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## AS Ph.D. coming Spring 09

Mohammed Zameer

Guest Reporter

As graduates were surveyed for the need of a Ph.D. program, it was found that there was a lot of demand; 1,000 graduates and 2,200 students expressed interest, and out of these, there were 1,100 students interested in taking Ph.D. courses at ERAU. Therefore, ERAU decided to introduce the Ph.D. programs for its interested students starting in spring 2009.

The Ph.D. program will include doctoral programs related to aviation, Engineering Physics and Space Science. The Aeronautical Engineering Doctoral program will also be introduced later, since it is still in its developmental phase.

There are a total of 75 experienced faculty

“

*Each Ph.D. student is required to attend a summer session in either of the two universities for face to face interaction with the professor.*

-TIM BRADY

”

members from all the three university campus (Daytona, Prescott and the worldwide campus) who are going to be responsible for these doctoral programs. These faculty members have been reviewed and approved by the university. Embry-Riddle would still remain as a non-Ph.D. status university since each university is required to attain certain number of Ph.D. graduates to meet the threshold of Ph.D. status.

The prerequisites of this Doctoral Program are to have a 90 hour Bachelor's degree and 30 hour

Please see “**DOCTORATE**,” page A2

## The science behind the DA42 sim

Matt Goldberg

Staff Reporter

A recently completed project undertaken by The Flight Department proved once again that the departments on campus could work together like a well-oiled machine towards a common goal.

In June, the College of Aviation, Advanced Flight Simulation Center and Flight Department got together with Eagle Works to discuss initial planning for flight-testing and data gathering for the creation of a Diamond DA42 Twin Star simulator. The project would end up involving participants from The College of Aviation, the College of Engineering, the Flight Department, Fleet Maintenance and Aviation Maintenance Science.

In early August, a Twin Star was instrumented to collect data about the aircraft and its flight characteristics. Sensors were placed on the aircraft's control surfaces and an airspeed boom was attached to the nose of the aircraft to measure airspeed, pressure altitude, angle of attack and angle of sideslip. Sensors also measured all pilot and flight control displacements during all flight tests. Altogether, 220 parameters were recorded between 25 and 70 times per second resulting in a total database of 2.23 gigabytes of information.

Perhaps the most interesting and expensive piece of instrumentation used in testing was a three-ring laser gyro inertial measuring unit. The unit cost \$30,000; however, the university had previously purchased it for previous projects and will continue to use it in future projects similar to this one. This piece of equipment provides

Please see “**RESEARCH**,” page A2

## 25,000 MILES



Tim Kramer

Staff Reporter

Race fans from all over the world will be in Daytona Beach this week to experience what is arguably the most widely known race in the world. The Daytona 500 celebrates its 50th anniversary with 43 cars writing a new chapter into the history book, all in pursuit of the most elusive prize in NASCAR, the Harley J. Earl trophy.

Many drivers have spent most of their careers chasing victory in “The Great American Race.” Darrell Waltrip battled 17 years to find his way to the checkered flag. “The Intimidator,” Dale Earnhardt Sr., spent 20 years on the tri-oval before putting his hands on the coveted trophy.

For others, Daytona has been like a second home. Bobby Allison and Jeff Gordon have each been to victory lane three times. Cale Yarborough was victorious four times. However, no one has been more successful than the “King” of stock car racing, Richard Petty, who won this coveted event seven times during his career.

Many books have been written about the Daytona 500, and many more are to come. Here is a look back at this race's rich history – and a quick look ahead to No. 50.

### Family Ties

Although the “King” was very successful in Daytona, the 1976 “Great American Race” is one he will never forget. Richard Petty and David Pearson were battling their way through the last lap when something went wrong. Upon entering Turn 3 Pearson stuck his nose under Petty as they both moved up the race track to avoid the lapped car hugging the apron. The “King” pulled a crossover move and pulled into the lead exiting Turn 4. Petty floated up the track, but found Pearson in the way. The two cars crashed, sending Pearson sliding toward the pits and Petty spinning toward the finish line. Petty's car went into the grass and came to a halt 100 yards from the checkered flag. Pearson popped his clutch, straightened out his wrecked machine and crawled his way

through the tri-oval grass to cross the finish line and win his only Daytona 500.

Fantastic finishes have been a mainstay at the Daytona 500. It all started on Feb. 22, 1959, when Lee Petty, Johnny Beauchamp, and the lapped car of Joe Weatherly came out of Turn 4 three-wide. The three raced their way back to the finish line and Beauchamp was announced the winner. However, after film and photo review, NASCAR declared Lee Petty the winner of the first Daytona 500.

With Richard Petty's first historic win in 1964, the Petty family became the first father-son duo to win “The Great American Race.” Cale and LeRoy Yarborough, Bobby and Davey Allison, and Earnhardt and Earnhardt Jr. have also added their names to this historic achievement. Petty and Yarborough hold another Daytona record with each other by winning back-to-back Daytona 500s in '73-'74 and '83-'84, respectively. The only other driver to accomplish this was Sterling Marlin in '94-'95.

### Famous Finishes

Three years after skidding to a stop 100 yards from the finish

line, the “King” put himself in position to win once again, with a little bit of luck. Donnie Allison and Cale Yarborough battled for the lead out of Turn 2 on the last lap, when Yarborough got a run under

(ABOVE) THE FIRST DAYTONA 500 held in 1959 showcased winner Lee Petty in the first of many exhilarating finishes.

Allison. Allison tried to block the Yarborough run, but it was too late. The two bumped against each other several times down the backstretch, when Yarborough lost control of his car and took Allison with him on his way into the Turn 3 wall. The two cars

smashed into the outer barrier and skidded to a stop in the Turn 4 grass. Petty, just exiting Turn 2, eventually took over the lead and held off Darrell Waltrip for his fifth victory. This race, however, is not remembered for another Petty win, but for the fight that broke out between Cale and Bobby Allison, Donnie's brother, in Turn 4 after the race.

Luck, however, does not sit well with everyone. In 1990, Dale Earnhardt had a chance to end his drought in Daytona when luck failed him. Exiting Turn 2, Earnhardt led a train of four cars down the backstretch toward Turn 3. Everybody was jostling for position as Derrike Cope dodged back and forth behind Earnhardt's big black machine. They entered Turn 3 nose to tail when Earnhardt's bid for victory went awry. Dale Sr.'s car ran over fragments of Rick Wilson's bell housing, causing the right rear tire to go flat and knocking him out of contention for the victory. Cope passed Earnhardt Sr. and pulled off the biggest upset in Daytona 500 history. “The Intimidator” dominated the field, leading 155 of the 200 laps, but could not end his streak of starts without a victory at the Daytona 500.

Earnhardt finally found a way to capture his most elusive win at the 1998 Daytona 500. He found himself in the lead once again as the race was winding down. With two laps to

Please see “**NASCAR**,” page A3

IMAGES COURTESY DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY



(ABOVE) CALE YARBOROUGH AFTER his first 500 win in 1968.

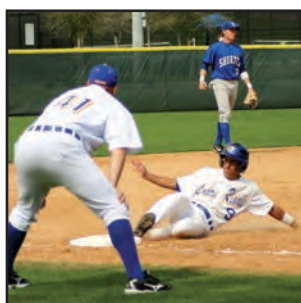
(RIGHT) ALL THE LIVING champions of the 500 in front of the Harley J. Earl trophy. This year's trophy is gold plated.



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Student Life	A7
Aeronautica	A8
Space	A9
Entertainment	B1
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### Baseball goes 2-2 for the week

### Sports, A3



### Atlantis lifts off with ISS payload Columbus

### Space, A9



### Editor's picks for game release Spring 2008

### Entertainment, B1

# Depts. work together for DA42 success

□ “RESEARCH”  
from FRONT

aircraft location information similar to a GPS. However, it is not satellite based and is able to determine aircraft position internally. Its initial position is recorded, and any movement in any direction is recorded by the unit. This particular unit provides position location information accurate to within two centimeters.

After the aircraft was instrumented and a flight-testing plan was completed, the plan was sent to the FAA for approval. The flight test plan was approved on Aug. 22, 2007, and flight-testing began on Aug. 23. A total of 50 tests needed to be completed, and university standards required this to be done in triplicate to provide the most accurate results. This required 31 flights and one ground test. In the

end, over 100 flight hours were completed with about 60 to 70 hours of data being collected. During the flights, a flight engineer was seated in the back of the aircraft with a regular Dell workstation reviewing real-time data that was being collected; Embry-Riddle has the only engineering unit in the country that can directly access the information provided by the Theilert FADEC system, which controls all aspects of the Twin Star’s engines. The data had to be run through post processing to account for calibration within their data system. All of this work is required for full a level six flight-testing program.

Flight-testing was completed on Sept. 28, and on Oct. 12 a 1,249-page report containing all the information collected from the testing and processed data, including graphs of the tests, was submitted to the FAA for approval. On Nov. 30, in what was an extraordinarily

quick FAA review process, the flight test report was approved and Embry-Riddle was allowed to begin developing the actual simulator. Creating the simulator was a project that involved not only internal Embry-Riddle departments but also the help of Frasca International, one of the world’s leading aircraft simulation companies.

The simulator was delivered to Embry-Riddle in January and was approved for flight training use on Jan. 23 after a few weeks of hard work by Raul Rumbaut and his crew at the Advanced Flight Simulation Center,

Many people from several campus departments came together to finish this large project in just about five months. “This really was an interdisciplinary task,” said Dr. Pat Anderson, who headed the project. Anderson, who has worked to create previous simulators for the university, including the

Cessna 172 simulators in 2000, said he believes this project has yielded untold benefits for the

university, including the licensing of the data collected which is now being marketed to pay

for the costs of this project and perhaps produce a profit in the coming years.



## UTD Date Auction 2008



MELANIE PUGH/AVION

**NICK ZLOKOVICH STRUTS HIS** stuff at the Up ‘til Dawn Date Auction on Friday night where the audience bid on candidates. Up ‘til Dawn made over \$3,000, with the highest girl going for \$180 and the highest guy, Bryan White, going for \$160.

## COA to begin phase two

William Sohl  
Entertainment Editor

With the College of Business completed, Embry-Riddle is turning its sights again on the College of Aviation. The university is preparing to break ground ceremonially for the COA phase two on March 27 this year though construction will not begin for at least another year.

COA phase two includes both a new Flight Operations Center and a new hanger to combine both the operational maintenance hanger and the AMS program hanger. The new flight center is expected to be around 60,000 square feet and will be built over the old faculty parking lot between the COA and flight line. Afterward, the GRW will be torn down to make room for the hanger.

“We have a lot to say with how the new building is going to look and its functionality,” says Dr. Tim Brady, Dean of the College of Aviation. “We’re excited about it.” They want the new building to be more educa-

tions friendly, so the old octagonal design will be replaced with a building designed to match the COA. As Brady said, “It’s hard to instruct in a place that’s all these crazy angles, so it’s going to be a much more student friendly building.”

Brady hopes to include some other potential features in the building. One item is a rooftop social area. This would provide a place for students and faculty to hold events complete with a view of the flight line. The original designs called for a connection segment between

the COA and the new flight building, but it will all come down to the final budget.

No firm figure has been set for the cost of the building yet, but Brady expects phase two to cost slightly more than the \$13 million it took to build the first phase of COA.

Brady expects the project to take around three years but at least it will be well worth it. “It’s a very strong synergy between everything,” he said. “Maintenance, flight, meteorology and safety all combined into one college is really great.”



## Opening doors with a Ph.D. program in AS

□ “DOCTORATE”  
from FRONT

Master’s degree, provided that either of the degrees are related to aerospace science or aviation. The Ph.D. program at Riddle contains 12 hours of statistics research, three hours of prerequisites and 12 hours of aviation-related core courses. The core courses will have four specialized research areas, including Operations, Safety, Human Factors and Education. The Ph.D. program is going to start with 25 enrollments, up to

a maximum of 35 enrollments. It is primarily a worldwide online course but “each Ph.D. student is required to attend a summer session in either of the two universities for face to face interaction with the professor” said Tim Brady, Dean of the COA.

Embry-Riddle is mainly introducing the Ph.D. programs with the intention of opening doors for industries and government to give an opportunity of conducting research by Riddle students and to be better known as a research oriented University. The Ph.D. degree has a lot of

advantages in the future. “Each aviation-related field requires research skills to solve problems, mainly based on safety operations and Human Factors. This is why Ph.D. programs are more in demand in the future by the big Industries,” said Brady.

There are also special scholarships and funds given directly to the enrolled Ph.D. students by the big Industries and the Government. Embry-Riddle hopes to make their doctoral program a huge success and intends that each interested student make the best use out of their programs.

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The Avion, February 12, 2008

# Eagles baseball blows out Hawks

NaDean Schroeder

## ERAU Sports Info.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. – Senior Jordan Roberts led the Embry-Riddle Eagles to their fourth win of the season in his first shut-out of the year over the Shorter Hawks 10-0.

The Blue and Gold rallied behind their ace, scoring 10 runs in seven innings to end the game due to the 10-run rule. Roberts marked a career high nine strikeouts in the game, striking out the Hawk's Ryan Murphy in all three of his at-bats.

It was a hit-for-hit battle in the first two innings until Hawk's pitcher Dustin Bowers had control problems in the third. He walked three batters, which led to the first tally on the score board. Colin Gray earned the RBI as he jogged to first with the bases loaded, scoring Brandon Roper-Hubbart.

The Eagles scored two more runs in the fourth, as they capitalized in a two-out situa-

tion as Joel Blomberg doubled over the Hawk's left fielder's head to score Saul Meza and Josh Menchaca. Meza was on base as the courtesy runner for catcher Eric Ogden, who led the inning off with a hit. Menchaca reached base on Bowers's fourth walk of the game.

Kyle Albright hit the second long-bomb of the season for the Eagles in the fifth, chalking two RBIs. He scored Gray, who hit a single to left in the while at-bat. Bowers left the game after Albright's home run.

Roper-Hubbart led of the bottom of the sixth with his second walk of the game. Menchaca followed with a single into right center, knocking in the baserunner that had advanced to second on a wild pitch by Trey Carnes. After Joel Blomberg joined Menchaca on the pond, Tommy Cauley hit a Texas-leaguer into center field, scoring the lead runner. James Kissinger followed with a hit that scored another run. With Cauley on third base, Colin

Gray hit a sacrifice fly into right center that allowed the runner to tag up and score. The sixth inning ended as Hawk's pitcher Ben Erichsen stepped on the mound in relief.

Roberts struck out two batters in the second, taking his last batter of the day on a hard thrown curve ball that was not challenged. Roper-Hubbart took two pitches as the lead-off batter in the bottom of the seventh before ripping a drive to left field that hit the fence right above the left fielder's glove. He slid under the throw to third picking up his first triple of the season. He was knocked in to end the game on a sacrifice fly into center field by Menchaca.

Kissinger led the Eagles at the plate hitting in marking three of the team's 11 hits. Albright tallied his second multi-hit game of the season, with two hits.

The Eagles will host the Hawks in an afternoon double-header on Saturday at Sliwa Stadium. The first pitch will be thrown at noon.



MELANIE PUGH/AVION

**JORDAN ROBERTS PREPARES TO** throw a pitch in the shutout game against the Shorter Hawks. Only seven innings were played in this game. The team added two wins and two losses this week, and of three games against Shorter, the Eagles fell only once.

## ERAU slips by St. Thomas

Alison Smalling

## ERAU Sports Info.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. – Embry-Riddle junior Tyler DeBord scored a season-high 27 points to lead the Embry-Riddle men's basketball team to a 84-80 win over a scrappy St. Thomas team in Florida Sun Conference action on Thursday.

DeBord, who had 16 points in the first half alone, also grabbed a game-high 10 rebounds to record his 10th double-double of the season as the 20th-ranked Eagles improved to 21-4 overall and 6-3 in league play.

Both teams hit 28 field goals on the night, and the Bobcats had 10 three-pointers to the Eagles' seven. But free throw shooting was the difference in

the game, as the Eagles made 21-of-24 while St. Thomas was 14-of-18 from the charity stripe.

Denver Cobb scored the first bucket of the game from behind the three-point line. The Eagles held a slim lead until Ceser Chavez Jacobo's three put the Bobcats in front at the 15:42 mark. The Bobcats stayed ahead for much of the first half leading by as many as six points, thanks to 12 first-half points by Antonio Jones.

With 4:56 left, Tyler DeBord got fouled on the way to basket, and he made good on both free throw attempts to tie the game at 28. Ryan Ridder corralled the rebound after a Bobcat miss on the next possession and Cobb got the ball inside to DeBord whose dunk gave the Eagles a two-point advantage, their first since the 16:38 mark.

Both teams continued to trade baskets and at the halftime break, the Eagles led 37-36.

The Eagles maintained the lead in the second half and went up by as many as nine points. The Bobcats, who played tough defense, kept the game within reach and actually knotted the score at 64-64 with 5:19 remaining in the contest. But immediately after Ceser Chavez Jacobo's game-tying tip in, the Eagles went on a 9-0 run fueled by Lorenzi's three-pointer, a pair of Rocky Pierre layups and steals by Pierre and DeBord.

St. Thomas continued to pressure the Eagles offensively, but as indicated in the final box score the Blue and Gold were steady from the free throw line to close out the win.

Cobb finished the night with 15 points, five boards and five assists. Pierre also had 15 points, all in the second half, to go with his six rebounds, while Lorenzi added 14 points and six boards of his own.

Antonio Jones and Tracy Razz paced the Bobcat offense tallying 25 points apiece. Chavez Jacobo had 11 points and a team-high eight rebounds on the night.

## Press Release

## ERAU Sports Info.

OLATHE, Kan. – The Embry-Riddle men's tennis team is ranked No. 2 in the nation, according to the preseason poll released by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics on Wednesday. The No. 2 ranking is the highest ever for the Eagles who ended the 2007 campaign with a 19-2 record and a third-place finish at the NAIA National tournament. Defending national champion, Auburn-Montgomery, is the unanimous No. 1, receiving all 12 first-place votes.

The Blue and Gold return all six starting position players from last year's squad, including top-ranked Mislav Hizak. Hizak and Konstantin Lazarov are the second-ranked doubles team according to the ITA preseason poll and Lazarov (11), Carlos Bes Comerar (16), Tomoaki Yasuda (31) and Istvan Bolgar (33) are all ranked among the ITA's top 50 players in the country.

The Embry-Riddle men are 1-0 on the year following an 8-1 win over Jacksonville last Friday. They begin a three-match road swing on Feb. 8 when they take on NCAA II Barry at 3 p.m. ERAU begins defense of its FSC crown at 10 a.m. on Feb. 9 against St. Thomas and closes out the

weekend against conference foe Northwood at 10 a.m. on Sunday.

The Eagles are one of four Florida Sun Conference teams in the Top 25 with Savannah College of Art and Design ranked third, Webber International at No. 10 and Northwood at No. 19.

OLATHE, Kan. – The Embry-Riddle women's tennis team is ranked eighth in the nation in the preseason poll, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics announced on Wednesday. The Eagles return five of the six starting position players from last year's squad that advanced to the second round of the national tournament. Four of the six players are ranked in the ITA's Top 50, including Natasa Zoricic (17), Hana Im (21), Natalie Anaya (28) and Lindsey Kurtz (41).

Four-time defending national champion, Auburn-Montgomery, sits atop the national poll at No. 1, while ERAU's FSC rival, Savannah College of Art & Design is ranked sixth.

The Eagles opened the season with a 6-3 win over Tampa last Saturday and begin a three-match road swing on Feb. 8 when they take on NCAA II Barry at 3 p.m. ERAU opens league play at 10 a.m. on Feb. 9 against St. Thomas and closes out the weekend against

conference foe Northwood at 10 a.m. on Sunday.

## Upcoming Tennis Matches

### Men's Tennis

**Feb. 13** - vs. Rollins at Daytona Beach, Fla. 3:30 p.m.

**Feb. 23** - vs. SCAD at Daytona Beach, Fla. 10 a.m.

**Mar. 4** - vs. Bethel (Tenn.) at Daytona Beach 3:30 p.m.

### Women's Tennis

**Feb. 22** - vs. Hillsborough CC at Daytona Beach, Fla. 3:30 p.m. (Exhibition)

**Feb. 23** - vs. SCAD at Daytona Beach, Fla. 10 a.m.

**Mar. 5** - vs. Brenau at Daytona Beach, Fla. 3:30 p.m.



TIM KRAMER/AVION

**TYLER DEBORD SET A** season high against St. Thomas for the Eagles. The record of 27 game points helped ERAU defeat the Bobcats, 84-80 Thursday bringing their record to 22 wins and four losses this season.

## After triumph and tragedy, 'Great American Race' hits 50

### □ "DAYTONA" from FRONT

go, coming out of Turn 2 onto the backstretch, Jimmy Spencer and John Andretti touched, sending Andretti crashing into driver Lake Speed. The two spun, causing the caution flag to come out as the leaders passed the start/finish line. Earnhardt had used the lapped car of Rick Mast to work his way through Turns 3 and 4 with Bobby Labonte close behind. The yellow flag was raised and the 20 year drought of "The Intimidator" was finally over. Earnhardt led 107 laps, but none more precious than the last one under caution.

This great finish was almost topped last year as Mark Martin looked for his first win in his 21st try at "The Great American Race." Martin led in the closing moments of the race while Kevin Harvick came up the outside. Martin was forced to hold off Kyle Busch down the backstretch, giving Harvick a chance at the lead. Harvick got a run going into Turn 3 and Martin got loose going through the corner.

As the two drag raced back to the start/finish line, everything broke loose behind them. Busch lost control, turning his car sideways and collecting many cars as he spun. Harvick and Martin bumped as they raced through the tri-oval and to the start/finish line. Harvick nudged Martin by two hundredths of a second for his first Daytona 500 victory.

### Tragedy Strikes the Tri-Oval

With the advancement in technology, cars are now able to reach and exceed 200 miles per hour on the tri-oval. After Bill Elliot set the blistering pace of 210.364 mph in 1987, NASCAR decided to go to restrictor plates to slow the cars down at Daytona and Talladega in the name of safety. Due to these changes, the 43 car field is now tightly packed, often times running three abreast, and racing at 200 mph with only inches of separation.

Although the race has experienced many famous finishes, tragedy has also struck "The Great American Race." In 1983, Rusty Wallace experienced a trip of a lifetime as he tumbled his

way across the grass near the backstretch and nearly wound up in the man-made lake. But, no accident is expected to surpass the tragedy on Feb., 18, 2001.

Michael Waltrip, brother of Darrel Waltrip, was leading the Daytona 500, followed by teammates Dale Earnhardt Jr. in second and Dale Earnhardt Sr. in third. Cars stacked up behind "The Intimidator," trying to work their way to the front. As the white flag waved over the field, Waltrip raced for his first NASCAR win and the elusive Harley J. Earl Trophy. Earnhardt Sr. blocked for his two DEI teammates as the cars raced into Turn 3. Sterling Marlin and Ken Schrader split Earnhardt Sr. as they entered Turn 4. Earnhardt Sr. lost control of his car, dove down in front of Marlin, overcorrected and took himself and Schrader into the outside wall. Waltrip won the race over Earnhardt Jr., but the attention focused on the two mangled cars on the inside of Turn 4. Schrader quickly crawled out of his car, but Earnhardt Sr. was nowhere to be seen. Medics quickly pulled him out of his wreck and rushed him to the hospital, but it was

too late. Earnhardt Sr. was dead upon impact as his car hit the outside retaining wall of Turn 4 at a speed between 157 and 160 mph and at an angle of 13 to 14 degrees.

### The 50th running of "The Great American Race"

A new chapter started on Sunday as qualifying took place, setting the first row for the Daytona 500. Teams not in the top 35 in owners points last season and not in the front row, will race their way into the 500 with a strong finish in one of the two Gatorade Duels on Valentine's Day. The 43 qualifiers will take to the two and a half mile tri-oval to claim the Harley J. Earl Trophy Sunday afternoon.

The 50th anniversary will be celebrated with a gold plated Harley J. Earl Trophy, Richard Petty as the Honorary Starter and Junior Johnson, winner of the 1960 Daytona 500, driving the 2008 Corvette Z06 pace car. Unfortunately for procrastinators, Daytona International Speedway sold the last of their 167,785 seats for the 500 on Jan.

31. Fortunately, infield tickets for the Daytona 500 and tickets for other events this weekend are still available and can be found at daytonaintlspeedway.com.

The 50th anniversary weekend will start at 2 p.m. on Thursday with the Gatorade Duels. The weekend will continue on Friday, Feb. 15, as the CRAFTSMAN

Truck Series starts their season at 7:30 p.m. and carry into Saturday, Feb. 16, as the Nationwide Series (formerly known as the Busch Series) races in the Camping World 300 at 1:15 p.m. The weekend will be capped at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 17, with the 50th running of "The Great American Race."



# ‘I like it here, but Baghdad is better.’

Joshua Partlow

The Washington Post

On the third floor of the Amman Palace hotel, above a city block crowded with appliance dealers and video-game vendors, six Iraqi children formed a semicircle around their therapist and practiced how to breathe.

To the right of the therapist sat Abdullah, a 7-year-old boy missing his left foot and left eye. The afternoon sun slanted across his face, which once had been so erased his father failed to recognize it and now was a mottled mask of flesh grafted from his back. Two boys wore leg casts. A third had a burnt face. Three of the children sat in wheelchairs. Zaineb, an 11-year-old girl who could barely move her crippled legs, wore a black wool cap over her broken skull.

“The pain will be there,” the therapist said. “But if we focus on it, that will only make us feel worse.”

Five years of war have disfigured the people of Iraq, hobbling and maiming many thousands of them. There are no definitive counts. But Health Minister Salih al-Hasnawi said the number of wounded Iraqi civilians is “of course” higher than the estimated 151,000 who died from violence in the first three years of the war, the figure given in a recent survey by the World Health Organization and the Iraqi government.

“For any explosion, it is five to one, or seven to one, wounded to dead,” Hasnawi said.

About 50 of these wounded Iraqis have been living in the Amman Palace hotel, while half that number are in the Jordan Red Crescent hospital up the hill. Dozens more, limbless and broken, arrive in Amman each month asking to be remade. They stay an average of 53 days, sometimes more than a year, attended by a team of orthopedic, plastic and maxillofacial surgeons from the Geneva-based Doctors Without Borders organization.

“Fear is legitimate. It’s all right to be afraid, but we must



PHOTO COURTESY WASHINGTON POST

not let it wear us out,” the therapist said.

The lives these people knew in Iraq changed in a moment, with no time for them to react. The young boy standing at his grandfather’s funeral when the suicide car bomb exploded. Neighborhood kids playing soccer when a mortar shell landed among them. A hotel clerk hailing a taxi when a bullet passed through his thigh.

Now they have nothing but time: for the melted gums and charred skin, the hair implants and the plastic legs, septicemia and osteomyelitis, antibiotic resistance and opiate addictions.

“Now, all together: One, two,” the therapist instructed. “Inhale from your nose. Hold your breath. Exhale from your mouth.”

On Oct. 16, 2006, the day after his grandfather was shot to death, Abdullah, then 6, stood at his father’s side outside the funeral tent in Baghdad’s Shaab district. After a bomb exploded at a market down the street, neighbors began rushing toward the scene, but Abdullah’s father was nervous. As a captain in the Iraqi police, he knew to expect a second explosion when people crowded around the wreckage. Abdullah and his father stayed

by the house. The second attack came to them.

The driver of the Volkswagen Passat blew up his vehicle in front of their home, killing Abdullah’s uncle, his great-uncle and three of his father’s cousins. Abdullah’s father, known as Abu Hiba, asked that his family members be identified only by their nicknames or first names, out of fear they might be further harmed. After the bombing, Abu Hiba was driven to a hospital with severe burns and a shattered right shin. Abdullah, a thin boy who was so excited about school that he arrived an hour early each day, was gone.

For three days, relatives canvassed Baghdad’s hospitals until they found him in the sprawling complex known as Medical City, where he had been driven by a neighbor in the chaos after the bombing. During that time, his father was recovering at another hospital, enduring daily antibacterial vinegar baths that made his wounds bubble, refusing amputation and begging his brothers for news of Abdullah.

“They would tell me: ‘Nothing’s wrong with him. He has some scratches on his face, and his big toe is hurting,’” Abu Hiba recalled. “I couldn’t stand to hear this. I told them, ‘By cane or by wheelchair, you have

to take me to see Abdullah.”

Abu Hiba, 33, a forthright man with a military bearing and a thick black mustache, was sitting on the single bed he shares with his son on the second floor of the Amman Palace. He asked Abdullah to leave the room so he could finish the story.

“When I entered the room, I saw he was attached to an IV,” he said. “Then I saw his face, and there was no face at all. His face was totally gone. I could not stand it. I stayed for a few minutes and I had to leave.”

Abdullah could not eat or speak, and the photos from those early days reveal not so much a face as flayed meat and tooth, the features blasted off or melted away.

“I didn’t imagine it could be so severe,” his father said.

Iraq’s medical system is all but incapable of caring for such patients. It was already beleaguered by the international sanctions imposed on the government of Saddam Hussein, but the problems have grown legion: Specialists have fled the country; necessities such as bandages, intravenous saline and electricity are in short supply; and hospitals are guarded by gunmen who intimidate and sometimes kill patients of rival sectarian backgrounds.

A report last year by the Iraqi Red Crescent Society recommended leveling Yarmouk Hospital, one of Baghdad’s biggest. “It’s not fit for animal treatment,” said Said Hakki, the group’s director. “There is no medical system in Iraq to speak of. It doesn’t exist.”

Many of the Iraqi patients who arrive in Jordan are referred by physicians at home to Doctors Without Borders, one of the few organizations that help Iraqis wounded in the war and pay for their transportation and treatment. Since the group began treating Iraqis in Amman in August 2006, a dozen doctors have provided care to more than 340 wounded civilians in need of reconstructive surgeries. Another 140 people are on the waiting list.

“Sadly, we recognize that this is merely a drop in the sea of what is going on in Iraq,” said spokeswoman Valerie Babize.

In December 2006, Abdullah flew to Jordan, escorted by an uncle. His father soon followed, in part to seek treatment himself. Until they and other patients were moved to a new hotel last week, their home was Room 213 of the Amman Palace, more of an outpatient ward than a hotel, with about 50 of the 70 rooms occupied by Iraqi patients. The blown-up, bandaged and scarred hobbled or wheeled down brown-carpeted hallways under framed portraits of Jordan’s king. Amputees in wheelchairs sunned themselves along the sidewalk in front of the glass doors. Spare rooms were devoted to physiotherapy, counseling and tutoring sessions. Guests brewed sugared tea and boiled rice over hot plates in their rooms. When both elevators broke, as they often do, relatives carried the patients up the stairs.

The first procedure Abdullah underwent in Baghdad was a pedicle flap, affixing his face to his shoulder to regenerate the tissue. It failed because of infection and because Abdullah could not hold the awkward position for 21 days. So his doctors in Amman arranged for a German specialist in cranial

maxillofacial surgery to fly to Jordan to take the case.

During the first of several painstaking operations in Amman, Andre Eckardt took 12 hours to harvest skin and muscle from Abdullah’s back and transfer it to his face to repair what the surgeon called the “disastrous tissue loss.” Abdullah would also have his missing lower left eyelid remade, a temporary prosthetic eye inserted to prevent his eye socket from shrinking, and his scar tissue manipulated. The failed surgery in Iraq, the contamination of the blast wound and the quantity of scar tissue all made the work more challenging.

“To be honest, it is very difficult. He’s so severely injured, he will never look like a normal young boy with a normal face,” Eckardt said. “You can never completely remove all his scars.”

After his operation, Abdullah spent 24 hours anesthetized in the intensive care unit before he was revived. In the weeks that followed, he could barely mumble. He drank liquids and ate soft fruit. “He was like a newborn,” his father recalled.

Embarrassed by his appearance, Abdullah wore a surgical mask and refused to let anyone touch him. His father decorated their hotel room with cut-out photographs of tigers, monkeys and bears to approximate home and bought him so many toys — soccer balls, stuffed animals and remote-control cars — that some of them remain unopened, stacked on a cabinet.

“Sometimes people look at him on the street, and he says, ‘Papa, why are people staring at me?’” his father said. “I say, ‘Don’t worry about them.’”

About three months ago, Abdullah took off his cap and is now growing accustomed to his appearance, his father said. He is still shy around strangers, although he is not in pain. More than anything, Abdullah said, he misses his mother and his two younger siblings.

“I’d like to go back to school,” he said. “I like it here, but Baghdad is better.”

# Christians fight for freedom

John M. Glionna

Los Angeles Times

Followed by a gaggle of children, Julius Salik walked a muddy dirt track in one of this city’s squalid Christian slums, past open sewers and ramshackle homes. With a weary sigh, he motioned to a row of neat brick apartment buildings.

“Muslims live there,” said Salik, 60, a social worker and former federal minister. “Good construction. Big houses. Big cars.”

Pakistan, he said, is a place of extremes. Muslims represent the majority of this Islamic homeland’s 162 million residents. They control the legislature and economy, often leaving minorities to endure second-rate status.

For years, Salik has waged an unorthodox human-rights campaign of public protests he said is necessary to get the attention of a neglectful government.

He has gone on hunger strikes, cut himself, burned his clothes and even lived in a cage — all in an effort to improve the lives of Ahmadis, Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs and, especially, Christians like himself.

In 1996, then-Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto nominated him for a Nobel Peace Prize. But Bhutto was assassinated. And Salik said Christians here are in more trouble than ever.

“I want to tell the government that Christians are not afraid of them,” he said. “We’re willing to fight.”

For an estimated 6,000 Christians here, religious equality is the elusive Pakistani dream. Because of restrictive laws, they are barred from equal pay, educational opportunities and housing. Intimidated by rising Islamic extremism, many are afraid to wear symbols of their faith. Dozens are in jail on the basis of draconian blasphemy laws that forbid anyone to defame Islam.

The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom wants the State Department to name Pakistan a “country of particular concern.”

“It’s one of the most serious problem spots for religious freedom in the entire world,” said Felice Gaer, director of the Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights and a former chairwoman of the commission.

“Discriminatory legislation has fostered an atmosphere of religious intolerance and eroded the legislative status of people who belong to minorities.”

The alliance between the government of President Pervez Musharraf and the Mutahida Majlis-e-Amal, a coalition of six Islamist political parties, gives inordinate influence to these extremist groups and has seriously compromised freedom of thought, conscience and belief in Pakistan, she said.

Since joining the U.S. as an ally in its war on terrorism in 2001, Musharraf has publicly urged Pakistanis to shun radical Islam and pursue “enlightened moderation.”

But each year, Pakistani children are taught that Jews are tightfisted moneylenders and Christians vengeful conquerors

immediately before beheading him.

Zafar Javed, a Pentecostal minister in Rawalpindi, said he has been attacked by Muslims for trying to convert new members.

“They held me for three hours,” he said. “Don’t preach here,” they said. “Don’t spread your Christian books.”

Equally troublesome, human-rights activists said, are the blasphemy laws, which carry a penalty of life imprisonment and even death — often without evidence or any penalty for false accusations.

Salik said Muslims use the law to take the homes of Christians and rid neighborhoods of unwanted minorities. Government officials deny those charges.

A 2007 U.S. State Department report said that no person in Pakistan had been executed for blasphemy. But in May, a

Muslim names and deny their religion rather than face harassment. Those who don’t pay the price.

Aleem Dahir, 36, a chauffeur from Lahore, recently applied for work at an international non-governmental organization in Islamabad. He was told the group was looking for a Muslim, not a Christian.

“It’s not fair,” he said. “But who can I go to?”

Even self-professed liberal Pakistanis say they stand firm about the blasphemy laws.

“There is a line I won’t let anyone cross,” said Agsa Aamir, who has a master’s degree in community sciences. “I go back to my roots, my religion, my prophet, the holy Koran. You insult those and you will be punished, even if it means death.”

Tolerance for religious minorities has plummeted since Bhutto’s father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was executed in 1979 following a coup orchestrated by Gen. Zia ul-Haq. Haq launched a campaign to “Islamicize” the nation, enacting numerous restrictive ordinances, including the blasphemy laws.

Life for Pakistani Christians changed overnight, said Salik, the grandson of a Catholic priest.

“Christians couldn’t go to hotels. Businesses posted signs that said ‘No Christians,’” he said. “You couldn’t even drink from the same cup as a Muslim.”

In 1977, Salik was elected to Pakistan’s General Assembly, where he served for two decades. He was allowed to represent only Christians in his district. He soon began his protests and was jailed seven times.

Salik left politics in 1996 to found World Minorities Alliance, a nonprofit social service group he runs from a converted home in Islamabad. But his battle has not ended.

When the government cut electricity to Christian slums, he wore black robes and advocated that black flags be hoisted over all Christian homes.

But he has also sought solidarity with Muslims, showing his support by living in a cage during the U.S. bombing of Afghanistan.

The irony, he said, is that Pakistan was created for Muslims by the British in 1947 as a shelter against Indian oppression.

“But they have forgotten what it is like to be the underdog,” he said. “So we must remind them.”



PHOTO COURTESY LOS ANGELES TIMES

-- all in textbooks approved by the administration.

Rashid Qureshi, a Musharraf spokesman, said Pakistan is making strides toward religious equality.

“We are empowering these people to play a greater role here,” he said. “We now have military generals who are Christian. This isn’t just a Muslim nation or even a Muslim army. We now even have an officer cadet who is a Sikh.”

Still, minority religions face inordinate dangers. In 2007, a husband-and-wife missionary team from the U.S. was shot in the head execution-style. Minorities are threatened if they do not convert to Islam. Developers in Lahore demolished a Christian church, evicting the priest and destroying a Bible and cross.

The extremists who kidnapped and killed Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl in 2002 made him declare he was Jewish

# Germany and global warming

Craig Whitlock

The Washington Post

Underneath the marshy ground here is a huge deposit of cheap brown coal — manna for a nearby power plant that is among the biggest emitters of global warming gases in Europe. The presence of the fuel may mean that this village and its 680 residents have to go, moved out by the unceasing demand for dirty fossil fuels.

In recent years, Germany has made a large push into clean, renewable energy, and it is among the world’s leading suppliers of wind and solar power. But like many European countries and the United States, it remains hooked on coal, its biggest source of energy.

That reliance is projected to grow in coming years. Utilities are seeking to build two dozen power plants to be fueled by lignite, the crumbly brown coal that lies just beneath the surface in much of eastern Germany and that has been strip mined for generations.

Under new regulations proposed by the European Union, Germany will have to cut greenhouse gas emissions 20 percent by 2020. At the same time, the German government has decided to phase out nuclear power, which does not pollute the atmosphere and accounts for a quarter of the country’s electricity supply.

Many skeptics doubt Germany can simultaneously replace nuclear power and cut emissions. As a result, economists predict that Europe’s largest economy will continue to mine and burn as much coal as ever in future decades, regardless of the environmental drawbacks.

“Without brown coal, Germany will not be able to meet its needs for electricity,” said Detlev Daehnert, head of mining planning for Vattenfall, the Swedish energy conglomerate that owns the Nochten coal mine and Boxberg power plant near here.

The likelihood that Germany will become more dependent on coal has environmentalists

in a sour mood. They have launched intensive campaigns to derail construction of new, coal-fired power plants, which they call “climate killers.” They’ve also started a massive petition drive to limit strip mining in eastern Germany, a mainstay of the area economy for nearly a century.

René Schuster, an organizer for the Green League of Germany, said the group wants to see the country phase out use of brown coal by 2050. To do so, he acknowledged, would require a major boost in the use of renewable energies: solar, wind, biomass and hydropower. It would also mean a big cut in overall energy consumption, not easy in a country with a factory-based economy and drivers who love to speed on autobahns in gas-guzzling Mercedes and BMWs.

But he said it was important for Germany — the world’s largest exporter of goods — to set an example for poorer countries, such as China, where coal consumption is on the rise.

“In Germany, we have good — or at least better — chances than other parts of the world to become independent from brown coal,” said Schuster, who monitors the coal industry in the eastern German states of Saxony and Brandenburg. “It’s outdated and it’s terrible for the environment. Why do we have to use it?”

To address climate change concerns, Vattenfall is building an experimental power station in Saxony that would capture carbon emissions and store the gas underground, instead of releasing it into the atmosphere. Vattenfall officials say they are confident their technology will work when the plant is ready in 2015. The question is whether it will be financially competitive, even with expected government subsidies.

For the project to move forward, “there must be political support, the legal framework has to be in place and the economic conditions also have to exist,” said Daehnert, the firm’s mining director.

# Clyde Morris danger

Many students and nearby members of the Daytona Beach community ride bicycles up and down Clyde Morris Boulevard, whether to travel to stores or for training. Clyde Morris is not designed to accommodate people on a bicycle, though, causing riders to be placed in great risk while they travel.

For the majority of the two mile trip to Beville Road, any person traveling down the shoulder of Clyde Morris only has a space about as wide as a pair of handlebars which gives very little room to spare. This is a very nerve-racking journey, because of the constant threat. Cars usually pass within a couple feet of any rider and those that try to move to the side some cannot do much since another lane of traffic lies right next to them. All of the traffic also makes it almost impossible to tell which lane or direction the car would be coming from. Every time I ride along Clyde Morris I feel like any of the tens of cars that pass could hit me because there is just not enough space to ride safely. This only gets worse when I encounter other riders. Every time I travel down Clyde Morris I pass other people on bicycles and usually the only way we can pass

each other is for one of us to go into the grass because the other option is to go into the road.

Even with the programs that have been started to help slow down drivers and make them more aware of bicyclers, every

“  
*Every time I ride along Clyde Morris I feel like any of the tens of cars that pass could hit me because there is just not enough space to ride...*  
-DAVID KORNBLOM  
”

scenario cannot be prevented. With Clyde Morris in its current state, any car that drifts over the shoulder line would be able to hit a person going down the shoulder do to the lack of space. With the way more drivers travel in today’s society,

cars swerving is becoming more and more common whether it is due to the person changing CD’s or songs on an mp3 player, talking or text messaging on a phone, or just looking away from the road for a second; this coupled with the road noise would give any rider almost no warning.

Clyde Morris needs to be extended to give bicyclers their own lane where they can travel safely. The addition of a bike lane along the road would at least double in the amount of space riders would have available to them. It would give any rider a much safer feeling as well as greatly reduce the chances of someone getting hit by a car swerving.

The school takes many precautions to try and protect students on an everyday basis. With the construction of a bike lane, students, as well as people in the community, riding along Clyde Morris would have a great increase to their level of safety. For some, using a bicycle is the only mode of transportation available so until the bike lane is put in, students and community members will still be put at a greater risk then need be

~David Kornblum

# The cost of oil

I find it strange how gas prices can be going up to record levels, and companies try to justify it with higher costs of oil, when they are setting world records for profits. Here’s the trick, the rise in prices far exceed the rise in costs of refining. One of these companies would be ExxonMobil, probably one of the most corrupt corporations in the world. “Oil giant makes corporate history by booking \$11.7 billion in quarterly profit; earns \$1,300 a second in 2007.” – CNNMoney.com. They made about \$40.61 billion a year in pure profit, not revenue. They also set an annual profit record, higher than any other U.S. company. Exxon gets most of their money from refining, even though oil prices are going up. When you’re the biggest oil company in the world apparently judgment is so clouded that lives and wellbeing of the people don’t matter anymore, like the rest of us that are forced to pay their prices, though fuel taxes don’t help. It’s not just Exxon though, the same profits are being won by the other oil companies like Shell and Chevron to, but Exxon is the one that has its hand in the government’s cookie jar the most. Chevron mostly has its hand in destroying electric cars, but that’s a different story.

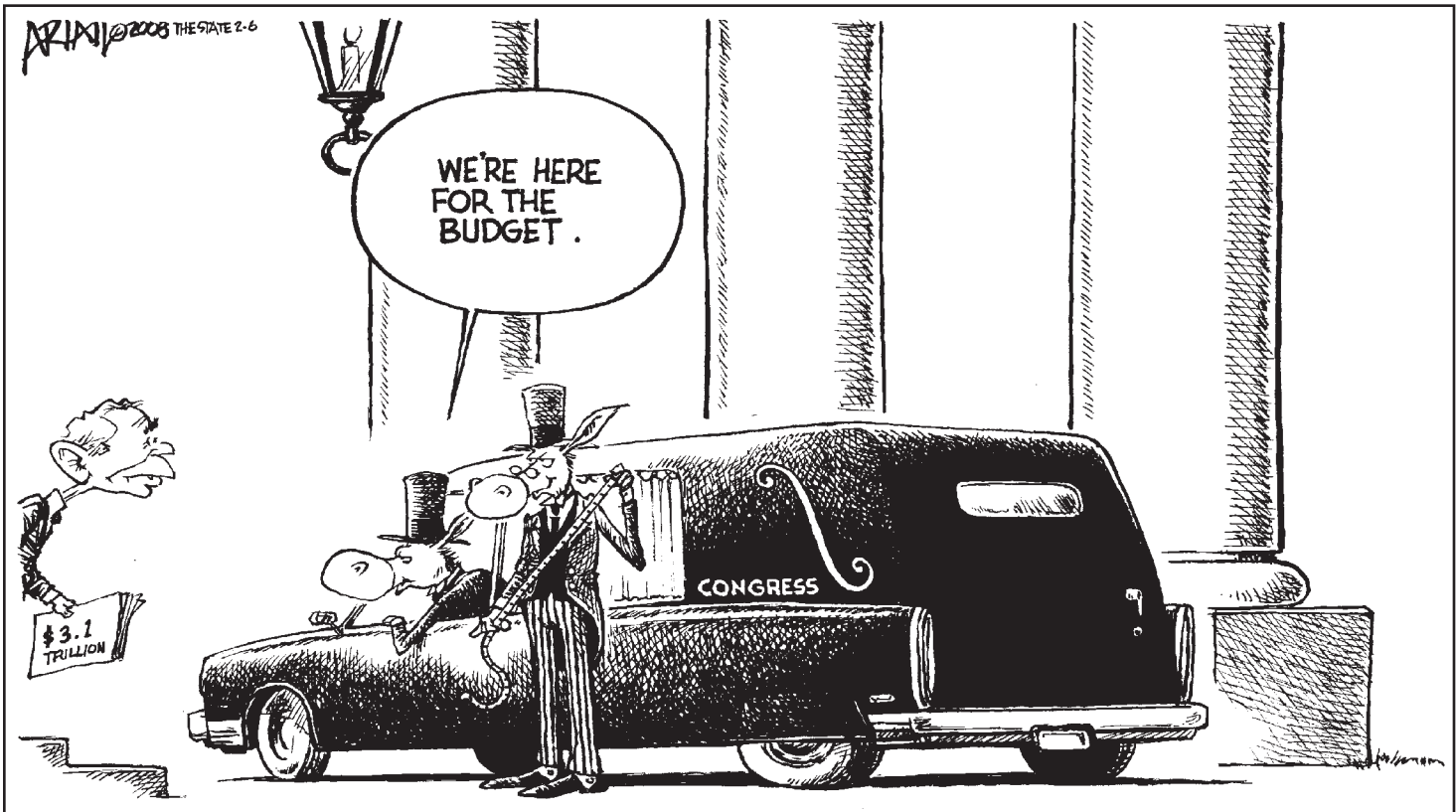
The fact of the matter is that Exxon is one of the keys funding the criticism of climate change and scientific facts; because they know they are one of the problems, so they’ll do what they want to defend their cause regardless of whether it’s the right thing to do. They’re paid to say it, they don’t care. Their main cause is just to make as much profit as they can, with no limits, and with no consideration of what problems they may cause or who they walk on to get it. Did you know there is actually a U.S. military base in Iraq named Forward Operating Base Exxon and one named Forward Operating Base Shell? Take a wild guess at what those are named after and who had their hand in it.

Without a doubt in most cases, the Iraq war is about oil, and the evidence is everywhere. We were lied to, and are still being lied to. Oil companies pay politicians to say things and create speeches and policies to implicate that Iraq was some kind of threat. Also it doesn’t help with the current leaders are paid by oil. The war keeps supply artificially low, so then you can charge obscene prices for oil, and get rich; economics 101. It’s the same idea behind diamond

companies stockpiling diamonds from Africa, and it’s not just a movie.

The next stop will probably be Iran, since they’re such “a big threat” to us. It’s funny how the U.S. government can complain as soon as another country so much as even thinks about nukes, they throw a fit, and yet the United States has more nukes than any other country, and the United States is the only one to use them in war. So who is the U.S. government to have any say about it? The only thing bad about that country is the leader and his peers, the people are no threat and have nothing against us at all. You don’t get rid of bad leaders by invading the whole country and imperializing it as you wish, you take out those leaders, and leave the people and the country alone. It wouldn’t be the first time the United States and other countries worked together to assassinate bad leaders. The other scary thing is that if (or when) we invade Iran, oil is estimated to hit at least about \$150 a barrel. It’s probably best if I don’t put the corresponding gas price here because it’s not fun to think about. This stuff needs to stop before more people die for no good reason.

~Bob Wilson



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## Student Forum

The Avion asks: “If you were a building on campus, what would you be and why?”  
-Compiled by Marcus Nealley and Matt Goldberg



**Rojith Perera**  
Senior  
Aerospace Engineering

“The Student Center because the student court is here.”



**Sam Valverde**  
Junior  
Human Factors

“Spruance Hall because I’m an empty field and free.”



**Stephen Hale**  
Junior  
Aeronautical Science

“The COB because it’s got a funny name.”



**Jean David Attal**  
Junior  
Business

“The College of Business because it is the most beautiful.”



**Aaron Ladurini**  
Freshman  
Human Factors

“Apollo because it’s virgin.”



**Celestina Guerra**  
Freshman  
Aerospace Engineering

“McKay because it’s old and experienced.”

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# Student Government Association

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

## Sodexho talks to SGA SGA moves off campus

Angeline Ranieri

### Student Representative

Last Thursday, members of the Food Committee met with Steve Andrade, General Manager of Sodexho Dinning Services, to discuss student comments, concerns, and suggestions regarding food served on campus. Some of the items that were discussed included recycling, the vending machines on campus, updates about the new renovations coming up and other events that Dinning Services will be having here on campus.

The Food Committee received an update about the status of the new Starbucks being built in the library. Currently, the wall has been built and construction will begin on March 1 to remove the planters and bike racks outside the Library and install fences around the area. There

all their coffee and specialty drinks. Good news for students, your Starbucks gift cards will be accepted at this location.

Renovations on the Student Center will begin on May 5. These renovations will include the addition of a Chick Fil-A and

***"Sodexho says they are committed to going green with their Planet Program."***

**-ANGELINE RANIERI**

a Freshens Smoothies. Sodexho will also be making additions and moving around the salad bar, deli, Pacific Traders, and Sub Hangars. These renovations are sure to give students more options and an efficient arrangement for finding the foods they want.

Sodexho is happy to announce that they are committed to "going green" with their new Planet Program. They will be looking into recyclable food containers and putting recycling bins in all their dining locations on campus to make recycling an easy option for students. Sodexho will be working with the Environmental Awareness Committee on Earth Day to give students an opportunity to try more organic/vegetarian options.

Another idea that the Food Committee brought to the table was to have reusable cups that students can purchase and then receive a discount for each time

they use it. This will help cut down on the number of paper cups students use and throw away while saving money. Look for these plastic reusable cups in the Student Center coming soon.

If anyone has any comments or suggestions for Sodexho or the SGA Progress Committee, please be sure to e-mail Progress Committee Chair Angeline Ranieri at [Angeline.Ranieri@erau.edu](mailto:Angeline.Ranieri@erau.edu).

Ryan Hattan

### SGA Vice President

This year in our quest to go above and beyond, I have set community involvement as a top-tier priority. At first we looked at community service projects that the Representative Board could adopt, and after looking over a few opportunities we knew that it would be less productive to limit our abilities and talent to any one

project in particular. Therefore, we have set out to simply become involved throughout the city in almost any way possible.

Last semester, for the first time in SGA history, we began to pursue involvement with the city government. We started out by attending City Commission meetings to understand what is going on around the community and to see how we could put our talents to work as well as bring in community support for Embry-Riddle

projects. To say the least, I think we have been successful.

Our involvement has created numerous opportunities and is paving the way for many successful projects. One of our first outreach projects involved a leadership forum we helped host at Campbell Middle School for their Student Government.

After a few meetings, we realized that a relationship between the students of Embry-Riddle and the city of Daytona Beach could produce endless opportunities. One of our first orders of business was to lobby the Mayor to allow for student representatives from the local universities, such as Daytona Beach College and Bethune-Cookman University, to have a larger voice in our community. The Mayor agreed and has since placed one student government official from each of the three schools on his mayoral advisory committee, or what he calls his "kitchen cabinet." This committee meets on a monthly basis and serves as a think tank to solve local problems from job creation in the city to stopping crime. Positions such as this in the community have allowed us to create the relationships necessary to both give back to the community as well as create opportunities for our students.

One project we are hoping to develop is a partnership with local businesses and Embry-Riddle to create internships around the Greater Daytona area to provide more opportunities for students. This would allow students more choices in their efforts to gain job experience before graduation and would open an entire sector of business, the Daytona area, which have not been focused on in the past. From the city's perspective, they are excited to host more of the city's students in pursuits that keep them close to Daytona and serve the local area.

Another project on the horizon is one at the request of the mayor and city manager. They have asked us to explore the possibility of establishing committees of Embry-Riddle faculty and students to advise the city on its future infrastructure and engineering projects such as transportation needs in the city. In this venture, we are hoping to draw from the talent pools of our engineering departments to give students the ability to work on class projects that would translate to real world experience.

After realizing the endless possibilities of matching our talents with community interests, we are now seeking to create an advisory board within the city, comprised solely of university and college students to look at how students from all campuses across Daytona could benefit from local involvement. With a relatively small population in Daytona Beach, many of the residents are comprised of students, and we feel that it is important for them to have an active voice and participate within their community. We are in the process of building relationships with these local schools and hope to create opportunities for all of our students that will last well into the future.

### SGA and Athletics work to open fields



RYAN GORMAN/AVION

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION has been working with the Recreational Sports Department to make intramural fields more available to all students and their clubs.

## LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!!!

Student Government Association  
Representative Board Meeting

**Tuesdays**  
12:45 IC  
Auditorium



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### Available Positions:

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**Elections Packets available in the SGA Office on  
Friday, February 15 and due Friday, February 29 at 5pm**

Have Questions? Contact the Elections Committee Chair at [sga.elections@yahoo.com](mailto:sga.elections@yahoo.com)

## ΣΑΕ has another great week

Will Gons  
ΣΑΕ

We had another great week in Intramurals here in Sigma Alpha Epsilon. It started out with a tough loss in basketball. Even though the ΣΑΕ Lions lost their first game Wednesday by 17 points, their coach is still hopeful for an excellent season to come. According to a few close sources, the Lions don't want to show their full potential just yet. They have been seen doing very intense training at the beach all through the night, every night. Team Phoenix brought back the

momentum with a 48-41 victory over the combined Delta Chi



and Sigma Chi team. Googz led the scoring with 10 points,

while Townsend was close behind with eight points. There was not just basketball this week, our soccer team played as well. Under the lights Thursday we played the same team from last week, who has shown tremendous improvements in the preceding week. Sigma Alpha Epsilon was victorious again with a score of 6-3.

Have you ever wondered just what we here at Sigma Alpha Epsilon are all about? Well, if so, your chance to find out will be here soon. Just keep reading in the weeks ahead and all of your questions will be answered.

## Hockey finishes season

Bryan Dietz  
ERAU Hockey

The ERAU Ice Hockey Team finished off their 23-game season strong with dominating wins over the semester. FSU was coming off of big wins versus Georgia Tech, Florida Gators and the University of Georgia Bulldogs. However, the Eagles came to the game strong putting in 12 combined goals behind both FSU goaltenders. The victory was lead with hat tricks by both Tim Walsh and Jim Wilson. John Lopez continued his climb in the rankings with another shutout against FSU to move place him into a tie for second place of the most shutouts in the country among Division III hockey goaltenders. ERAU stood on top of FSU with a 12-2 win.

The final game of the season against FSU left fans going home happy. The final game of the season was one of the loudest ever by fans and the always consistent Pep Band. South Daytona Police was called to the Artic Ice Rink by neighboring housing complexes complaining of the noise coming from the hockey rink. "Are your games always this loud," commented one FSU player as the puck dropped for the second period of play. While the band was no longer aloud to play and fans still continued the traditional songs of victory and banging on the glass behind the FSU goal tender, the show continued on the ice. Goals by Kyle Tomasino, Tim Hollenshade, Mike Mirarchi, Tim Walsh and Jack Quinlin

The ice hockey team continued their weekend series against FIT with a nine to zero shutout in Rockledge, Fla. lead by freshman goal tender Eric Hart. The final game against FIT had multiple goals scored by senior defensemen Tim Hollenshade (2) and sophomore Jack Quinlin (2). The game was relatively subdued with Eagles practicing their notorious Jim Lennon 1-2-2 defense style against the sluggish FIT offense. "At times it would take them [FIT] up to four minutes to just clear the puck out of their zone," said freshman winger Nick Scotto.

The club finished off their season with two final home games versus FSU. Friday night's game,

helped propel the Eagles to a six to three performance over FSU. The Eagles out scored opponents with a club record 36 to 5 over the last four games to set another club record. Players Tim Walsh, Jim Wilson and John Lopez all hold record amongst Division III hockey teams for goals, assists and shutouts, respectively.

"It is a great way to finish the season with a dominating performance and moving our players up into the national spotlight," said assistant coach and former goal tender Dan Trundle.

The team will be losing many valuable players this season due to graduation. Alex Almonte, Tim Hollenshade, Kyle Tomasino, John Lopez and Matt Kangas will all be graduating this semester leaving a large void to be filled by returning players next season. The Ice Hockey Team after Saturday night's game gave their final thanks to the best fans in the league, the Pep Band and EaglesFM for their support this entire season.


The Eagles will begin next season in Fall 08 and will be looking for dedicated fans to fill new roles in Business Relations, Marketing, Website Maintenance, and of course many will be needed for creating noise in the stand. If anyone is interested in ERAU Ice Hockey, contact Bryan Dietz at [Bryan.Dietz@erau.edu](mailto:Bryan.Dietz@erau.edu). See you next season!



BRYAN DIETZ/ERAU ICE HOCKEY

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# EAGLE \$\$



# Lockheed and Boeing team for new bomber

Andrew Zaback  
Sports Editor

Lockheed Martin and Boeing have recently announced that they will team up to design the next manned bomber for the U.S. Air Force. This puts the two aerospace giants in direct competition with Northrop Grumman, the current contractor for the B-2 Spirit Stealth Bomber.

The date for this new bomber is slated to be 2018.



panies believe that this date is extremely ambitious and may not be a realistic release. The

Air Force itself is not believed to be funding any research until fiscal financial year 2010.

Although complete specifications for the design have not been released, companies have not been released, companies have the basic idea. The bomber must be manned, capable of delivering nuclear weapons should the situation call for it, and stealthy enough to evade enemy radar and anti-aircraft installments still in development by other countries. The new bomber will augment the current fleet of 21 B-2s



operation. Currently, the partnering companies are in the process



of sharing information and resources to design the aircraft. No flying prototype will be produced at this stage of production, however; Frank Cappuccio, executive vice president of Skunk Works at Lockheed Martin discounted that idea, stating that its “premature unless you want to ensure technology obsolescence for 2018.” Northrop Grumman, however, is in the process of building a functional flying prototype, regardless of Cappuccio’s opinion.

# U.S. Air Force ‘09 budget request tops \$140 billion

Brian Asbury  
Advertising Manager

The 2009 budget request for the U.S. Air Force tips the scale just shy of \$144 billion, equating to a seven percent increase over the current fiscal year. Modernization accounts for \$41 billion of the new budget allowing for several major upgrades to the Air Force fleet, including acquisition of the F-35A Joint Strike Fighter (JSF). Air Force deputy assistant secre-

“We’re behind the power curve when it comes to modernization.”  
-LARRY SPENCER

tary for budget Maj. Gen. Larry Spencer addressed the needs of

the Air Force, saying “we’re behind the power curve when it comes to modernization.”

Two big increases include \$800 million for aircraft and missiles. Overall, the Air Force is requesting \$12.7 billion for aircraft and \$4.7 billion for missiles.

The Air Force has five priorities within the spending plan. First is the KC-135 tanker fleet recapitalization plan to initially buy 179 aircraft to enter service in the FY 2013. The combat, search and rescue (CSAR-X) helicopter fleet replacement comes up second on the list with a \$15 billion contract for 141 new HH-47 (a CH-47 Chinook variant).

The third on the list is out of this world: Space Systems ranging from Global Positioning System (GPS) III to the

Transformational Satellite (TSAT). The FY ‘09 budget proposes \$8.5 billion, a 9.5 percent increase of FY ‘08. The F-35A JSF takes fourth priority, with a planned acquisition of 1,763 aircraft.

The FY ‘09 budget request is \$3.4 billion for initial funding for eight aircraft. A new, long-range bomber falls to fifth on the list with a budget of \$1.04 billion for the first phase.

The Air Force plans for an overall purchase of 93 new aircraft within 2009, with 52 of the aircraft being unmanned.



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# BA launches new trans-Atlantic routes

Matt Smith  
Staff Reporter

Maciej Majewski co-authored this article.

Based on the American economic slowdown and credit market crisis, British Airways (BA) is concerned about demand for transatlantic travel. However, the British national carrier and other airlines continue to add new services to the market, reports a senior executive from the airline. British Airways recently announced that it would be expanding its trans-Atlantic offerings this coming year. On the heels of the Open Skies agreement between the United States and the European Union this year, British Airways plans to start a new airline called OpenSkies. Originally called Project Lauren, British Airways decided to name the new airline after the agreement between the United States and the European Union. “By naming the airline

Brussels. A second Boeing 757 and additional city will be started in late 2008. British Airways hopes to add up to six aircraft by the end of 2009, all of which will come from their current fleet. The 757s operated by OpenSkies will be refitted with 24 business class seats that convert into flat beds, 28 premium economy seats and 30 economy seats.

British Airways also announced their intentions to start double daily business class only flights between London’s City Airport and New York. The flights will operate with Airbus A318s that are being bought specifically for these new flights. The flights will operate nonstop from New York to London City, but a fuel stop is required on the westbound flight because of the short runway at London City. British Airways has stated that it would prefer to fly to New York’s John F. Kennedy Airport, but if it was unable to obtain slots, it would fly to New Jersey’s Newark Airport.

Newark.

Ironically, the latest plans of American and European airlines to introduce more transatlantic flights coincide with economic woes. “Lots of new capacity at the same time as a softer demand environment is never a good combination,” says BA Commercial Director Robert Boyle. He says that the market is definitely getting tougher and that maintaining passenger yields will be more difficult.

Adding New York flights from London City is basically a fractional increase in service between the two cities, so there is no danger of “siphoning” passengers off existing routes. At Heathrow, the airline came to a “point of diminishing returns” for premium travel, so London City is a way to make a new market grow.

The economic downturn is also affecting the short-haul premium market between London and European cities, as companies allow less premium travel.



OpenSkies, we’re celebrating the first major step in 60 years towards a liberalized U.S./E.U. aviation market,” said British Airways Chief Executive Willie Walsh. “It also signals our determination to lobby for further liberalization in this market when talks between the E.U. and U.S. take place later this year.”

The new airline will initially start in June with one Boeing 757 aircraft and will operate between New York and either Paris or

British Airways representatives say they will allow check in up to 15 minutes before departure at both London and New York. The A318s will be configured with 32 lie flat seats and will be equivalent to British Airways’ Club World Business Class. With these two new flights, British Airways will offer 13 daily flights between London and the New York Area—eight of which between London and New York John F. Kennedy and three between London and

This is reflected by business class bookings. Boyle says that making employees travel economy on long-haul flights is a much bigger shift.

Demand for premium travel on long-haul flights is staying strong for now, especially in markets such as China, India and the Middle East. Non-premium demand is down, but this was apparent even before the U.S. economic downturn.

## Aircraft of the Week

### CONSOLIDATED B-24D LIBERATOR

PHOTO COURTESY U.S. AIR FORCE

#### Factoid

☐ **Manufacturer:** Consolidate Aircraft

☐ **Armament:** 10 x.50 M2 Browning Machine Guns; 8,000 lbs bomb payload.

☐ **Service:** U.S. Army Air Corps, 1941-45, U.S. Navy, Royal Air Force.

☐ **Top Speed:** 263 knots.

☐ **Range:** 2,850 mi.

☐ **Ceiling:** 28,000 ft.

**THE B-24 WAS EMPLOYED** in operations in every combat theater during World War II. Because of its great range, it was particularly suited for such missions as the famous raid from North Africa against the oil industry at Ploesti, Rumania, on Aug. 1, 1943. This feature also made the airplane suitable for long over-water missions in the Pacific Theater. More than 18,000 Liberators were produced.

~U.S. Air Force

# Atlantis delivers Columbus to orbit



ANDREW ZABACK/AVION

**THE SHUTTLE ATLANTIS BEGINS** a 21st century voyage of science and exploration as it roars off Launch Pad 39A at the Kennedy Space Center on time at 2:45 p.m. EST Thursday. Europe's Columbus lab was finally delivered to the space station over 25 years after being conceived.

Bob Scheid  
**Chief Copy Editor**

After a successful launch Thursday, the Space Shuttle Atlantis has docked with the International Space Station (ISS). However, a minor medical situation that came to light Saturday is causing some shuffling of the spacewalk schedule and crew, and will extend the mission by a day, SpaceflightNow.com reported. Like many organizations, NASA prefers not to discuss medical conditions of its employees because of privacy concerns,

and so results are lacking as of press time Sunday. Officially, all that was released from NASA was that German astronaut Hans Schlegel had been replaced by Stanley Love in the first spacewalk with Rex Walheim, one of the other mission specialists. The Associated Free Press and other news sources reported late Saturday that Schlegel was unwell, and quoted mission chief John Shannon as saying "It's a private medical matter," adding that it was "not serious" and would not "impact any of the objectives of the mission." The spacewalk was also pushed

back to 9:35 Monday morning, a day later than originally planned; this in turn will push back other mission events, including landing, which is now scheduled for the morning of Feb. 19. NASA had considered extending the mission to the 19th anyway, in order to give an extra day of shuttle support in getting the European Columbus science module up and running. In addition, another one-day extension that had been in the works even before launch may still be added. Besides the EVA rescheduling, NASA has been shuffling the other activities of the mission.

This includes some equipment transfers to and from the ISS, along with a handoff between one of the ISS crew; astronaut Dan Tani, who has been living on the ISS since October, will be returning aboard STS-122 after being replaced by Leopold Eyharts, a General in the French Air Force. As handover from one crew to another typically takes several days, the opportunity to get started early will be used.

Two other minor technological problems have surfaced. First, some of the thermal protection blankets on the top of the Orbital Maneuvering System rockets were pulled up during ascent. The blankets are designed to keep the shuttle safe during reentry, blocking superheated air from penetrating the spacecraft and damaging or destroying it. Atlantis' last flight had the same problem when a four-by-six-inch piece of the blanket in the same area was pulled away; it was fixed in orbit using surgical staples to hold it in place. This mission's tear appears to be smaller; as of press time, there was no information about whether a fix would be necessary or attempted, and what it would be.

Second, one of Atlantis' five General Purpose Computers failed to initialize properly prior to docking with the ISS. During computer startup, the No. 3 unit started normally but would not transition into operation mode from standby; the backup computer is working normally and has taken over its duties while troubleshooting is taking place. Flight engineers believe the computer is still healthy, and work is continuing.

Despite these three problems and issues last year with the Engine Cut-Off sensors, the mission is proceeding and Columbus was slated to be installed Monday. The three spacewalks planned in the mission will physically mount the module on the space station (with the help of remote manipulator arms), connect electrical and coolant umbilicals and transfer

a scientific instrument suite to monitor solar phenomena from outside the station. STS-123, which will deliver Canada's Dextre robotic manipulator system and the first part of the Japanese Kibo module to the station, is slated for launch March 11. This will be the second of possibly six shuttle missions this year.



PHOTO COURTESY NASA

**ATLANTIS AND ITS PAYLOAD** bay, with the front of the Columbus module visible, orbit high above earth Friday as they close in on the International Space Station. Columbus was attached to its new home on Monday.

## NASA given slight '09 budget increase

John W. Smith III  
**News Editor**

NASA recently released their new budget for the 2009 fiscal year, and the budget calls for a 1.8 percent increase totaling \$17.61 billion dollars. The budget is on track to transition from the space shuttle era to the new Constellation program and places heavy emphasis on robotic science missions and transportation to the Space Station.

Bill Gerstenmaier, associate administrator for space operations said that about 2.6 billion would go directly to the

purchase of transportation to the station, and that a majority of the contracts for the transportation vehicles will be completed by 2010 just in time for the shuttle's retirement. For the remainder of its time, the shuttle program will receive \$2.98 billion to fund assembly missions to the station.

When asked about changes in the White House next year, the head of NASA's exploration programs said he is focusing on the agency's current directives. "We're under both presidential policy and enacted law to execute the program that we're currently under," said Richard Gilbrech, associ-

ate administrator for exploration. This budget does not make any changes to the current direction of human space flight efforts and completion of the International Space Station; those are priorities before embarking on new journeys with international partners to our moon and worlds beyond.

There are numerous other missions under this budget, which include unmanned science missions to the solar systems outer planets, a lunar science orbiter to study the moon's tenuous atmosphere, and three small landers to be dispatched to the moon.

### NASA holds contest to rename GLAST telescope

NASA announced last week a worldwide contest to rename the soon-to-be-launch Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope (GLAST). Due to lift off in

mid-May from Cape Canaveral, GLAST will be the first major gamma-ray telescope placed into space since one of the agency's four Great Observatories, the

Compton Gamma-ray Observatory (CGRO), was deorbited in 2000 after ten years in orbit. To submit a name, go online to: <http://glast.sonoma.edu/glastname/>.

Advertisement

## Upcoming Cape launches

### Endeavour next in line at Cape

With Atlantis still in orbit, the shuttle Endeavour is undergoing final preparations for its nighttime flight to the space station next month. STS-123 will deliver the first of the three sections of Japan's Kibo module, as well as Dextre, the Canadian robotic hand to be fitted on the end of the station's robotic arm. Kibo, meaning "hope," will be launched over three separate missions. The first piece, the smaller pressurized module, will be the one brought up on this flight.

Endeavour's flight is slated for early in the morning of March 11, with liftoff coming at 2:31 a.m. EDT. This will be just the second night launch of the shuttle since the Columbia accident. The first was STS-116 in December 2006.

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

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

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

May 16  
Delta 2  
NASA's GLAST  
Gamma-ray telescope  
Launch window:  
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. EDT

EDITED BY BEN COOPER

## Across the Universe, literally

Ashley Roper  
**Staff Reporter**

The Beatles were honored last week in an unusual way. On Feb. 4, NASA launched their popular song "Across the Universe" deep into space. The transmission was aimed at the North Star, which is over 431 light-years away, at a daunting 186,000 miles per second.

The song was sent using NASA's Deep Space Network (DSN), which is a series of antennae placed across the globe, usually used to provide communication between Earth and satellites or space probes.

On the DSN website, one of their purposes was quoted as "the exploration of the solar system and the universe." The DSN has never been used to send a song into space, giving the Beatles another interesting fact to add to their repertoire.

However, this is not the first time the U.S. space agency has used the Beatles in space. "Good Day Sunshine" was performed by former Beatle Paul McCartney in Nov. 2005. The concert was transmitted to the International Space Station. McCartney was pleased to hear the news of his song being sent into space. He told NASA in a recent message, "Amazing!

Well done, NASA! Send my love to the aliens."

Feb. 4 marks many important anniversaries for the legendary group as well as NASA. It commemorates the 40th anniversary of the Beatles original recording of "Across the Universe." It also marks the 45th anniversary of the founding of the DSN. 50 years ago on Jan. 31, Explorer 1 was launched as well. The rocket marked the first satellite to be launched by the United States.

"Across the Universe" was sent at exactly 7 p.m. EST on Feb. 4. Beatles fans were asked to play the song simultaneously to commemorate the event.

## Summer plans?



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- ✓ Take an online class from the Worldwide Campus
- ✓ Catch up on flight
- ✓ Study abroad

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**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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.**



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# When in Rome Special: Poland and Kuwait



Maciej Majewski  
Staff Reporter

When most Western tourists think of Europe, they usually consider travel to places such as Italy, France, the United Kingdom, or Spain. The furthest East they usually go is Germany. They are not aware of what really lies east of the former Iron Curtain, and they seem to be scared to exploring what was under Communist rule for over 40 years.

“  
*Poland is again a quickly developing nation.*  
-MACIEJ MAJEWSKI”

Poland is a truly unique nation. Situated in the true heart of Europe, it was the strongest empire in Europe during the 15th and 16th centuries, only to be partitioned by Russia, Prussia, and Austria-Hungary in the 19th century. After World War I, Poland was independent for merely 21 years before Nazi occupation. In the World War II period, it was one of the few occupied nations to not surrender and continue the fight both in exile and at home via the Polish Home Army. At the end of the conflict, all but deserted by her Western Allies, Poland was forced into 40 years of Communist rule. Now, in the 21st century, Poland is again a

quickly developing and independent nation.

This little history lesson is important because when visiting Warsaw, Poland’s capital, one should always keep it in the back of the mind. Walking around the city, you have to remember that you are seeing something completely destroyed and then rebuilt from the ground up. Some parts of the city were rebuilt according to original pre-war plans, whereas others were completely redone, with widened streets and even entire patches of the city taken out in order to contain new buildings. As a result, the combination of architecture ranging from the 15th to 19th century and social realist architecture makes Warsaw one of the most visually interesting cities in Europe, a mix of old and new like no other.

Most of the architectural gems, such as the Old Town, are contained within the area known as mid-town. It’s a great thing to just walk around and explore. Many buildings have information panels on the history of each individual structure. There are also plenty of plaques and memorials related to World War II and the famous Warsaw Uprising of 1944. There are several large and beautiful parks around the midtown area, the most amazing one being Lazienki, or the Royal Baths. As far as museums go, the Modern Art Gallery and the Warsaw Uprising Museum are a must for every visitor.

When the night comes around, it’s time to explore the rich nightlife Warsaw offers. Clubs and bars are basically all over the place in every shape

or form. Whether you want to just sit down and have a drink, listen to some live jazz, go to a pub for a few pints, or dance the night away, there is something for you. Additionally, everything is open every single night of the week.

“  
*It’s a good idea to try the Communist area ‘milk bars...’*  
-MACIEJ MAJEWSKI”

Food also comes in every shape or form, from traditional Polish dining to 24 hour Kebab Bars, the latter which I definitely recommend during late nights out on the town. It’s also a good idea to try the Communist area “milk bars” which offer simple but filling meals for the equivalent of \$3 to \$5. One way or another, the key is to just explore and try whatever you feel like at the moment, because it’s hard to go wrong. Almost everybody knows English, so communication is not really a thing to worry about.

Warsaw is a city that should be knocked off the list of every Western traveler. Its rich history and overall uniqueness are something that cannot be matched by most other European capitals. The key is to just always be active and walk around, because finding something to do or see just sort of comes naturally here.



Mayank Kumar  
Staff Reporter

In the recent years, due to the war, Kuwait has been low tourism-wise. People don’t exactly know what Kuwait has to offer and how beautiful a place it is.

Kuwait is a desert, but over the years, the government has done a lot to bring greenery to the nation. Today, over 70 percent of the inhabited areas are beautified with flora. This has helped bring the temperatures down to tolerable levels too.

Kuwait, while keeping pace with advancement in every field, does not lack behind in leisure and recreational activities. There is plenty to see and do in Kuwait. Expatriates and visitors have every conceivable modern pastime and recreational activity for relaxation available in Kuwait.

No matter where one lives or visits, the recreation and leisure activities are no less important than work and business. Kuwait has all the amenities and infrastructure for business and modern living and has plenty to offer for extra curricular activities, pleasure, relaxation and pastime.

With modernization the pastime activities of the past, Falconry, hunting in the desert and sea fishing have lost much of their appeal, though evening “Diwaniyah” is still a favorite pastime for Kuwaiti men. Expatriates and visitors have every conceivable modern pastime and recreational activity for relaxation available in Kuwait.

If you are a history fan,

Kuwait has three museums, the oldest of which is the National Museum. It once housed the Dar Al-Athar al-Islamiyah, the As-Sabah collection of Islamic Art, one of the most comprehensive in the world. Other buildings housed pearl diving relics, ethnographical artifacts and archaeological material from excavations on Faylaka Island. Looted and burned by the Iraqi invaders the museum is now restored and some exhibits are again open to the public including parts of the Dar Al-Athar al-Islamiyah collection, ninety percent of which has been returned from Iraq. In 1997, Muhallab II, the replacement for (and replica of) the magnificent trading dhow from the 1930s that graced the front yard of the museum before it was burned by the Iraqis, was constructed on site and is now open to visitors.

The architecture of Kuwait is breathtaking too. One of the most famous landmarks in Kuwait are the Kuwait Towers. Comprising of three towers, they contain a revolving restaurant and an observatory, through which a major portion of Kuwait is visible.

Another marvel is the Liberation Tower. With a height of 1,220 feet, it is the fifth tallest communication tower in the world. Construction started in April 1987 but had to stop due to Iraqi Invasion in August 1990 and resumed in 1993. Covering an area of 226,000 square feet, it includes a hall to serve the public 24 hours a day and the new main building has administrative and technical offices and the Liberation Tower. The 59-foot under-

ground foundation holds three basements. The tower has a revolving restaurant and the vertical cavities in the tower body contain two elevators which provide panoramic view of the city as they climb to the restaurant and viewing balcony.

The typical food fan has a million places to go in Kuwait. Kuwaiti cuisine is healthy, mild and delicious. The staple food of most people, the mushakka (vegetarian sandwich) or the non-vegetarian shawarma (close to Greek gyros but only much better), is a cheap and flavorful way to go about experiencing the food habits (two sandwiches and a coke cost somewhere between a dollar or two) and the best place to experience the authentic cuisine is the Canary chain of restaurants.

The sweet tooth, too, finds its heaven in Kuwait. Samadi Pastry is a chain of confectioners that make probably one of the best baklava (a pastry made of layers of phyllo dough filled with chopped walnuts or pistachios and sweetened with syrup or honey).

Also, the recently made “The Avenues” mall (which is a couple of miles long), along with Marina Mall and Souq Sharq really give shoppers a privilege to shop till they drop. And the country shines more with shopping glory during the much celebrated Hala Febrair (literally meaning “welcome February”) sale.

So Kuwait has a lot to offer. I strongly recommend anyone who has not been to this beautiful country to definitely visit it at some point.

# Editors picks: games to play for Spring 08

<p>“Gran Turismo 5 Prologue”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>PS3</li><li>Racing</li><li>Release: April 17</li><li>Developer: Polyphony Digital.</li><li>Publisher: Sony Computer Entertainment</li><li>1-16 Players</li><li>Rating: Pending</li></ul> <p>“Gran Turismo 5(GT5)” and its prologue are poised to take PlayStation 3 players to the extreme of video game racing yet again. Impressive visuals and awesome car mechanics will attempt to push the PS3 hardware to its limits. “GT5” will include over 50 highly detailed cars from Ferraris to Nissans, all racing on five beautiful reversible tracks from all around the world. To top it all off, 16-player online multiplayer will be included with worldwide leaderboards to crown the GT champ.</p>	<p>“Frontlines: Fuel of War”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Xbox 360, PC</li><li>First Person Shooter</li><li>Release: Feb. 25</li><li>Developer: Kaos Studios</li><li>Publisher: THQ</li><li>1-32 Players</li><li>Rated: Teen</li></ul> <p>“Frontlines: Fuel of War” is set in a near future where two superpowers must fight over resources around the globe. Crafted by a veteran team this game thus has a good base. Players are in a first person shooter type experience powered by the heavily modified Unreal 3 game engine, which should guarantee an awesome game environment. A non-linear single player campaign will complement extensive multiplayer features, and all together this has the potential to be a good game.</p>	<p>“God of War” (PSP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Platform: PSP</li><li>Action</li><li>Release: March 4</li><li>Developer: Ready at Dawn Studios</li><li>Publisher: Sony Computer Entertainment</li><li>1 Player</li><li>Rated: Mature</li></ul> <p>This latest “God of War (GOW)” game takes place during Kratos’s ten years of servitude to the Gods as he tries to redeem his name. Bringing epic storylines, larger than life characters, and familiar fight scenes, this new GoW is more of the same with a change of location. Tackling the PSP’s hardware like few games have before, “GoW: Chains of Olympus” is expected to have cutting-edge handheld graphics, large open area environments and cool next-gen game-esque animations.</p>	<p>“Haze”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>PS3, Xbox 360,</li><li>First Person Shooter</li><li>Release: TBA 2008</li><li>Developer: Free Radical Design</li><li>Publisher: Ubisoft</li><li>At least 1-2 Players</li><li>Rating: Pending</li></ul> <p>As a new recruit to the largest military corporation in the near future, “Haze” sends the player through a series of interactive and challenging first person shooter levels. While this may sound like standard fare, “Haze” hopes to set itself apart with cool weapon choices, interesting cooperative campaign play and an interesting biotechnology twist. While this game looks great in most ways, especially when powered on the PS3, little has been released about the multiplayer to date.</p>	<p>“Super Smash Bros. Brawl”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wii</li><li>Fighting</li><li>Release: March 9</li><li>Developer: Nintendo and Game Arts</li><li>Publisher: Nintendo</li><li>1-4 Players</li><li>Rated: Teen</li></ul> <p>Few games have the universal appeal akin to the “Super Smash Bros. (SSB)” series. Pitting some of Nintendo and friends’ greatest heroes and villains against each other in epic battle royals, “SSB Brawl” is ready to take this series to the next-gen level. As the first Smash Bros. game on the Wii system, Brawl will have over two dozen playable characters, 4-player online action and top notch Wii graphics. Sure to bring Smash Bros. to the Wii in style, Brawl will not be a game to miss.</p>	<p>“Star Wars: Force Unleashed”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wii, Xbox 360, PS3, PS2, Nintendo DS, PSP</li><li>Action</li><li>Release: April 1</li><li>Developer: Krome Studios and LucasArts</li><li>Publisher: LucasArts</li><li>1 Player</li><li>Rating: Pending</li></ul> <p>Set during the period between “Star Wars” Episode 3 and Episode 4, “Star Wars: The Force Unleashed (TFU)” casts the player as Darth Vader’s new secret Sith apprentice. Giving players a whole collection of cool force powers to play with, “TFU” will allow players to interact with the environment in many interesting ways. Created based on a story with direct George Lucas involvement, “The Force Unleashed” promises to provide a brand new and exciting “Star Wars” experience.</p>
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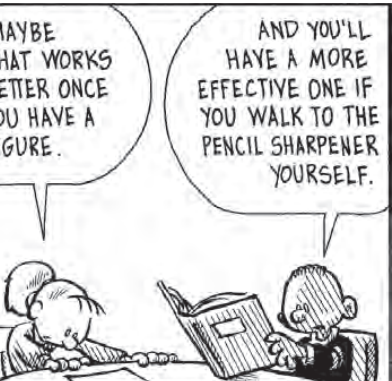
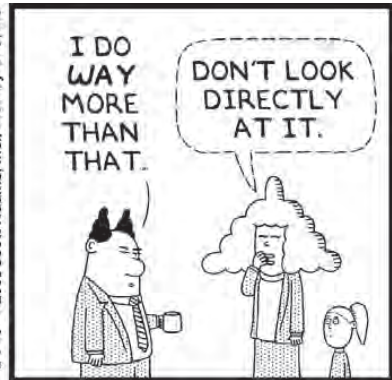
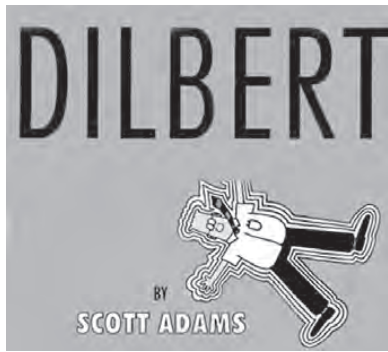
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DIFFICULT



Valentine O'Gram

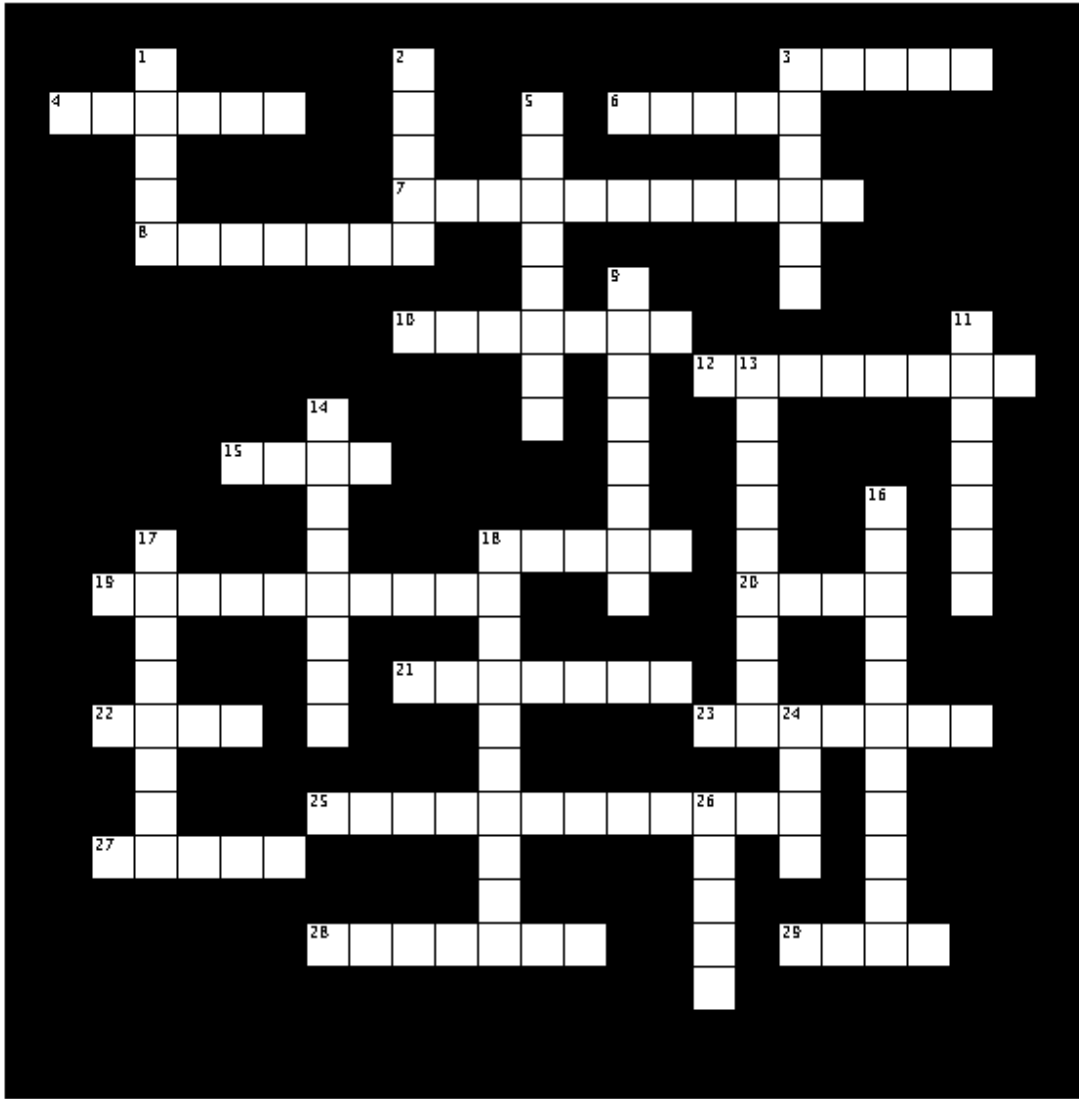
ACROSS

- 3 He said, "At the touch of love, everyone becomes a poet."
- 4 Montague and this Capulet
- 6 "I love you" in Spanish
- 7 She has written over 150 romance novels
- 8 Famous for a blue box with a white ribbon
- 10 "I'll never let go, Jack"
- 12 You can buy a card here
- 15 French singer known for her love ballads
- 18 Also known as Eros, or the son of Venus
- 19 Author of the Kama Sutra
- 20 Symbol of peace and love
- 21 This duke of Orelans holds the record for oldest known valentine
- 22 Sign of affection

DOWN

- 1 Playful teasing with no promises
- 2 Sinatra's "My \_\_\_\_\_ Valentine"
- 3 Style of writing sometimes to a lover
- 5 Traditional Irish ring
- 9 A Victoria's Secret speciality
- 11 A type of fungi or a candy with a ganache center
- 13 Goddess of passion and love

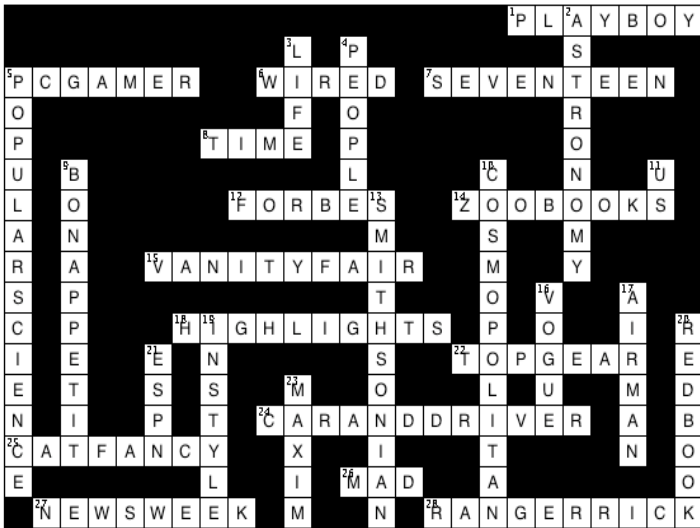
- 14 Shah Jahan built this building in honor of his wife
- 16 "Be Mine" and "Kiss Me" are common phrases
- 17 This ceremony happens 6,000 times per day
- 18 One of the most romantic movies of all time
- 24 21 U.S. cities named this
- 26 "Love" in French



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  
"Magazines, Mania, and Mayhem"

NO WINNER



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## HOUSING / ROOMMATES

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## HOUSING / ROOMMATES

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## HOUSING / ROOMMATES

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## HOUSING / ROOMMATES

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