only open to students! All correct entries will be entered to win the prize of the week. Entries are due Friday by 5 p.m. Winner will be announced in next week's issue. Good luck!



### Last Issue

'An Ode to Football,'

Do to the errors in last week's crossword, those who turned in a puzzle will be entered into this weeks drawing





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### HOUSING / ROOMMATES

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### HOUSING / ROOMMATES

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### HOUSING / ROOMMATES

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**This summer, you have the opportunity to take a summer class on campus OR take a Worldwide Online class from home!**

## ERAU-WORLDWIDE ONLINE SUMMER SCHEDULE

*This is a comprehensive list of undergraduate classes available through Worldwide Online. The ones marked with an X are available for the Summer 2008 term.*

| COURSE # | COURSE TITLE  |   |
|----------|---|---|
| AMNT240  | General Aeronautics & Applications  | X |
| AMNT260  | Aircraft Electrical Systems Theory  | X |
| AMNT270  | Airframe Structures & Applications  |   |
| AMNT271  | Airframe Systems & Applications   |   |
| AMNT280  | Powerplant Theory & Applications  |   |
| AMNT281  | Aircraft Propulsion Systems & Applications  |   |
| ASCI 254 | Aviation Legislation  | X |
| ASCI 309 | Aerodynamics  | X |
| ASCI 310 | Aircraft Performance  | X |
| ASCI 357 | Flight Physiology   | X |
| ASCI 405 | Aviation Law  | X |
| ASCI 412 | Corporate & Business Aviation   |   |
| ASCI 419 | Aviation Maintenance Management<br>(Dual course see MGMT/ASCI419 for term schedule) |   |
| AT 300   | Air Traffic Management I  | X |
| CSCI 109 | Introduction to Computers & Applications  | X |
| ECON 210 | Microeconomics  | X |
| ECON 211 | Macroeconomics  | X |
| ECON 315 | Managerial Economics  |   |
| ECON 420 | Economics of Air Transportation   |   |
| ENGL 123 | English Composition I   | X |
| ENGL 143 | Studies in Rhetorical Theory  | X |
| ENGL 221 | Technical Report Writing  | X |
| GNED 101 | Fundamentals of College Student Success   |   |
| GOVT 320 | American National Government  |   |
| GOVT 325 | International Studies   | X |
| GOVT 331 | Current Issues in America   | X |
| GOVT 340 | American Foreign Policy   |   |
| GOVT 363 | Inter-American Relations  | X |
| GOVT 402 | International Politics  |   |
| HIST 130 | History of Aviation in America  | X |
| HUMN 142 | Studies in Literature   | X |
| MATH 106 | Basic Algebra & Trigonometry  | X |
| MATH 111 | College Mathematics for Aviation I  | X |
| MATH 112 | College Mathematics for Aviation II   | X |
| MATH 140 | College Algebra   | X |
| MATH 142 | Trigonometry  | X |
| MATH 222 | Business Statistics   | X |
| MATH 320 | Decision Mathematics  | X |
| MGMT 201 | Principles of Management  | X |
| MGMT 210 | Financial Accounting  | X |
| MGMT 212 | Advanced Financial Accounting   |   |
| MGMT 221 | Advanced Computer Based Systems   | X |
| MGMT 308 | Public Administration   | X |
| MGMT 311 | Marketing   | X |
| MGMT 312 | Managerial Accounting   | X |
| MGMT 314 | Human Resource Management   | X |
| MGMT 317 | Organizational Behavior   | X |
| MGMT 320 | Business Information Systems  | X |

| COURSE #      | COURSE TITLE                                       |   |
|---------------|--|---|
| MGMT 321      | Aviation Aerospace Systems Analysis Methods        |   |
| MGMT 322      | Aviation Insurance                                 | X |
| MGMT 324      | Aviation Labor Relations                           |   |
| MGMT 325      | Social Responsibility & Ethics in Management       | X |
| MGMT 331      | Transportation Principles                          |   |
| MGMT 332      | Corporate Finance                                  | X |
| MGMT 335      | International Business                             | X |
| MGMT 390      | Business Law                                       | X |
| MGMT 405      | General Aviation Marketing                         | X |
| MGMT 406      | Strategic Management of Technical Operations       |   |
| MGMT 408      | Airport Management                                 | X |
| MGMT 410      | Management of Air Cargo                            | X |
| MGMT 411      | Logistics Management for Aviation/Aerospace        |   |
| MGMT 415      | Airline Management                                 | X |
| MGMT/ASCI 419 | Aviation Maintenance Management                    | X |
| MGMT 420      | Management of Production & Operations              | X |
| MGMT 422      | Life Cycle Analysis for Systems & Programs         | X |
| MGMT 424      | Project Management in Aviation Operations          | X |
| MGMT 436      | Strategic Management                               | X |
| MGMT 440      | Advanced Professional Logistics                    |   |
| MGMT 449      | Strategic Marketing Management                     | X |
| PHYS 102      | Explorations in Physics                            | X |
| PHYS 142      | Introduction to Environmental Science              | X |
| PHYS 150      | Physics I for Engineers                            | X |
| PSYC 220      | Introduction to Psychology                         | X |
| PSYC 320      | Aviation Psychology                                | X |
| PSYC 350      | Social Psychology                                  | X |
| SCTY 312      | Global Crime & Criminal Justice Systems            | X |
| SCTY 315      | Studies in Intelligence I                          | X |
| SCTY 385      | Intelligence Analysis-Writing & Briefing           |   |
| SCTY 400      | Airport Security                                   | X |
| SCTY 415      | Studies in Intelligence II                         | X |
| SCTY 485      | Corporate Security                                 |   |
| SCTY 488      | National Security Issues & Terrorism               | X |
| SFTY 311      | Fundamentals of Occupational Safety & Health       | X |
| SFTY 315      | Environmental Compliance & Safety                  | X |
| SFTY 320      | Human Factors in Aviation Safety                   | X |
| SFTY 321      | Ergonomics   | X |
| SFTY 330      | Aircraft Accident Investigation                    | X |
| SFTY 335      | Mechanical & Structural Factors in Aviation Safety | X |
| SFTY 341      | Occupational Safety & Health Program Mgmt.         |   |
| SFTY 345      | Safety Program Management                          | X |
| SFTY 350      | Aircraft Crash & Emergency Management              | X |
| SFTY 355      | Industrial Hygiene & Toxicology                    |   |
| SFTY 360      | Construction Safety                                |   |
| SFTY 365      | Fire Protection                                    | X |
| SFTY 375      | Propulsion Plant Investigation                     | X |
| SFTY 409      | Aviation Safety                                    | X |
| SFTY 410      | Design of Engineering Hazard Controls              |   |
| SFTY 420      | Systems Design for Fire and Life Safety            |   |
| SFTY 435      | Aircraft Crash Survival Analysis & Design          | X |
| SFTY 440      | System Safety Management                           |   |
| SFTY 450      | Loss Control & Insurance                           |   |

| COURSE # | COURSE TITLE                                       |   |
|----------|--|---|
| SFTY 462 | Health, Safety, and Aviation Law                   | X |
| SFTY 470 | Advanced Occupational Safety and Health Technology |   |
| SOCI 210 | Introduction to Sociology                          | X |
| SOCI 300 | Marriage and Family                                | X |
| SOCI 310 | Personality Development                            | X |
| SPCH 219 | Speech   | X |
| WEAX 201 | Meteorology  | X |

With Worldwide Online, you may be at home, but you'll never be on your own. Faculty members assigned to web-based classes are as accessible and supportive as they are in the classroom, and online learners develop a strong sense of community and camaraderie through online support groups, e-mail discussion forums, an online help desk and an academic support system

**The procedures for Daytona Beach Campus students to take ERAU-Worldwide Online courses during the Summer 2008 are as follows:**

- Registration for ERAU-Worldwide Online courses will take place in the Daytona Beach Office of Records and Registration at 226-6336.
- Authorization must be obtained prior to registration.
- Undergraduate courses must be approved by one of the following: academic advisor, program coordinator, or department chair.
- ERAU Daytona Beach special summer online tuition rates are offered exclusively via ERAU-Worldwide during the Summer 2008 (08/U2 term) only – May 15<sup>th</sup> – August 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Registrations - Undergraduate for 08/U2 May 15th term will be accepted now through May 1.
- Previously failed courses may not be repeated via Worldwide Online courses.
- Self-enroll in ORNT 001 before online classes begin in May, to get familiar with the online format.
- Students will be limited to three online courses during the May 15 term.
- Students enrolled in internships or cooperative education courses may petition their college department chair to take an online course.
- Tuition - Undergraduate - \$620 per credit hour. Book and incidentals are not included in the tuition.

**For more information about Worldwide Online registration dates and schedules, please call Glenda Jarrett at 226-6336.**

