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Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

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By Students,  
For Students



# THE AVION

TUESDAY  
June 3, 2008  
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A Division of the Student Government Association

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University · Daytona Beach, Florida

One Free Copy per Person

## Pershing Rifles charged with hazing

Jason Preston

Entertainment Editor

Hazing has a very broad definition: any action, voluntary or not, that is required to be taken to join or remain a part of an organization that may cause any harm to the participants. Some consider it difficult for a group to not haze its members during initiation, while others see it as a matter of what is acceptable and what isn't. The Pershing Rifles team on this

campus has been an organization for at least the past eight years. Any student was able to join, and did not have to be a cadet in any service of the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC). They participated in Color Guard duties such as raising and lowering of the National Ensign and the Captain's Call competition. The mission statement on the National Society of Pershing Rifles website is as follows: to aid in the development of successful officers in the Army, Navy, and Air Force, to foster camaraderie and esprit de corps among

all three ROTC programs, to further the purpose, traditions, and concepts of the United States Army, Navy, and Air Force, and to give civilians an opportunity to be part of a military organization without a formal commitment to the military. Embry-Riddle's Pershing Rifles team, E Company of the 16th Regiment, had 22 members and received the Best Company award for 2007-2008. During an interview with Catherine Downes, Associate Dean of Students, much of the situation as a whole was discussed. Few specifics, however,

were divulged, because judicial hearings are confidential and fall under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) guidelines of nondisclosure. What was made known was that the actions of those involved could have left the participating members seriously injured. This includes verbal, sexual and physical harm. The President and Vice President of the organization were asked by the Avion to provide their opinions, but no response was given. Aaron Clevenger, Director of Student Activities, said "while I can't go into the specifics of the case I do believe the sanctions against Pershing Rifles are fair and balanced. I believe the sanctions go a long way in showing that the university will not tolerate hazing because it is inappropriate. Practices such as excessive physical force, kidnaps and the use of blindfolds and duct tape have no business in any of our student organizations." Clevenger was involved in the hearing of the case and sanctions placed on the Pershing Rifles organization. After an 11 hour hearing, it was found that the group was not allowed to continue as an organization on the Embry-Riddle campus for two years. In addition to this, their off-campus bank account was frozen and funds from the group will be used as part of



BRIAN ASBURY/AVION

a support for an anti-hazing program in the fall semester of this year involving presentations of national speakers and trainers. In order for Pershing Rifles to be reestablished, it must adhere to the following guidelines: the organization will fall under the jurisdiction of the ROTC detachment on campus, a new advisor will be selected, and the organization must contain only new members. Similar organizations such as campus Honor Guard do not have to follow the same requirements.

Please see "PERSHING," page A2

### DISCOVERY LAUNCHES KIBO



PHOTO COURTESY BEN COOPER

**SPACE SHUTTLE DISCOVERY THUNDERS** away from Pad 39A at Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral Florida. In the cargo bay is the second of three components for the Japanese Kibo laboratory. It is the pressurized lab module and also the largest component of the International Space Station.

## EcoEagles tackle green car challenge

*University engineers look to reduce the Ecological impact of cars*

Press Release

Embry-Riddle Aero. Univ.

Daytona Beach, Fla., May 22, 2008 – A team of faculty and student engineers from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the EcoEagles, has been selected to participate in EcoCar: The Next Challenge, a three-year competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, General Motors, Natural Resources Canada, and other sponsors.

One of only 17 U.S. and Canadian teams selected for the prestigious competition, the team of engineers at Embry-Riddle's Daytona Beach, Fla., campus will have the opportunity to create innovative solutions to reduce the impact of automobiles on the environment and on energy dependence.

The EcoCar Challenge seeks to advance the level of vehicle technology capable of reducing petroleum consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, while demonstrating the real-world perfor-

mance of a range of technology options.

The Embry-Riddle team will use GM's global development process to integrate cutting-edge hybrid system technology into a 2009 Saturn Vue provided by GM.

Many of the students and faculty on the EcoEagles team benefit from their experience as the two-year reigning national champions of the SAE Formula Hybrid international competition.

The hands-on multidisciplinary project is advised by faculty from the departments of mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, computer and software engineering, aeronautical engineering, and engineering physics: William Barott, Ray Mankbadi, Jack McKisson, Massood Towhidnejad, and Darris White.

More information on the EcoEagles team can be found at [www.ecoeagles.org](http://www.ecoeagles.org) and more information on EcoCar: The Next Challenge can be found at [www.ecocarchallenge.org](http://www.ecocarchallenge.org).

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the world's largest, fully accredited university specializing in aviation and aerospace, offers more than 30 degree programs in its colleges of Arts and Sciences, Aviation, Business, and Engineering. The university educates more than 34,000 students annually in undergraduate and graduate programs at residential campuses in Prescott, Ariz., and Daytona Beach, Fla., through its Worldwide Campus at more than 130 centers in the United States, Canada, Europe, and the Middle East, and through online learning. For more information, visit [www.erau.edu](http://www.erau.edu).

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Entertainment

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# Tribute to Sam Goldman

Press Release  
**Mary Van Buren**

Daytona Beach, Fla., May 28, 2008 – Dr. John P. Johnson, president of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and Dr. Richard Heist, provost, was presented a posthumous honorary doctorate to Samuel M. Goldman on Saturday, May 31, at a private ceremony in the University's College of Aviation atrium. The 11:30 a.m. tribute was followed by a luncheon.

Goldman's daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and Roger Schwarz, accepted the degree. Also attending the ceremony were Gregory Schwarz (Goldman's grandson and an Embry-Riddle alumnus), his wife, Angela, and their children, Sydney and Alec; as well as Daniel Schwarz (Goldman's grandson), his wife, Michelle, and their children, Michael and Jessica.

Sam Goldman, who died in 2007, started Chesapeake Airlines

in 1947, one of the earliest airlines in the United States. It was eventually purchased by the Du Pont family and evolved into Allegheny Airlines, the forerunner of US Airways. In 1949 he founded Chesapeake Airways Service Corp., one of the largest dealers of used aircraft parts in the country. Throughout his working career of more than 50 years, he donated aircraft and parts to museums around the nation, including the Smithsonian Institution.

"Sam's initial connection with Embry-Riddle began in 1965," said Bob Rockett, dean of the University's Heritage Project. "He was flying a Cessna 310 from the Bahamas when he lost an engine. He landed in Daytona Beach, where he met Embry-Riddle's first president, Jack R. Hunt."

Goldman, who advised Hunt on aircraft acquisitions and issues facing the aviation industry, was impressed and humbled that he could count the "president of the finest aviation school in the world" as one of his friends. When asked to help the University, he generously donated several airplanes, whose sale generated over \$1 million.

In recognition of his relationship with and contributions to Embry-Riddle, the Samuel Goldman Center/Aviation Maintenance Science Complex was named as a tribute to him in the mid-1970s. A special place of honor will be dedicated to his memory in the Aviation Maintenance Science department in the University's new state-of-the-art Aviation Complex.

Other Embry-Riddle faculty, staff, and guests who attended

**Sam's initial connection with Embry-Riddle began in 1965**

-Bob Rockett

# Pershing Rifles under the gun

□ **"PERSHING" from FRONT**

"They tried to be too much like a military training group, not a student organization," said Downes. "Exercises conducted in the military have teams of specialists ready in the event of an accident. The students involved believed they had taken the proper precautions for their activities both on- and off-campus."

pus since the members agreed to partake and no one was severely hurt." It was unknown if the group conducted "excessive exercises" to maintain the fitness standards of military services, but those who participated affirmed that it was to instill camaraderie and an experience to prepare members for the military. There were no charges put against the Pershing Rifles outside of those put on them by the university.



# Embry-Riddle Captures 2007-2008 Commissioner's Cup

Press Release

**ERAU Sports Info.**

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. – The Embry-Riddle Athletic program won seven regular season titles in 2007-08 en route to capturing the Florida Sun Conference Commissioner's Cup. The honor, which recognizes the league's most successful all-around athletic program, is the ninth straight for the Eagles.

The Cup points are awarded in descending order to the eight FSC members based on regular-season standings in the 15 conference sports; eight for first

place, seven for second place, and so on. In addition, one bonus point each is awarded to both the men's and women's basketball tournament champions. Total points are then divided by the number of sports sponsored by each institution to get the overall scores.

The Eagles won team titles in men's and women's cross country, men's soccer, baseball, men's track and field, men's tennis and women's golf. ERAU also posted top three finishes in men's basketball (2nd), women's tennis (2nd), women's track and field (2nd), women's soccer (3rd) and volleyball (3rd) to finish with a

7.00 average.

Savannah College of Art and Design was second with a 6.54 average after collecting team titles in volleyball and women's tennis and runner-up finishes in men's and women's soccer, softball, men's tennis and women's golf.

Northwood won the men's and women's basketball regular season and tournament titles, as well as the women's soccer crown to repeat its third place finish from a year ago with a 5.82 average. Webber International (5.70), Warner Southern (4.73), St. Thomas (4.05), Florida Memorial (3.50) and Edward Waters (3.50)

rounded out the standings.

Since the league's inception in 1990, only five teams have captured the Commissioner's Cup, formerly known as the All-Sports Trophy. Former FSC member Nova Southeastern took home the honor five times (1992-93, 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97, 1998-99), while St. Thomas claimed the cup in 1993-94 and 1997-98. Webber International (1990-91) and Flagler (1991-92) each earned the award during the first two years of the conference when the league was known as the Florida Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.



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## Employee Health Awareness Day



BRIAN ASBURY/AVION

**TWO WEEKS AGO** THE University held an event to promote awareness of healthy lifestyles for employees that included vision testing as seen above. The event included activities for the employees such as volleyball matches, chair massages, bingo, and ping pong.



# Student Government Association

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

## Recycling program to triple in accessibility

**Bryan Dietz**  
SGA Vice President

After only five months of operation, the campus recycling program, sponsored by the SGA and Facilities, will more than triple in size, adding four recycling dumpsters, one hundred recycling bins and new products that will be able to be recycled. The program will expand from solely the Residence Halls to all campus buildings and athletic fields on the Daytona Beach Campus.

The program is expanding after a strong start in the Residence Halls and through the direct concerns from faculty, staff and students, which have spawned an intense review of the recycling program. The recycling evaluation conducted by the SGA

aided Facilities as they have decided to add four recycling dumpsters around campus. The dumpsters will go behind the ICI Center, Corsair Hall, and Canaveral Hall as well as near Spruance Field.

The dumpsters are strategically placed to enable every building on campus to have accessible recycling options. Each dumpster is located within walking distance of buildings, providing accessible recycling disposal for custodians. The Spruance Hall dumpster will not only serve the Student Center, but will be placed in an accessible manner to allow off-campus students the option to recycle their items on campus. The convenient location near the former transformers of the building will allow students who may not have recycling available off-campus

the option to bring their recyclables to campus, becoming more responsible students.

Campus recycling will be able to accept all recyclable materials now, including glass. Glass was previously not able to be recycled but will soon be able to be accepted. The addition comes as a result of Waste Management's expansion of the Single-Stream recycling system in Florida. This system, which the campus utilizes, allows for all recyclable material to be placed in the same recycling bin as Waste Management separates the recyclables for the University. While an official acceptance date is not available on glass, the SGA will be sending out a campus-wide memo alerting the campus when glass can be accepted.

The largest opportunity for

recycling is expected to be involved with athletics and intramural sports. Typically, many athletes and students use plastic sport drinks or water bottles that had no option of being recycled. The recycling evaluation revealed that nearly 70 percent of trash bins near athletics and intramurals contained recyclable materials, indicating the largest chance for growth. Silver recycling bins will be placed adjacent to sporting complexes in the coming weeks.

50 tall, silver recycling bins will begin appearing in the next week in all campus buildings and sports complexes. The bins are made from 30 percent recycled material and offer a cost effective way to recycle. The locations of the bins have already been decided based upon anticipated need.

If needs shift or estimates are altered, the lightweight bins are able to be easily moved.

There are also 40 to 50 "household" bins that are being donated courtesy of the City of Daytona Beach. These bins will be placed inside departments and offices for individual and shared use. The bins are intended to continue to bring convenience to faculty, staff and students who choose to recycle. The distribution of the bins is yet to be determined but will soon be released by the SGA and Facilities.

The program also brings fiscal savings in addition to environmental benefits. The program is beginning to see savings as trash bins are consolidated, expensive recycling totes are eliminated and more waste on campus is recycled. Recycling is roughly 66 per-

cent cheaper than placing recyclables in the trash bin. This translates into saving student fees, allowing Facilities to better spend fees on campus projects. The savings are now in the thousands of dollars.

The program expansion comes from direct concerns and suggestions from faculty, staff and students on what the University is doing to become more responsible with our waste products. The SGA is taking every suggestion and looking into options such as solar panels and biofuel technology to be utilized on the Daytona Beach Campus.

If any student, faculty or staff member has any questions on the recycling program, they are encouraged to contact Bryan Dietz at (386) 226-6095. You can also email [sgavpres@erau.edu](mailto:sgavpres@erau.edu).

## When the suggestion box gets questions, our students get answers

**Ankit Nanda**  
Dir Internal Affairs

By now all of you have probably seen the mysterious black boxes with "SGA Suggestion Box" written on them. The Student Government would first like to thank all of those students who have given us valuable input, which has led to some changes on campus for the benefit of the students.

So you have now contributed a valuable suggestion to your Student Government. Where does that information go from there?

Every two weeks the suggestion boxes all over campus are checked and all the suggestions are collected and time-stamped. The suggestion is then reviewed by the SGA and the appropriate committee in the SGA looks further into taking appropriate action. The student who put in the suggestion is contacted and kept up to date regarding the situation of the suggestion.

The following are some of the recent suggestions that are

allowing us to help you build a better campus life and a better university experience:

Chick-Fil-A is coming soon to campus and so is Starbucks. This was brought about due to requests for a wider variety of food to be available on campus. The decisions were made based on various surveys that were conducted by the SGA.

We have received various suggestions/comments regarding the laundry rooms on campus. The SGA is currently looking into this matter. Most of the issues with the laundry room have been related to particular washers or dryers not functioning properly. If there is ever any issue with any particular machine, we request that you note the number for the machine and report it either to us or housing, in order for us to get the corrective action taken as soon as possible. Also, if the machine is not working and you require a refund for it, you can fill out a form online via ERNIE. This option is available only to students who live on-campus. Using the same system, you can also report

inoperative machines.

We have also received some requests for getting machines installed in the laundry room for the transfer of Eagle Dollars or a change machine. This issue is currently being evaluated. An alternative to physically having to be in front of a transfer machine for Eagle Dollars after school hours would be to go online and put the money on your Eagle Card using the option available on ERNIE.

One suggestion that was received recently by the SGA was to have some sort of a common place to have people sign up for carpooling. The SGA website is being worked on currently and we are looking at the possibility of having a page there allowing students to sign up online and contact other students for carpooling.

All of your suggestions are extremely valuable and we appreciate the time and effort that you take to help us improve the college experience for you.

In the meantime, find the closest suggestion box to you and help us improve the experience even more.

## Forum winners explore Orlando International



PHOTO COURTESY NATHAN MULDER

**SEVEN STUDENTS ATTENDED THE** tour of Orlando International Airport's Air Traffic Control facilities. You can have an opportunity to match them if you are one of the first five Air Traffic Management students into the SGA Office.

**Nathan Mulder**  
Student Representative

During the last two semesters, the Student Representative Board (a branch of the Student Government Association) held two amazing College of Aviation forums called "SOARING: Tower to Sky." At these events the SGA gave away free food provided by Moe's, had aviation professional speakers from Orlando ATC and jetBlue Airways, provided a chance for students to learn more about the College of Aviation, and best of all, gave away prizes. One of the prizes given was a tour of Orlando International Airport's air traffic control facilities. Students who won got the chance to get a free tour of both Orlando International's tower and the Orlando Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON).

Meeting early in the morning, students were welcomed at the SGA office with free breakfast and then got into the new SGA van and headed off to Orlando. Upon arriving at the tower facility, students were met by their guide and led upstairs to the tower cab. Students got to learn more about the cab and got to ask controllers questions for about 20 minutes before getting a chance to go outside on the catwalk at the very top. After getting the tour of the tower cab, students headed to the Orlando TRACON for a 30 minute tour. At the TRACON, students learned more about what each position does and even got a chance to test their skill in the practice TRACON simulator. Following the TRACON students had time to ask any remaining questions before heading back to Daytona Beach.

Your SGA is proud to

announce that we are giving away another tour of Orlando's facilities this summer! If you are a College of Aviation student with a minor or major in Air Traffic Management, you are invited to reserve your spot to get a tour of these amazing facilities on Friday, June 20, 2008. Space is limited to the first FIVE people (first come, first serve) that register their names at the SGA Office in the Student Center. Please come and register your name as soon as possible, as spots will fill up quickly. The last day to register will be June 10th, 2008. Students who receive a spot to tour the facilities must be US citizens with a valid State-issued license and MUST be enrolled in the CTI-ATC program here at Embry-Riddle. If you have any questions, contact Nathan Mulder at [mulde870@erau.edu](mailto:mulde870@erau.edu). We'll see you soon!

## It's summer allocation time with the SFB!

**Angeline Ranieri**  
SGA Treasurer

With the long hot days of summer upon us, the Student Finance Board (SFB) is not taking a vacation from serving the students involved with Clubs and Organizations on campus for the summer. Our summer allocations began the first day of Summer A classes. Based on enrollment

numbers for the Summer A and B terms, the SFB will have a small amount for Clubs and Organizations. Your club can apply for funding by logging onto the President's Blackboard Tab and downloading a Summer 2008 Budget Packet. All Budget Packets must be submitted electronically to [sgatres@erau.edu](mailto:sgatres@erau.edu). The SFB will review your club's Budget Packet and get back to your club/organization within

two weeks with the amount that you have been allocated. Summer Budget Packet submissions are rolling through July 25th, 2008, and will not be accepted after this date. All summer receipts will be due by 5:00 p.m. on Aug. 8. If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail your SGA Treasurer at [sgatres@erau.edu](mailto:sgatres@erau.edu) or stop in the SGA office and someone will be happy to answer any questions.

## THE LOOP - What's Happening Around the SGA

### Important Dates for your Club/Organization Summer 2008:

**May 8:** Summer 2008 Budget Packets available on President's Blackboard.

**May 8-July 25:** Budget Packet will be accepted and allocations will be made.

**August 8:** All receipts due by 5:00 p.m.

**IT'S A HOT SUMMER, SO STAY COOL IN THE LOOP!**

# Discovery brings 'Hope' to ISS



ANDREW ZABACK/AVION

**MEDIA AND VIP PHOTOGRAPHERS** capture Space Shuttle Discovery from the Saturn V Center at Kennedy Space Center. Discovery will spend 14 days in orbit docked with the ISS with three planned space walks. This is Discovery's 35th flight.

Andrew Zaback

Space and Av. Editor

Space Shuttle Discovery thundered off from Launch Complex 39 Saturday to deliver a new component of the International Space Station. The pressurized laboratory made by Japan, called Kibo, is currently in Discovery's cargo bay. Kibo is the Japanese word for hope.

During the ascent, five pieces of foam fell off of the external tank after the 135-second mark of the climb. Teams are currently investigating as to whether or not the two pieces that impacted the shuttle caused any serious damage. Further photographs will be taken during the pitch maneuver before docking with the space station. The photos will be sent to Earth where they will be closely examined for damage.

Early investigations of footage shot by cameras onboard the external tank show that the foam fell off late in the ascent. This means that the foam could not gain enough velocity to seriously damage the thermal protection tiles on the underside of the Orbiter.

Ignoring the foam falling off, officials at NASA are satisfied with the performance of the external tank. This was the maiden flight of the combined inline external tank. In other words, two major modifications of the tank were made during production as opposed to postproduction changes.

The first change was the switching of material of the feed line brackets from aluminum to titanium. Brackets made from titanium have proved to have better thermodynamic properties and require less foam. The second change was the insulation of fuel lines from foam to a spray on material, lessening more of the required foam on the tank.

Officials at NASA are very satisfied with the overall progress of the mission to bring Kibo to the ISS. All planned events are happening on schedule, with some even being moved up a day.

Comparing Saturday's launch to previous missions, less foam has been lost in critical areas on the external tank and shuttle thermal protection system. A decrease in total mass lost has also been recorded. Discovery is landing June 14 at 11:02 EDT.

## Chinese aerospace company to design new airliner

*New aircraft will rival Boeing 767 and Airbus A310*

Jason Preston

Entertainment Editor

Currently the two leading competitors in the commercial aerospace industry race are Boeing and Airbus. Each company has a wide range of aircraft, depending on the needs of the airlines and certain military forces. Now after China's new civil aircraft company, Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China, (CACC) had success with its ARJ21 regional jet, they are now out to create their own large airliner.

The proposal specifies the

aircraft must carry more than 150 passengers and a take-off weight of more than 200,000 pounds. This brings the design to roughly the same size as a Boeing 757 or 767 and Airbus A310. The project began the planning phase in early 2007 and the company hopes that it will be based on two designs: the CS2000 and CS2010, which are comparable to the 767 and A320, respectively.

However, there are many obstacles still in the way of the project. First, the technology gap faced between the CACC and Boeing and Airbus. Much of China's technology is Soviet and Russian-based, but designers hope for a flight test to be ready by 2018 and first commercial-worthy aircraft flying by 2020.

Financial factors also may restrict the time tables for the

development phases. CACC's capital per year is equivalent to \$2.7 billion, which is not enough to maintain its current state of affair; and support the development and production of a mainline commercial jetliner.

There is also the possibility of prospective buyers in a market that favors the larger names of Boeing and Airbus. It will be difficult for the company to create an economical aircraft that can prove itself better, let alone in the same league as its Western and European competitors.

Project designers are confident that they will meet their deadlines and be able to seal the deal with both international and domestic airlines. It's a daunting task none the less and in the face of the 787 and A380, China is confident that its aircraft will better suit the needs of potential buyers.



Aviation briefs brought to you by



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### Thielert engine owner group forms

By Paul Bertorelli

The German law firm overseeing the bankruptcy of Thielert Aircraft Engines says it can't consider the interests of owners, but is instead focused on paying off creditors and getting the company to break-even status. But a Diamond aircraft owner's group would like to change that by banding together and becoming Thielert's largest single creditor. (Thielert owes hundreds of owners on warranty claims and owners are, technically, creditors.) The Thielert Engine Owners Group is being organized by Todd House, whose company bought a DA42 six weeks ago for use in the emerging air taxi business. He's flying demonstration flights now, but hopes to begin service sometime in June. House told us Thursday that his airplane has 60 hours on it and there's "no way" he can afford to pay Thielert's high prices for required gearbox inspections due at 300 hours. House has five more DA42s and on order, plus positions on Diamond's D-jet, due for delivery next year. He's contacting owner of Diamond and other aircraft with Thielert engines to form a block of creditors. Owners of Columbia aircraft pursued a similar strategy to get their warranties re-instated. Contact House at todd.house@flyyourjet.com.

### Austro Engine: will it save Diamond?

By Paul Bertorelli

Located in the same industrial complex south of Vienna alongside Diamond Aircraft, Austro Engine is furiously gearing up to build new aerodiesel engines that will eventually replace Thielert's troubled Centurion line. At the Berlin Air Show this week, Austro displayed the AE 300, a 2-litre powerplant that's an evolutionary improvement over the same Mercedes-Benz engine Thielert used for its Centurions. Austro is working with MBTech, a Mercedes Benz daughter company, to develop the four-cylinder engine and certification is "imminent" according to a report in Flight Global's Flight Daily News this week. Like the Centurion, the AE 300 is a turbocharged, direct-injected diesel engine with high-pressure, common rail technology. But it has 165 HP rather than the Thielert's 135 HP. We're told that the engine has the same relative footprint and is being specifically designed to fit Diamond's DA40 Star and DA42 Twin Star. Austro will have to overcome several technical problems that have dogged the Thielert engines, chief among them is the requirement to inspect and/or replace the engine's gearbox at 300-hour intervals. Since it runs at the same RPM as the Thielert, the Austro has a reduction gearbox but the Hor Technologie-developed gear set is being initially fielded with an

1800-hour TBO. Further, unlike the Thielert, the Austro has no clutch, but uses a dynamic damper to insulate the prop and gear train from the diesel's sharp power pulses. The Centurion line also encountered cooling system faults that caused cracked cylinder heads. Fuel specifics for the Austro are said to be 20 percent better than the Centurion line, a claim that's consistent with the engine's performance in the Mercedes A-Class economy sedan, which delivers as much 56 MPH on the highway.

The burning question that beached Diamond owners have is: when? Marcus Hergeth, Austro's managing director, told Flight Daily that first deliveries are planned for October of this year. It's not known what production levels are planned. If Austro's plans pan out, they may complicate short-term efforts to revive Thielert Aircraft Engines. Because Diamond represents the majority of new engine and parts business for Thielert, investors may be reticent to recapitalize a company whose market is overhung by a major competitor who is also a customer. Diamond and the company assigned to oversee Thielert's insolvency, Kubler, have engaged in a bitter war of words over how to restore engine and parts flow to Diamond customers. Last week, Kubler published new parts prices that Diamond called "abusive" and it announced that Thielert would no longer honor its warranty commitments. Meanwhile, more of Diamond's customers go AOG each day as engines come due for gearbox and engine replacements.

## Phoenix lands on Mars

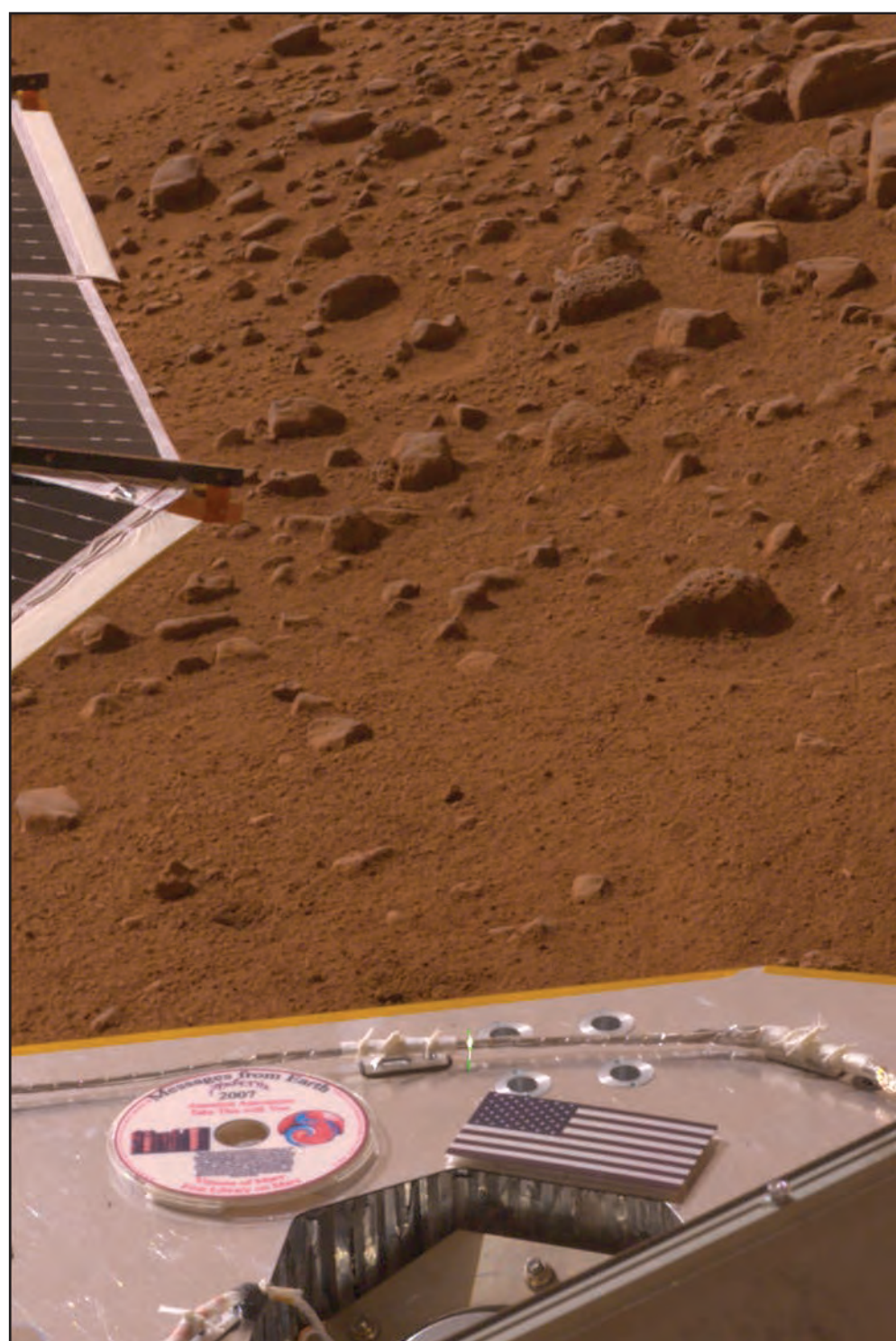


PHOTO COURTESY NASA

**THE PHOENIX MARS LANDER** touched down on the Martian surface on May 25 at 7:53:44 p.m. EST. The lander is expected to remain in operation for three months in the polar region of the planet. Phoenix will examine ice under the surface and take weather data.

## Delta 2 to launch GLAST telescope

A Delta 2-Heavy rocket, with slightly larger solid rocket boosters than a typical Delta 2, is scheduled to launch NASA's Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope (GLAST) from Launch Pad 17B at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. As of press time Sunday, launch was targeted for Thursday; a launch team meeting Monday morning was to determine if open issues were cleared for launch or else delay it further. Please check [www.SpaceflightNow.com](http://www.SpaceflightNow.com) for updates on the launch.

The launch time on any day is 11:45 a.m. with a launch window lasting till 1:40 p.m.; however, the window will shrink to between 60 and 75 minutes once fueling of the liquid oxygen is conducted in the hours before liftoff.

### Launch Viewing Information

Viewing of Delta 2 launches is best conducted from the Jetty Park pier, which at just 2.9 miles from Pad 17B is the closest public rocket viewing location for any launch. The 1,200-foot pier can hold a couple thousand people. The drive from Daytona takes about 70 minutes.

**Directions:** Take I-95 south 55 miles to Exit 205 (The Beachline, Rt. 528) EAST towards "Canaveral: Cape-Port-AFS." Stay on for about 15 miles. There are two exits for Port Canaveral; the first is a big blue sign marked terminal A and the second is a big green sign marked terminal B. Take the second exit, the GREEN sign for B/South terminals. Go left at the light on the exit ramp. You are now on George King Boulevard. Take this road to the end, which is the entrance to Jetty Park. There is a \$5 cash parking fee. Park and walk to the very end of the pier for the best view, where trees no longer block the rocket and pad.

NET June 5  
Delta 2  
NASA's GLAST  
Gamma-ray telescope  
Launch window:  
11:45 a.m. - 1:40 p.m. EDT

July 16  
Delta 2  
Next GPS satellite  
GPS 2R-20  
Launch time TBA

NET Sept. 9  
Delta 4H  
Classified NRO sat.  
Launch window TBA

# Stand Up!

The media let everyone down with Mich. and Fla.

Well, after a year stint as Editor I am now back in the saddle writing this column. For those of you who have not read Stand Up in the past, I for the most part try to talk about political issues of the day that are not always seen on the main stream media. This week I will stray into a hot-button issue, but I try to spread my attention out evenly across the political spectrum

On Saturday the Democratic National Convention's (DNC), Rules and Bylaws Committee (RBC) decided the fate of the rule breaking delegates from Michigan and Florida. After arguments levied by both supporters of Sen. Clinton and Sen. Obama, the committee voted to seat both state's delegates, with each one carrying half a vote.

This decision ends, (well only if the Clinton camp does not appeal at the convention in August, which they threatened to do on the spot) nearly three months of political pandering by the Clinton campaign. The entire dramatic episode has been one the Senator from New York has used as a delusional rallying cry to show why her campaign is still viable. Shouts of "the Democrats are undemocratic," or "Obama isn't standing up for the people

of Florida and Michigan," or "how can you alienate and not count 2.3 million votes," have been par for the course whenever Clinton or her supporters



Chris Tezak  
Columnist

get on the stump.

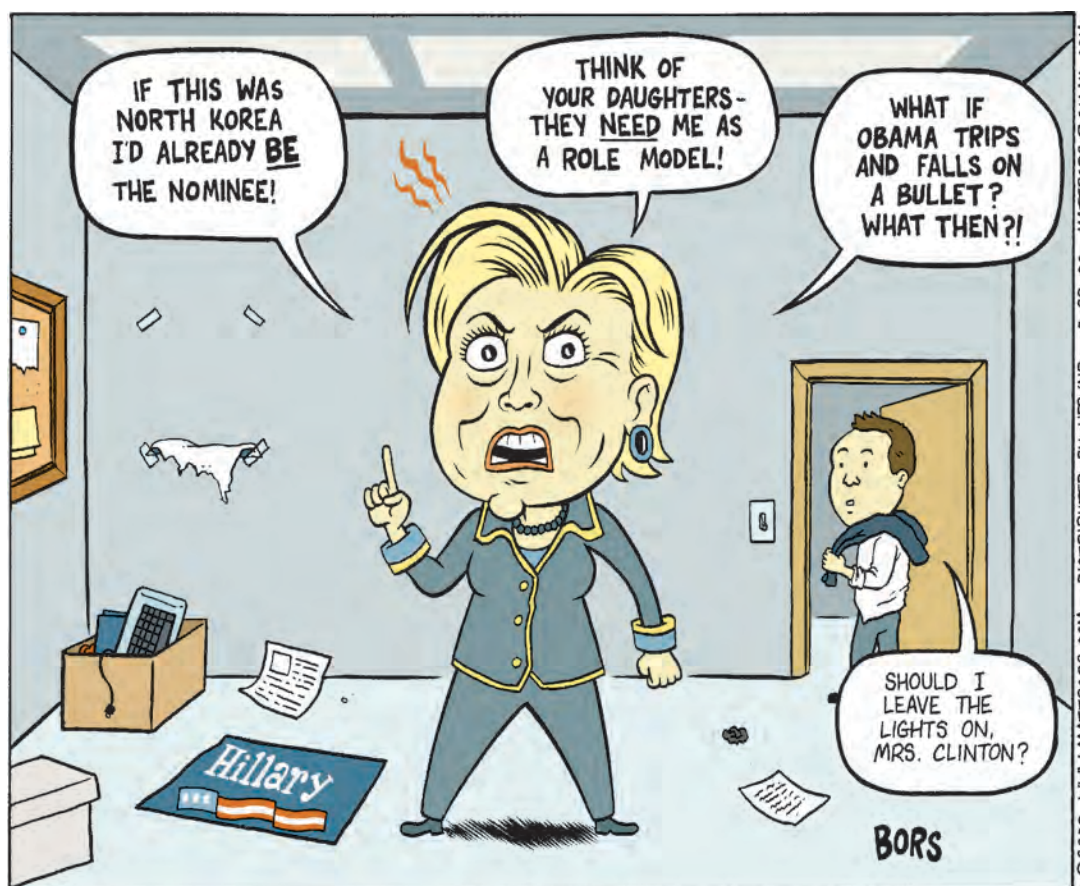
It is a sad thing really. Regardless of the circumstances, both states broke rules set down by their governing body. Rules both candidates agreed upon before any elections began, and one candidate, only after discovering they were going to lose, decided maybe it wasn't such a good decision. In both states, Sen. Obama followed the rules and mandates set forth by the DNC and is now being penalized because he did the right thing. And for this fact, it is amazing the Obama campaign is willing to make any compromises on the

matter, which they openly said they would, and have.

And here is where the sad part is, where was the media to grill Sen. Clinton on her original support and then damnation of the DNC? They have instead fed into this line of reasoning and created a large following of people who think the only solution would be to seat all the delegates of both states, as they voted on their primary days. This idea/solution, which many of her supporters say is the only democratic option, laughs in the face of democracy. They are basically saying, "we want our candidate to get all the votes in a state where the people did not even get a chance to vote for the other candidate because he followed the rules." Well I guess no one said politics made sense.

If the Clinton camp, after getting a reasonable compromise on the situation, take this issue all the way to the convention, it will be obvious that the Senator from New York does not care about the people she claims she is fighting for, or the Democratic party. She will show her true colors, as a power hunger narcissist, hell bent on doing nothing but looking out for herself and fracturing a party.

# MATT BORS



## Student treated horribly by school admin.

A horrible story of a Riddle Student being treated horribly by the school's administration has recently been occurring, away from the eyes of most of our students. Antoinette Miller, who recently walked across the stage at the Ocean Center, has been involved in a judicial turned criminal fight with the school, all stemming from what would seem like a simple incident on April 20.

Miller was sitting on her motorcycle in the O'Connor Hall Fire Lane, when she decided to move it to the motorcycle parking lot behind the Student Village. Because her bike is lowered, she had to move it over the sidewalk. One of our Safety Officers, Randy Collins, saw her do this and confronted her. He seemed to understand at first, but when Miller failed to produce her student ID or any government ID, and gave him a bit of an attitude, Officer

Collins had her trespassed from the university by the Daytona Beach Police Department. This raises the first issue with our Safety Department. Why are we trespassing students who pose no threat to the university.

Keep in mind, this was before school ended. Because of this, every time Miller came onto campus for class, food, to study or take finals, she was violating the trespass order. This led to further confrontations with Officer Collins, who at one point chased her around campus on foot for a half hour to make sure she left. At one point, the Safety Department had their officers, along with the DBPD patrolling for signs her motorcycle. The students I have talked to feel that this is not only a waste of student tuition dollars, but of taxpayer money also.

Miller's judicial fight has not been easy either. Miller said "I

have never been talked to or treated this way in my life." Miller went on to further say that she feels that she is being treated like a second class citizen. This is mainly the result of her interactions with Associate Dean of Students Cathy Downes and New Director of Safety Paul McGuinness. Dean Downes has painted her as guilty from the start, at many points refusing to work with her to resolve the situation so she'd just graduate and go. Dean Downes has even had horrible dealings with Miller's mother on the phone.

This all boiled over last week, when Miller violated the trespass order once again, coming to campus to sit with a Career Services counselor for advice on negotiating salary. The safety department essentially stormed the meeting, and had Miller arrested. The large issue here was how they went about this. It seemed to remind wit-

nesses of a Super Troopers incident. Director McGuinness and other safety officers were seen laughing and celebrating when Miller, a student, was handcuffed in the back of a patrol car. McGuinness even shared a high-five with another officer, Mitch Widham.

I am not saying that Miller is completely innocent. She has a mouth, and an attitude, but that seems to be the only reason that the school is essentially trying to ruin her life by giving her a criminal and judicial record. She violated the trespass order on many occasions. She had to however, to pass finals and to graduate, which as soon as she gets the grade for her co-op paper, she will. What is appalling is Dean Downes' response to Miller's question about if the school expected her to pass her finals if she obeyed the order. Dean Downes responded something to the effect of: It is not

the university's responsibility to give students an opportunity to pass their classes. Yes, you read that right. My response to this: Why does every non-professor have a job? I can only think of one thing, TO HELP STUDENTS SUCCEED HERE!!

Since the arrest, where Miller was released about 20 minutes after she left campus, she has only been allowed to talk to the school's legal office, and the school has gotten ready to hold her honor board hearing. As we approach this hearing, some things need to be done. First, Dr. Johnson needs to realize that incidents like these are the reason that we have a 1-2 percent alumni giving rate. When the school tries to hurt someone who wants to consider this school their home, they won't give you money. Next and most importantly, no one who was previously involved in the case

needs to sit on the honor board, especially Dean Downes. We all know what her vote is going to be from the way she talks to Antoinette, so why should she already have a biased vote against her going into it. I can hope that as a result of this situation, our safety department takes a look at its practices and the school a look at treating its students fairly. As a person familiar with the judicial process of the school, I know for a fact that students who have endangered the lives of other students have been slapped with warnings and community service, and not even removed from the residence halls, let alone trespassed from the campus. It seems that because they lied and apologized with a smile on their face, rather than caught an attitude, all was forgiven. That just isn't the way it should be.

Anonymous

## Student Forum

The Avion asks: "What country would you like to visit for this summer?"  
-Compiled by Matt Goldberg



Wesley Clapper  
Junior  
Aerospace Engineering  
"Myanmar, helping the people in need."



Nick Sementelli  
Senior  
Engineering Physics  
"Japan,"



David Gutierrez  
Sophomore  
Aerospace Engineering  
"Colombia"



Devin Allen  
Junior  
Air Traffic management  
"France."



Abhishek Chowdhari  
Sophomore  
Aeronautical science  
"India."



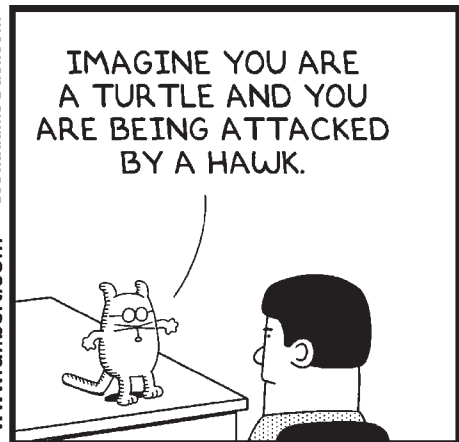
Matt Ellengold  
Sophomore  
Aerospace Engineering  
"Mars."

Yes we are still here this summer and yes we are still taking your opinions.

Submit your opinions online at  
[www.avionnewspaper.com](http://www.avionnewspaper.com) or e-mail them to  
[theavion@gmail.com](mailto:theavion@gmail.com).



## Kurrent Klyde



# F MINUS

# SUDOKU

## SIMPLE

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## INTERMEDIATE

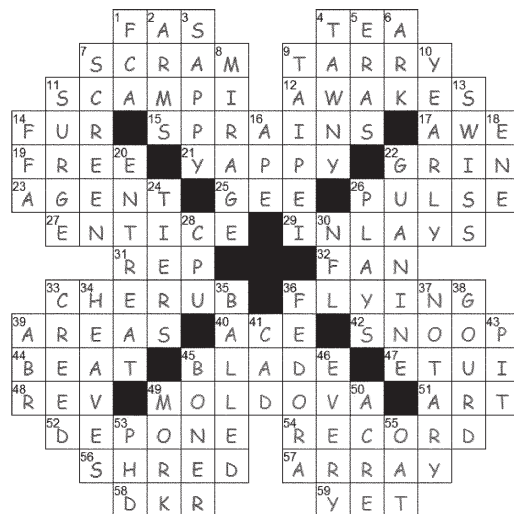
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Dog ancestor
  - 5 Flying fox
  - 8 Diamonds
  - 11 Ring-shaped island
  - 13 Ms. Gabor
  - 14 Currently
  - 15 Happy-hour perch
  - 16 Fiasco
  - 18 Klutzes
  - 20 Goes first
  - 21 China neighbor
  - 23 — out (relax)
  - 24 Large vase
  - 25 Medea sailed on her
  - 27 Yen
  - 31 Small, in Dogpatch
  - 32 Waterproof
  - 33 Area of London
  - 34 Playwright — Simon
  - 36 Kind of sax
  - 38 Hit sharply
  - 39 Bohemian
  - 40 Large chunk
  - 41 Mister in Bombay
  - 42 High-tech scanner
  - 44 Murkiness
  - 46 Goolagong rival
  - 49 Next in line
  - 50 Rightfully
  - 52 Social blunder
  - 56 Give — — break
  - 57 Provide help
  - 58 Scarlett's mother
  - 59 California fort
  - 60 Get the drift
  - 61 Soap bubbles
- DOWN**
- 1 Did exist
  - 2 New York
  - 3 Old card game
  - 4 Wax target
  - 5 Flower plantings
  - 6 Wide st.
  - 7 Kind of wine
  - 8 Cuzco founder
  - 9 Frosty
  - 10 Meadow browsers
  - 12 Pack animals
  - 17 Auspices
  - 19 Orient (2 wds.)
  - 21 Thorny shrub
  - 22 Dark
  - 23 120 or 240
  - 24 Arm bone
  - 26 Impudence
  - 28 Human trunk
  - 29 Mesmerize
  - 30 Arizona tribe
  - 35 Brand of spandex
  - 37 Do a favor for
  - 43 Globe substitute
  - 45 Ph.D. exams
  - 46 "Blondie" kid
  - 47 Swerve
  - 48 Old-time oath
  - 49 London park
  - 51 Deceive
  - 53 Kind of vaccine
  - 54 Gave food to
  - 55 Annapolis grad

### Answer to Previous Puzzle



Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books from Quill Driver. Call 800-605-7176.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	
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### HOUSING / ROOMMATES

**Room for rent in Palm Coast**  
Room for rent in 4 bedroom 2 bath, 2,400 sq. foot house in Palm Coast. \$350 per month plus half utilities. Very nice area in P section. Available in April. Email Brian at [brian.asbury@gmail.com](mailto:brian.asbury@gmail.com)

**Large intercoastal home**  
Large efficiency apartment in historic Daytona Beach, beachside, intracoastal home. Private entrance all utilities (includes cable and internet), house priviledges, close to Embry Riddle \$550.00/month. Call 386-453-1913

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Spacious, luxurious 2br/2bth condo in Ponce Inlet's Harbour Village, huge oceanview balcony, fully furnished, lots of amenities including golf, tennis, pools, saunas, marina, beach and fitness clubs. Available for rent June 1 at \$900/month plus security. Call: 386-689-2069. Email: HT-MaterialsLLC@gmail.com.

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4 Bedroom House, Two Rooms Still Available. New Kitchen, Study, Private deck With a Jacuzzi, Fenced Yard, Laundry Room, Cable and Internet in each Room. All Utilities included in rent. Double-Bed \$450. per Mon., Twin-Bed \$400. Per Month. No lease, Month to Month. 1 1/2 miles North of campus. Call Ron 386-235-2700.

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### HOUSING / ROOMMATES

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**Lookin Room for rent**  
Beautiful 2 bd/2bth Townhouse located 10 minutes from campus in new Port Orange community. Asking \$575/month. Price includes utilities and access to all common areas. Person should be clean and trustworthy. Call Aaron at (386)871-6432 or e-mail at [firestuff024@hotmail.com](mailto:firestuff024@hotmail.com) to Publix (386) 290-9054

**New Port Orange Townhome**  
Brand new spacious townhouse. Approx. 1700 S/F. Huge kitchen with hardwood floors. Living area downstairs with 1/2 bath. All bedrooms are upstairs with 2 full baths. Also includes 2 car garage, patio, new refrigerator, range, microwave, and dishwasher. On cul-de-sac with lot that backs up to conservation area. Close to Palmer, Embry-Riddle, malls, shopping and beaches. This place has everything you could need! Address: 2011 Yellowfin Drive, Port Orange, FL 32128. Please call Linda May (386-322-6400) and ask about James's townhome in Coquina Cove Villas. Thanks for your interest.

### HOUSING / ROOMMATES

**1B/1B beachside Seabreeze**  
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Beautiful house with pool 4 bedroom 3 bath t.V.Room, dining room,living room, kitchen nook, 3000 sqf living area. For \$2300/month must see available now, in spring meadows subdivision call for appointment sean 386-295-5686

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**House for Rent**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath home in LPGA for rent. Eat in kitchen, dining room/office, laundry room w washer/ dryer, 2 car garage, patio. \$1250 per month plus security deposit. 386-441-8411 Pat

**Bungalows of Port Orange**  
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Roomates for 4 bedroom house. Two Bedrooms available, new kitchen, study, private deck with jacuzzi, cable w/internet, fenced yard, All Utilities Included. Room with double bed \$450 per mon. Room with twin bed \$400 per mon. Call Ron (386) 235-2700.

### HOUSING / ROOMMATES

**Roomate needed**  
Room available in 3br/2bth home on nice lake 10 minutes from campus in Port Orange. Freshly painted, new s/s appliances in kitchen, new w/d, large patio on lake, 2 car garage for storage. Rent includes hd cable, internet, lawn service and all utilities except electric. Non-smokers only please. Two other tenants are single female professionals. \$600/mth plus deposit. Call David @727-641-5980.

**\$500 includes cable and water**  
This is a 3 br/ 2 ba house with big yard. Owner live in this property and is looking for anyone who can afford the rent and like to live in a quiet, clean and peaceful, no pet, no drugs situation. Please call (702) 379-9565 or email. [y1924325@yahoo.com](mailto:y1924325@yahoo.com)

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### HOUSING / ROOMMATES

**House On River**  
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**91 Chevy Camaro RS V8**  
1991 Chevy Camaro RS V8 w/ 119100 miles. The car runs great but needs a few items: radiator has leak, new battery, new window motor for passenger door (Door panel already removed. Was going to fix myself.) There is some cosmetic damage but it is a well running car. Asking \$1200. Call Carter @ 386-214-5497.

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7053A ~~\$49.95~~ \$9.95



Pilot's Flight Log & Record  
8120A \$9.95



Sporty's E6B Flight Calculator  
E68A \$59.95



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Peter Richardson  
Entertainment Editor

Indiana Jones is one of the most distinctive characters in motion picture history. His instantly recognizable opening theme, combined with the fedora hat and always-available whip, easily brings us back to when we first met the unorthodox archeologist called Dr. Jones. Nostalgia combined with years of familiarity has earned the three classic films a warm place in the hearts of most of the movie-going public. Therefore, it is certainly a challenge to see the new Indiana Jones movie and rate it without an unfair bias clouding my thoughts and always trying to compare this new Indy to the memories and moments I have from the old ones, as opposed to the actual movies themselves.

This latest, brand new adventure brings a now older Indiana Jones out of pseudo-retirement in order to defend the free world against a communist Russian mind-control scheme. Little can be said about the plot without giving away major story spoilers, but suffice to say that this story is a typical globe trotting

Indy-esque tale.

Harrison Ford returns to play the iconic Indiana Jones and also returning is Karen Allen as Marion Ravenwood, Indy's love interest from the first film. Both Ford and Allen still look great in this movie and Ford in particular looks just about as good as he did nearly 20 years ago when the last film was made. Coming along for this ride is Cate Blanchett as the Russian femme fatale, Shia LaBeouf as the new sidekick, John Hurt as a Crystal Skull expert and Ray Winstone as Mac McHale, one of Indy's old friends. Overall the cast does an excellent job reading the typically ridiculous Indiana Jones lines and performing well even in the action-intense and computer generated scenes. You can feel the magic on the screen between the characters as soon as the film starts rolling; clearly everyone involved is pretty excited to be resurrecting this franchise and continuing the legacy.

Director Spielberg and story-maker Lucas took great pains to make this movie in the image of the others and even used a camera lens from "The Last Crusade" to film "Kingdom of the Crystal Skull." While this is good news for those who

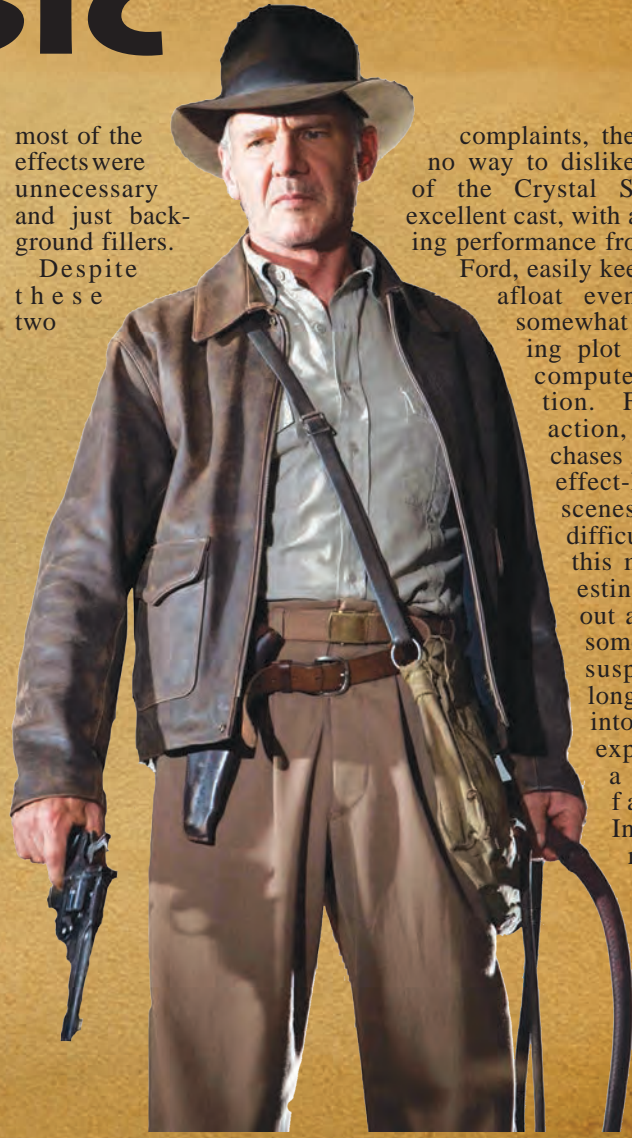
love an old-fashioned adventure movie, it is bad news for those who want something more than just fun in a film. It is pretty obvious that if you did not enjoy the three original movies, you will not enjoy "Kingdom of the Crystal Skull" either. That being said, you do not need to see the original movies to still appreciate this action-packed thrill ride.

As great as the nostalgia feels, this movie is not without its problems. First of all, as the movie progressed I just couldn't help but feel that the plot kept getting more and more ridiculous. To be fair, I am not sure if the Crystal Skull story is any more silly than a Nazi-killing religious object, a small Indian town saved by a set of rocks or a knight who lived in a cave for 500 years and then saved Sean Connery's life, but it sure feels like it is. Secondly, although large portions of the film were shot on location and live, there were still large amounts of computer-generation. In general I am not opposed to computer generation, especially if it keeps movie creation costs down and allows smaller movies to be made. But in this case I thought the computer effects brought down the movie, especially when

most of the effects were unnecessary and just background fillers.

Despite these two

complaints, there is really no way to dislike "Kingdom of the Crystal Skull." The excellent cast, with an age defying performance from Harrison Ford, easily keeps this film afloat even over the somewhat silly seeming plot and excess computer generation. Fast paced action, fun car chases and sound-effect-laden fight scenes have no difficulty keeping this movie interesting throughout and creating some fun movie suspense. As long as you go into this movie expecting just a good old-fashioned Indiana Jones movie, nothing more and nothing less, then there is no way you will be disappointed.



## Prince Caspian delights fans of all ages

Peter Richardson  
Entertainment Editor

"The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian" is the latest blockbuster in Disney's fantasy Narnia movie adaptation series. Bigger, faster and more exciting than the first film, "Prince Caspian" has many good qualities about it. Unfortunately, "Caspian" also has a few minor flaws that prevent this film from being a real summer standout. Despite these faults there is easily enough magic in "Prince Caspian" to be an enjoyable popcorn movie for all ages.

Set one year after the events of "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe" for the main character children but 1300 years later for the land of Narnia, "Prince Caspian" has a slightly different feel to it than the first film. As noted somewhere in the film dialogue and trailer, Narnia is a "much more savage place now," with larger dark forests taking up most of the scenery and big bloodshedless battles occupying most of the movie time.

The film follows the tale of a young Prince Caspian who must run away from his evil uncle who plans to kill him and claim the throne of Narnia. Alone and kingdomless, Prince Caspian must raise an army and (with the help of the four London children) retake Narnia for its mythical creatures who have been exiled. The tale is epic through and through with large battles and huge action sequences spliced together with mythical beasts and giant talking Jedi-sounding lions.

The only issue with this movie's story is that the pacing seems slightly off. Some parts of the movie feel they take too long and other, more important parts, feel forced and rushed together at the end of the movie. These pacing issues are in no way going to ruin the movie but they do stop "Caspian" from really surpassing its predecessor.

"Prince Caspian's" filmmakers do digress from the source material much more noticeably this time around. In

an attempt to flesh out its main characters for the big screen, the screenwriters attempted to add some more depth to the main character personalities

and from the normal life of London and the fantasy-like life of royalty in Narnia. The only emotional dilemma in the original tale

While this faith crisis is still a major theme, in the film each of the four main children also have their own emotional baggage to deal with and eventually overcome. The filmmakers even added a slight romance into the story saying that two teenagers so near each other were unlikely to not feel something after fighting for and saving Narnia together. While by the end of the movie these additions sort of worked, the progression of the character's feelings through the story did feel a bit forced and out of place in the mystical and near-perfect world of Narnia, where no one but the kids seem to have any real emotions at all.

As with the last film, the sets, costumes, effects and music were all quite well done. The darker theme to this tale was ever-

present in the grain of this movie and everything from the trees to the dwarves had a darker and wilder feel to them. Though still not at "Lord of the Rings" quality, "Prince Caspian's" trim and glitter were all serviceable enough not to ruin the movie in any way.

In all, "Prince Caspian" is quite an enjoyable Disney movie. The few flaws in the film's speed and characters fall to the wayside when up against the majesty and excitement of the summer blockbuster's pure entertainment value. While certainly not an Oscar contender for anything but special effects, "Prince Caspian" does entertain in the way only summer popcorn flicks can and is easily worth the price of admission. The only issue I see for "Caspian" being a very successful movie is that Disney unfortunately released it on the weekend in between the release of Marvel's "Iron Man" and Paramount's "Indy IV," both of which were much more highly anticipated by moviegoer's than this Narnian tale.



from film start to finish.

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## Sex and the City movie huge disappointment

Sex and the City



Jason Preston

Entertainment Editor

I truly haven't been looking forward to this review. The movie wouldn't come out until the Friday before the Sunday production of The Avion and I was genuinely pleased at this notion, so that I could review something that everyone would enjoy like "Prince Caspian" or "Indiana Jones." Unfortunately, my colleague Peter already called dibs on both of those. Even worse, a friend of mine took the liberty of posting on my Facebook Wall that I was going to watch it. Well, a few girls from back home saw this, and drove up to Daytona just to watch the film with me because they were fans of the HBO series. So my only escape from the 142 minutes of inane

story telling was destroyed.

To help me get acquainted with the story, my fan-girl friends decided to have me watch a few episodes and the Season 6 finale, which was the last episode. I admit I didn't like the series, maybe because I didn't understand the point of it all. Then I made the realization that my fan-girl friends' minds have been destroyed by watching too much bad television while I've been spoiled by more complicated and interesting programs like Star Trek: The Next Generation. I just noticed I'm two paragraphs in and I haven't even started talking about the movie "Sex and the City", so without any further digressions: "Go Team Bad Movie! Go!"

The plot of whole movie can be summarized as this, the main characters have set plans, they change their minds, and then they go back to the original plan except for one of the characters. The oldest woman of the group of questionable forte, Samantha Jones, only completes half of her mission objectives. "Ha ha

ha" says Jason as he laughs at his own first person shooter joke. The entire movie just seemed



like an hour and a half episode of "Sex and the city" which takes place after the last episode to quell all the fan fiction that's been posted on the internet since the series ended four years ago. It would have been a good special on HBO, but not a cinematic premier. The main character Carrie Bradshaw gets married to Mr. Big. That's his name...

I wish I was bloody kidding. Actually that's a lie, they don't get married till the end and the whole reason they get married is so that Carrie doesn't feel like Big is controlling her life since he's buying her a new home. I guess the logic is that married life will legally mean she controls him. Maybe

it's that rather than have an ending where the characters grow with experience, they just seem to do everything in their power to protect the status quo. The other two characters, Charlotte and Miranda, aren't really important to the plot aside from they both don't like Mr. Big. The only usefulness they have is that Charlotte had a baby and

Big taking her to the hospital reunites Big with Carrie.

There are a myriad of explanations that I could point out that show why so much is bad in the movie. If you pay attention to the credits, you notice that it was directed by the same man who directed much of the series, Michael Patrick King. Nominated for several Emmy awards for your work have you? No? Well shush then. It's not that he's a bad director, it's just that he made the movie too much like an episode seen on your television screen which defeats the purpose of seeing it on the big screen. Speaking of big, it's revealed that Mr. Big's true name is John James Preston. It seemed almost like an insult that such a depthless character would share the same last name as my own, but I didn't mark off any points for it.

A review of the movie "Sex and the City" will probably almost always be a brief one since the events don't lead to any major break-through in the plot or the characters for that matter.

It wouldn't be any different if you fell asleep after the opening of the movie and awoke right at the end of the film; you'd be none the wiser since you missed very little of anything important. The characters seemed quite content with being completely indecisive until the climax of sorts when Charlotte has her child, which is why this film lasted an hour and a half rather than the 30 minutes of a regular episode. This was a film for the fans, and if you aren't one, you probably won't appreciate anything about it. Then again, you'd have to be a die-hard Sex and the City fan, like you have a portrait of the cast in your living room and picture of Sarah Jessica Parker as your desktop background on your computer, to even like what the movie offered. As for me I'm going to finish watching last week's Battlestar Galactica to help suppress the memories of this movie and the events that transpired that evening. Now where are my Diddy Donuts and some frackin' chicken nuggets?