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Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

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THE AVION

An award-winning newspaper by students for students

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July 7, 1993

Sliwa receives surprise anniversary party

By Bob Davison
Staff Reporter

Keeping a secret can be tough, especially when it involves many people.

But this time it worked. Kept a secret for more than a month, a surprise ceremony was indeed a complete shock for President Sliwa last Thursday.

At noon sharp, President Sliwa headed for the John Paul Riddle Student Center for what he thought was just another average day.

What he saw upon arriving in the student center were several of the University organizations prepared to honor him for work he has done the past two years.

Even Sliwa himself said, "This totally caught me by surprise. I felt very honored and touched that they were honoring me for my work. I am very appreciative to all for this, and thank them very much."

The Student Government Association (SGA) was the backbone for the ceremony said Jeff Williams, SGA President.

Williams further added that it was originally Robert Rockett, Dean of Student Affairs who set all of the wheels into motion.

Fittingly, it was Dean Rockett who spoke first stating that since President Sliwa started here, many great advances have taken place.

Dean Rockett went on to honor President Sliwa by saying, "He quickly realized that the University should be more student-oriented, or as the President would say, more customer service oriented."

One of President Sliwa's first ideas on this matter was to appoint a Vice President for Student Life who would work on the improvement of student life and on student retention.

At the same time President Sliwa hired the consulting firm of Wolpert to develop a master plan to identify space for additional recreation fields, classrooms, and student life areas.

President Sliwa's ideas and vision for the future are perhaps the elements that will guide the University into the 21st century.

As Dean Rockett said, "The important themes the President has identified for the 21st century is the exploitation of technology by introducing distance learning and telecommunications projects." Rockett added, "This will greatly enhance the University's operations and significantly expand our capability in offering improved educational experiences."

Jeff Williams honored President Sliwa by saying, "He is very committed to improving our job placement of graduates, and is dedicated to staying in touch with alumni because of their input on issues which concern the University."

Williams further added, "He has redefined the term 'vision' by making the University a part of everyone else's vision of the future."

As the University heads into the 21st century, President Sliwa is determined to place or position the University on the right track to give the students of the future an even more exciting and challenging environment to learn.



President praises President

SGA President Jeff Williams (top left) awards University President Steven Sliwa, who was made an honorary SGA member, a T-shirt depicting what he could do on his vacation. Various groups and organizations threw President Sliwa a surprise party, to show their appreciation for the job that he has done. Part of the festivities included a cake (right) decorated with the image of the University's eagle mascot.



SPACE lab opens with ribbon cutting

By David Gass
Editor in Chief

Recently, Embry-Riddle has opened a brand new computer math lab for students who may have trouble with their classes. However, this new math lab is no ordinary one.

The Embry-Riddle computer SPACE (Self-Paced Academic Computing Environment) math lab will be a self-paced atmosphere with computerized assistance which should help solve complex problems that a student might have, according to Professor Jan Collins of the math department. Collins is a math professor for Embry-Riddle and helped make the idea of a new computer math lab a reality.

The math SPACE lab officially opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony on June 9. The ribbon was cut by Dr. Sliwa; Collins; Melissa Harper and Kerwin McKenzie, both employees of the math department.

The lab was constructed in A106 between the end of the Spring semester and the beginning of the Summer A semester.

The idea of a computerized math SPACE lab came about two years ago when an increase in the failure rate and a decrease in the success rate was becoming more apparent, according to Collins.

The math department decided that students would benefit from a computerized math lab which would give them extra help outside of class.

The idea of the math SPACE lab was based on the new Student Success Center that began last year.

The lab is meant to help those students with trouble in math by helping them get up to speed by minimal tutoring and special computer programs.

The SPACE lab's purpose is to let the student work on their own level and be evaluated on what math class they should be in.

In the future, incoming freshman and transfer students will use the SPACE lab to take their placement tests.

Currently the math SPACE lab which requires access by a SPACE lab card, consists of 16 computers with Microsoft Windows and are networked to the "C" building.

The lab has over 300 video tapes on various forms of math such as calculus and algebra. Students can also check out computer software for the lower math levels such as MA 005 and MA 006 which can help them to work at home. The SPACE lab also has two video monitors with headphones to watch at the lab for convenience.

The lab currently consists of three math programs. They are Maple, the McKenzie Mathematical Interface for Testing Students (MMIST), and the Compass programs. The Maple program is meant for calculus students and can create 3-D illustrations on the computer as well as a printout.

The MMIST program was designed by Kerwin McKenzie, a



Assisting with the ribbon cutting are (left to right) Melissa Harper, Dr. Sliwa, Kerwin McKenzie and Jan Collins.

student at Embry-Riddle. This program includes an interface between the computer and the user. The professor can make up questions on the computer to test students.

Finally, the Compass program is for incoming students to take their placement tests. Students are placed in their appropriate class based on their performance.

In the Self-Paced program, students must score at least an 80 on

their tests or they will have to return to class.

If a student scores above 80 on the test, he or she can take the test again or keep their current score. Students are encouraged to work together with the math SPACE lab staff.

The goal of SPACE is to provide the conditions for optimal learning on a person-by-person basis, according to Collins.



All University vehicles will have these yellow "college" tags, resulting in savings of thousands of dollars.

Yellow license plates cause University to see green

By Bill De Brauwler
Managing Editor

What started as an inquiry into those yellow college license plates has resulted in savings of \$2,500 per year for the University.

The decision to ask about the license plates began when Mike Nickell, the physical plant director, during a meeting at Palm Beach Atlantic University, noticed that their vehicles had the distinctive yellow license plates.

Such license plates are usually reserved for public institutions like law enforcement and public schools, colleges and universities. Palm

Beach Atlantic University, however, is a private university.

Nickell believed that private universities, such as Embry-Riddle, could not qualify for what the state of Florida calls the College Tag Program, which would allow the University to benefit from tax exemptions.

According to Sheila Tamm, the physical plant administrative secretary and the woman who spearheaded the inquiry, officials at the Department of Motor Vehicles both in Daytona Beach and Tallahassee were not sure either if the University

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News in brief...

Movie of the Week

Touch 'n Go Productions will be showing *National Lampoons: Loaded Weapon 1* Friday at 8:45 p.m. in the student center.

Attention kite flyers

It has been suggested that if there is sufficient interest that a kite club be formed on campus to promote kite flying and get together for flying sessions and eventually, demonstration shows. The initial investment can be as low as \$25. For the "stunt" enthusiasts a "training kite" would be provided initially. After

that, the sky is the limit. If interested, please contact Mr. Richard Moore by a note in his mailbox in the AMT office or leave a message at 226-6768.

Blood Drive

There will be another blood drive on Monday, July 12 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The blood drive will take place in the Student Center Conference Room and will be sponsored by the Sigma Chi Fraternity. Those who donate will be entered in a drawing for a free ride in a 1942 Spearman biplane.



Northwest Airlines gets more time for talks with unions to delay filing for bankruptcy.

see Aeronautica, page 6



NASA uses the F-15 aircraft for research to improve performance of cruising and maneuvering.

see Space Technology, page 5

THE AVION
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University



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Newspaper

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Staff Commentary:

Who really watches commercials?



David Gass
Editor in Chief

on the air, but what is their true purpose? Common sense tells us that commercials want us to turn off the television set and go to their store and spend some money. What I really love is when some big time celebrity tells the television audience that they should buy this product because it would change their lives. Are we the viewers really supposed to believe these people actually support these products? They do it for the money, not because they love brand X orange juice! If I was paid a couple million bucks for reading off a cue card, I would probably do the same thing. The majority of commercials on the airwaves are mostly annoying and plain idiotic. For example, the other day I turned on the television set and I saw a commercial about a car dealer and his dog named "Buster" on an adventure. Who cares? If I wanted to buy a car at a local dealer, I certainly wouldn't buy it from one who has delusions of being Indiana Jones with his faithful sidekick, Buster.

On another occasion, I was flipping through channels like any normal male does, and I came across a Slim Jim commercial. Randy "Macho Man" Savage (a wrestler) tears down a wall and tells some kids to snap into a Slim Jim. Oh brother. All I wanted to do was find a good show to watch and I have to put up with this. What did I do to deserve this? In the past, there have been many complaints about males switching channels all of the time. A major reason why males are known to constantly change the television station is that we are too impatient to wait for our favorite show to return. Can you really blame us? All we want to do is avoid those annoying commercials and see what all the other thirty or so television stations are showing. So we annoy everyone else who is in the room watching television, but hey, we get plenty of exercise of the metacarpals! There are a few good things about commercials. The most important is

snack time, of course. The television program fades to black and a dreaded commercial comes on. You think to yourself "what am I going to do in the next two minutes? Then all of a sudden, your stomach growls and you know what to do. You jump out of your seat and run to the refrigerator (not that I ever do this...well, sometimes) to make a quick snack. It doesn't matter what it is, as long as it takes up the time of a station break. Now you are all set until the next commercial break comes around. Of course not all commercials are all that bad. There are some that raise public awareness and there are even a few amusing ones such as the Tim Allen commercials (arrgh!) for Builders Square or the commercials with Michael Jordan and Bugs Bunny going for the jam against Marvin the Martian. So, even if most commercials are boring, there are some that we can watch instead of picking up the faithful remote control and go station zapping.

Letters to the Editor:

Thank you

To the Editor:
On behalf of the Edward Parker, Jr. family, I would like to thank everyone who donated money, clothing and household goods to them after they lost their three year old daughter, Lisa Marie, in a fire two weeks ago. Your donations have really helped this family get back on their feet and they appreciate it very much. A special thank you goes out to the Dale Woodward Funeral Home for donating the funeral and casket, to Bellevue Memorial Gardens for donating the cemetery plot, to Story's Flower Shop for donating the casket spray, and to Tom's Hairport (ERAU) for the generous monetary donation. Thank you all again. Your kindness will not be forgotten.
Linda Johnstone
SGA Secretary/Treasurer

of ERAU when Ryan discovered the University on his own while still in high school. Although Ryan was always a caring and considerate kid, he had also been rather carefree and often more interested in fun than responsibilities. When he first described the school to us, I think we both wondered about his determination and ability to stay with what looked like a very rigorous four years of highly technical training so far away from home. However, Ryan was determined to pursue his "childhood dream" of being a commercial airline pilot and soon proved himself by commencing private pilots training in Bluffton, Ohio, in the spring of his senior year. Despite some unusual difficulties at ERAU during his first semester, Ryan still managed a very good grade average and upon his return home for Christmas, we could both sense change beginning in him. In the two weeks at home at the conclusion of his first year before the accident, it was quite clear that his year at ERAU had been a very positive influence. Ryan had matured and grown into a very responsible and oriented young man who now had the confidence and determination to achieve his goals. It was also clear to us that he loved his time at ERAU and was greatly looking forward to returning this fall and for the next three years to complete his degree. Ruthe and I are very grateful to have had a glimpse of the man Ryan was going to turn out to be from the teenager that left here a year ago. That glimpse, together with our knowledge of Ryan's own Christian faith and belief in God, gives us both much peace with him now. Because ERAU was so important to Ryan we included many of his college items in his funeral service, including his beloved "ERAU hat," his solo flight T-shirt and, of course, see Letters, page 8

A final farewell

Editor's Note: This letter was passed along from Dean Rockett from the parents of Ryan Williams who passed away last month.
Dear Mr. Rockett,
Several weeks now having passed since Ryan's death last month, Ryan's mother, Ruthe, and I wanted to let you know how much we both appreciated the concern, calls and support we received from ERAU beginning with the beautiful flower arrangement sent to the funeral home. Although many of the details of the accident and funeral service have now been published in your student newspaper, we wanted to let you know some of the special things that occurred regarding Ryan and ERAU. Neither Ruthe or I had ever heard

Commercials. Why are they here? What is their true purpose? To sell the general public on how good their products are and why we, the consumers, should buy their product? That's probably true, but there is also probably something subconsciously hidden in commercials to make us television zombies. That's right, commercials are out to get us (or at least our money)! What have we done so wrong that deserves the punishment of putting up with idiotic and demeaning commercials on the television set while waiting for our favorite show to continue? Of course we all know that these commercials pay for air time which helps the local television station stay



Bill De Brauer
Managing Editor

My cable company has done it again. Whatever little respect I had for them is now totally out the window. If you are one of those unfortunate many who have to subscribe to TCI Cablevision, I am truly sorry for you. I too am one of the many sufferers. When TCI realigned its cable channels a few months ago, however, I saw a glimmer of hope. Lo and behold, there on channel 12 was The Learning Channel (TLC). For those of you who don't have cable, or just switch between FOX and MTV, TLC is a channel that actually broadcasts educational programs, which is very similar to the

Discovery channel. I was elated. When there was nothing showing worthwhile on other networks, I was always assured that something interesting would be shown on TLC. They also broadcast programs that other networks won't touch. I don't think you will see open heart surgery, down to its finest details, on the Family Channel. Well, I should have known. It seems anything TCI touches does not turn to gold, but quite the opposite, if you catch my drift. To my horror, when I tuned in to channel 12 several weeks ago, instead of seeing that slick Englishman in bellbottoms with the answers to everything on Connections, I saw a pay-per-view advertisement for The Mighty Ducks. Thinking that this is just a fluke, and that it would go away in a few minutes, I waited for a little while. I was wrong. You see, I had momentarily forgotten that I was dealing

with TCI Cablevision. Being the sensible and understanding person that I am (or like to think I am), I decided to give them the benefit of the doubt. Wrong! After three weeks of watching the same five minute clips of The Mighty Ducks and A River Runs Through It, I had enough. Armed with a cordless phone and my witty repertoire, I decided to give them a call. The conversation went something like this: "TCI Cablevision, can I help you?" the woman at the other end of the phone said. "Yes, why are they showing pay-per-view ads instead of The Learning Channel?" I asked. "Well, when we realigned the channels, we were going to use channel 12 as our pay-per-view advertising channel, but since our system wasn't up and running yet we just aired The Learning Channel instead," she joyfully informed me.

I joyfully asked why they didn't air the ads on channel 11, which doesn't seem to broadcast anything anyway, except some community announcements and a few homes for sale. I don't know of anyone that sits in front of his or her television and watches a few hours of channel 11. I also mentioned that one of the reasons this country is going to hell in a hand basket is that companies like TCI decide to pre-empt educational broadcasting for The Mighty Ducks advertising. I can see why other developed, and even some underdeveloped nations laugh at our educational system. Having no answer to my comments, she said that I should write a letter to the manager, telling him that I want my TLC. "Let me ask you," I said, "how many of these phone calls do you get each day?" see Cable, page 8

Student Forum

The Avion Asks: What does the Fourth of July mean to you?



Mike Peshock
A.M.T.

"A good time to be with friends."



Tony Schmidt
Aeronautical Science

"The right to live my life as I see fit."



Kellene Gaetaniello
Aeronautical Science

"American independence and a day to remember all who have fought for the United States."



Akiyo Nakajima
Aviation Technology

"Not being an American, it is interesting to observe the American independence day."



Robert Proctor
A/C.E.T.

"To remember the founding day of the greatest nation in the world."



Heidi Sundmand
Aviation Business

"A day to celebrate our independence and feel patriotic with every American."

ERAU safety department goes beyond call of duty

By Bob Davison
Staff Reporter

There is more to the safety department here at the University than meets the eye.

Since the first safety officers unlocked doors in 1965 to open the campus, most of their duties have gone unnoticed throughout the years.

The Safety Department has been the underlining force of continuity for anyone who was or is a student, faculty, or staff for the past 28 years.

Most students take them for granted, teachers get angry when they cannot get into their offices, and most don't even notice the safety officers at all. But the safety officers who work here are quite committed to their profession of helping others.

There are only 18 full-time security personnel on staff, reports Mc Mannix, Director of the Safety Department. He admits that the task

of 24 hour protection of people and equipment on campus can become a challenging job to complete.

Mannix said "the security staff must be divided to work three shifts, seven days a week, 365 days a year no matter what. All holidays, birthdays, and yes, even Christmas and New Years must be worked while most people are home with their families."

It is this agonizing scheduling of personnel Mannix believes necessitates the security staff from time to time to endure back to back shifts.

"With only eighteen people to divide the shifts between, if one of the officers is sick or hurt, someone will normally volunteer to work that shift because we always have at least two safety officers on duty at all times," Mannix said.

It is this volunteerism that separates the campus security into a higher realm of staff personnel. "Most of the safety officers on staff to date

have gone far beyond the call of duty for the University" recalls Mannix.

The five sub-departments that make up the Safety Department are: Patrol, Crime Prevention, Environmental Health and Safety, Communication, and Locksmith. During an average day, more than 300 non-emergency calls will hit the phone lines at the communications sub-department in the John Paul Riddle Student Center (JPRSC).

One of the new features of this sub-department are the blue telephone poles. These emergency phones are located in four different places on campus and are tied directly to the JPRSC communication switch board. When used the phone immediately shows the location of the caller.

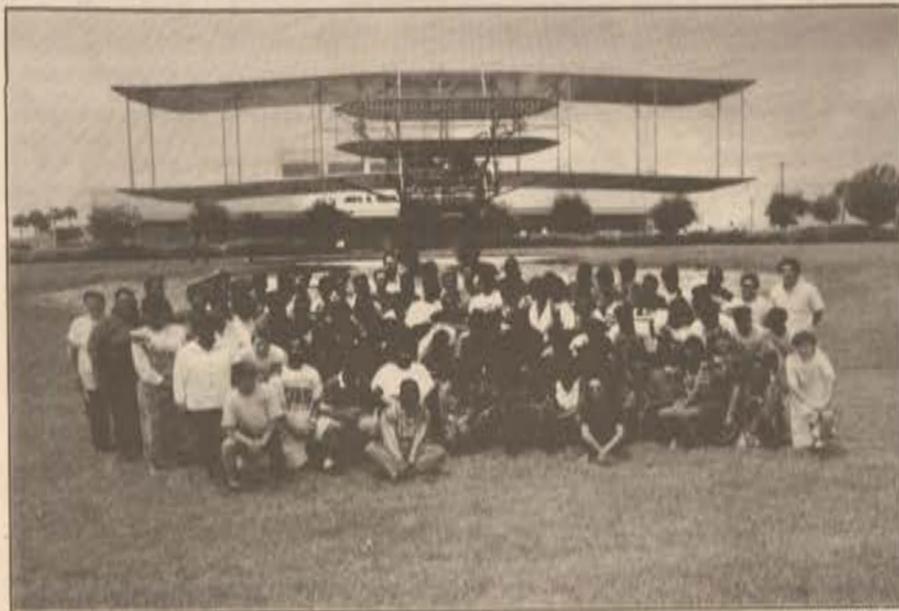
This new feature is one of the more noticeable ways that the safety department improves the quality of life on this campus.



Besides keeping an eye on the campus, safety officers also assist law enforcement officials during accident control and investigations.

Upward Bound program shows kids what college is really like

By Andrew St. Hilaire
Staff Reporter



The Upward Bound students are in a government sponsored program that guides and encourages them to make a better future for themselves.

Embry-Riddle is continuing to host Upward Bound which is a government sponsored nation-wide program this year. It runs year round on the weekends and continues into the summer for six more weeks of daily activities.

This year the summer session for Daytona Beach was kicked-off at the University's campus on June 20 with about seventy students from three local high schools.

Upward Bound is funded through the Department of Education in Washington, D.C. It serves children that are of the eighth grade through senior level of high school in an attempt to guide them towards positive thinking by exposing them to a university environment.

Since the program started in 1974 up to the present, statistics shows 98 percent of its seniors go on to college while the remaining two percent go into the military.

For the next five years the progress of these students is

followed and statistics show that Upward Bound students are among the more persistent at task completion.

A typical day for these kids includes attending classes, sports activities and disciplining. Other special activities include a career day, college day, a talk-show style seminar and a special Olympics at the University of Miami.

The seminar type debate session has been noted to be very instrumental in getting the students to openly talk about any problems that they are experiencing.

To maximize the benefits of disciplining as well as other vital aspects of the program, the students are housed in the on-campus dormitory.

When Upward Bound meets on every other Saturday during the regular school year, the students all

have tutoring sessions with various professors of the University.

The Upward Bound is one of about five summer programs being run at the Daytona Beach campus this summer.

Even though the Upward Bound program has received negative publicity in the past, it continues to progress upward bound in equipping the students with more than just survival tools for the future.

It has been said that these students are dedicated individuals who give up their summer break to be back in school, and are therefore motivated towards shooting for the stars and becoming successful.

Upward Bound beckons Embry-Riddle students to offer their warm gestures and encouragement to these young students and leaders of tomorrow.

Upward Bound students are ... persistent at task completion.

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College fraternities try to be more multicultural

College Press Service

The day may not be far off when beer-swilling fraternities and snotty sororities are things of the past. Greek life in America has been around for 200 years, and many say it is time to face the challenges of diversity and social responsibility.

According to Greek organizations, sororities and fraternities are enjoying a resurgence of popularity and are scrambling not just to improve their image, but to create new meaning for their organizations.

The nation's Greek system has doubled to 400,000 fraternity men and 250,000 sorority women in the past decade.

"We believe (fraternities and sororities) are still around because they've adapted to a changing environment, and there has been a lot of change on campuses in the past 10 years," said Jonathan Brant, executive vice president of the National Interfraternity Conference in Indianapolis.

After decades of charges of elitism, racism and scandals involving hazing and gang rapes, a new style of Greek organization may emerge in the '90s that is focused on social awareness and altruism rather than indulgent partying.

"It is clear through surveys that 63 percent of all students want to be

involved in helping others, they want to be involved with inherently valuable organizations. Fraternities have to make service more central to activities to attract the majority of students," Brant said.

"Students today are not interested in promoting the image of a big party group," said Bruce Clemetsen, Greek adviser at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash. "They want the positive experience that a fraternity or sorority offers, but they don't necessarily want the image of being in a frat."

Today's students are more open to change than ever before, he said, and diversity may have a long way to go, but it has a foot in the door of many sorority and fraternity houses in the United States.

The next decade may produce coed fraternities, sensitivity training sessions and an emphasis on community service over athletic prowess.

Several Northeastern universities have already dropped segregated fraternities and sororities. For example, in 1990, Vermont's Middlebury College dropped fraternities and created Greek-named coed social clubs. The school has not had sororities since the mid-1960s.

"We had a concern for men and women sharing leadership roles, and we saw coed social houses as a way to prepare them for those roles," said John Emerson, dean of Middlebury College. "We believe that single-gender clubs are an anachronism from the past."

The new co-ed social houses, where male and female students sleep in separate wings or floors, were resisted by some of the fraternities, but for the most part, have been accepted by the student body, Emerson said.

"We have had a couple of groups that haven't gone along with the requirement for coed, and they went

underground, and one case is challenging us through the court system," Emerson said.

The college has cracked down on single-sex organizations off campus and students who ignore the rules are subject to disciplinary action. Emerson cited Colby College in Maine as another school that has banned single-gender social clubs.

Others, however, insist that single-sex organizations, most often fraternities and sororities, are important for the student during the college years.

"We faced a lot of resistance from our alumni to this change, and the national fraternities do not encourage this concept," Clemetsen said. "There's so much in that first semester that I couldn't imagine having to deal with rush as well."

While most of the nation's colleges and universities have not followed suit, many of them are encouraging Greeks to become not just tolerant of other cultures, but to appreciate them.

At the University of Central Florida in Orlando, the Delta Delta Delta chapter, a tradition-laden sorority with deep roots in the South, has 10 minority members out of 96.

Alpha Phi Alpha, an all-black fraternity at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, elected Jameson Moschella, a white student, as chap-



photo courtesy of College Press Service

Many college fraternities nationwide are trying to change their image and create a more multicultural atmosphere.

ter president last year.

But it's not a new development to Moschella, who said that some black fraternities have always had a few white brothers and just didn't publicize the fact. He didn't join APA to be politically correct, but because he felt at home, he said.

"When we recruit, we don't look for a certain type of person. They usually come to us. Black, white or

Hispanic, if you fit the qualifications, we want you," added Moschella, who attended a predominantly black high school in Miami.

Other fraternities and sororities are reaching out to minority students through presentations at freshman orientation, rather than waiting for students to seek them out in the old rush tradition.

"Fraternities have to make service... more central...to attract the majority of students"

**-Jonathan Brant
National Interfraternity Conference**

Student delegate program to bring students closer to SGA

By Jeff Williams
Special to the Avion

In the past, there has been a problem for students that want to be involved in the SGA. Either their degree program was already filled, or the student did not have the proper GPA to qualify. The President and Vice President pushed to get people involved, but there simply wasn't positions for them to join into. Yet, there is plenty of work for more students to do. So the SGA has developed a program to try to get more students involved, as well as take care of some of the tasks that the current reps don't have time for.

The student delegate program is designed to utilize the resource of students that for one reason or another do not qualify to be a representative based on degree program.

Any undergraduate student that is interested in being involved in the SGA by representing the student body. An undergraduate student with at least a 2.5 GPA, who does not owe money to the SGA may participate in any Student Delegate capacity.

A first semester student or a student with a 2.25 GPA or better may participate, but will be limited to serving on SGA committees and internal duties until a 2.5 GPA of can be established.

The number of Delegates that will be chosen will be based on the current need of the SGA as determined by the President, with the number of Delegates not to exceed

ten in any one semester.

Applications are accepted on a continual basis, but selection will not take place until all current degree program reps are assigned committee. Currently all student reps are on assigned committees and selections are now underway. The delegate will be appointed to a University committee by the SGA President.

The delegate will then become a member of, and attend, University committee meetings that representatives are unable to attend.

After all representatives have been assigned to their University committee(s), delegates will fill the vacant committee positions.

The delegate is required to attend the

assigned committee meetings according to the Student Representative Board Bylaws, and report the activities of that committee to the Student Representative Board every week that the assigned committee meets. The delegate may be asked to perform research and/or surveys, or other appropriate duties as assigned by the SGA President.

The delegates are chosen by the President, Vice President and the current SRB chairman based upon the following criteria: the willingness of the applicant to be in the SGA and the applicant's availability schedule versus the times of the committees that need to be filled. The names of the delegates that are chosen will be taken to the SRB for a vote of confidence. The delegates will also attend the SRB meeting for

the purpose of introduction.

Delegates will answer to the SRB Chairman. The SRB Chairman is responsible for making sure the delegates attend their respective committee meeting(s), and that they report to the SRB. The SRB Chairman will notify the SGA President if the delegate does not fulfill this obligation.

A delegate must hold that position for the entire semester in which he or she is chosen. At the end of the semester, the delegate may be asked to return by the President if the delegate has performed well, and the position is still available. The delegate may hold the position for the remainder of the year (with the President's approval), if their

see SGA, page 6

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President decides on *Freedom*

White House Press Release

On June 17 President Clinton made public his decision on the future of Space Station Freedom. The following are excerpts from the statement of the President.

At a time when our long-term economic strength depends on our technological leadership and our ability to reduce the deficit, we must invest in technology, but invest wisely, making the best possible use of every dollar. That's why I asked for a review of NASA's space station program. Concerns over rising costs and mismanagement raised serious questions about a program vital to our technological leadership. I instructed NASA to redesign the space station program in a way that would preserve its critical science and space research, and ensure international cooperation, but significantly reduce costs and improve management.

NASA has met that challenge, offering a plan that will substantially reduce costs to taxpayers, improve management, preserve research, and allow the United States to continue to work with its international partners and keep its international commitments. That was the conclusion of an outstanding panel of independent experts who carefully reviewed NASA's proposals. And, that is my conclusion as well, after thoroughly considering their report and recommendations. It will take not just a redesign of the space station, but a redesign of NASA itself.

To make maximum use of our investments and meet the scientific goals we have set, the specific design we will pursue will be a simplified version of Space Station Freedom recommended by the review panel. We will work with Congress, NASA and our international partners during the next ninety days to make the very best use of this design.

The redesigned program will capitalize on the investments we have already made. However, with deep cuts in future development and operations costs, this redesigned program will save more than four billion dollars over the next five years, compared with our assessments of what the real costs of funding the planned Space Station Freedom would have been. Over the two-decade life of the program, these savings will grow to more than \$18 billion.

There is no doubt that we are facing difficult budget decisions. However, we cannot retreat from our obligation to invest in our future. Budget cuts alone will not restore our vitality. I believe strongly that NASA and the space station program represent important investments in that future, and that these investments will yield benefits in medical research, aerospace and other critical technology areas. As well, the space station is a model of peaceful international cooperation.

NASA uses F-15 for research

By Mike Dienhart
Space Technology Editor

The specially-modified F-15 Short Take Off and Landing/Maneuver Technology Demonstrator aircraft, to be used by NASA for research, arrived recently at the agency's Ames-Dryden Flight Research Facility, Edwards, Calif.



NASA's F-15 is used for thrust research.

The Advanced Control Technology for Integrated Vehicles program will test how advanced thrust vectoring engine nozzle technology can improve the aircraft's performance during cruising flight or while maneuvering. Efficiency may also be improved as a side effect of using the vectoring nozzles.

"When we add the advanced multi-axis thrust vectoring engine nozzles and advanced aircraft computing and control systems, this F-15 will be an exceptional flight research facility," said Dr. James Stewart, Project Manager.

The new thrust vectoring system, developed in West Palm Beach, Fla. by a division of Pratt & Whitney, will fly for the first time on the NASA F-15.

Much lighter than previous exhaust vectoring systems, the nozzles could be retrofitted to existing aircraft or used in future designs.

NASA will use the modified F-15 to expand digital-integrated flight and propulsion control system studies. This research will be complex as the F-15 system will have to control both the canards on the plane's forward fuselage and the exhaust directing nozzles mounted on the engines.

German satellite to study history, future of stars

By Bill De Brauer
Managing Editor

German and American scientists hope to get a glimpse into the life of a star, when the Space Shuttle *Discovery* deploys an astronomical telescope later this month that will allow it to peer into the vastness of space.

The telescope, called ORFEUS (Orbiting and Retrieivable Far and Extreme Ultraviolet Spectrograph), will record the Ultraviolet light

emitted by stars, allowing scientists to better understand how they are created.

Scientists have long believed that the ultraviolet light created by stars will provide many of the answers on how they are born and die.

The telescope is mounted on a pallet, the size of the flatbed on a large pickup truck, and will be positioned in space by the shuttle's manipulator arm on the second day

see ORFEUS, page 6



The German ORFEUS telescope will allow scientists to study the light emitted by stars.

Orbiter Update

Discovery - Launch of STS-51 has been targeted for 9:22 a.m. July 17. The shuttle will carry a communications satellite as well as a German astrophysics experiment. In addition, a six hour EVA is planned as preparation for the Hubble repair later this year.

Columbia - The crew of seven will launch on a 14 day mission in early to mid-September. Work completed on the orbiter includes the main propulsion leak checks.

Endeavour - Commander Ron Grabe successfully concluded STS-57 with the landing at Kennedy Space Center at 8:52 a.m. July 1.

Atlantis - The orbiter is still in Palmdale, California, under going modification.

Delta Clipper System Test Successful

By Mike Dienhart
Space Technology Editor

McDonnell Douglas announced the successful completion of a full duration total system test by its Delta Clipper Team.

The June 15 test included main engine firing and thoroughly simulated its first flight profile.

The Delta Clipper - Experimental (DC-X) vehicle was developed for the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization Single Stage Rocket Technology program. The DC-X is undergoing a stringent testing program in order to demonstrate the feasibility of building and operating single-stage-to-orbit rockets as opposed to the space shuttle which is a two-stage-to-orbit rocket.

Preliminary post-test results indicate that all systems functioned as planned and the DC-X vehicle is in excellent condition, ready for the next test.

"Our test objective was to operate all vehicle systems, including all four engines, software, electrical,

avionics, mechanical/hydraulic subsystems for a full duration of approximately 60 seconds," said Paul Klevatt, McDonnell Douglas DC-X program manager.

The test fire began with a standard three and a half second engine check at low thrust, followed immediately by an increase in the thrust required to fly the vehicle to its planned flight altitude.

The DC-X on-board computer then decreased the thrust to levels required to maintain altitude and to translate the rocket to the landing site area.

At this time the engines were throttled down to the levels necessary for controlled descent and landing.

"The engines were controlled and automatically adjusted by the DC-X's software to simulate all phases of the takeoff, hover, translational flight and landing tests that will be conducted at the "Clipper Site" at the White Sands Space Harbor," stated Klevatt.

Total firing time was 62.28 seconds. During the test, engine thrust

levels were commanded over a range of 30 percent to 80 percent. In addition, the engines were gimbaled as required to perform the hover flight.

Before this test the McDonnell Douglas Delta Clipper Team had conducted seven all-system, hot fire static tests. These tests ranged in duration from three and a half seconds to 28.5 seconds, and thrust levels varied from 30 percent to 65 percent. The purpose of these tests was to fine-tune engine and vehicle operating parameters and software.

Between each of the tests, the system is maintained and serviced according to processes and procedures similar to those of aircraft to verify rapid "turnaround" capability.

"Each firing was part of a carefully considered, aggressive test series to prepare the vehicle for flight," said Pete Conrad, DC-X flight manager. "We're very pleased with the vehicle's operability and supportability as well as the ease with which we can turn it around between tests."

Tags

(continued from page 1)

could qualify for the program, and some had never even heard of the program.

"I kept pushing and I pushed, and pushed, and I found this very cooperative lady at the DMV who decided to look into it," said Tamm.

With the help from the lady, Tamm discovered that to qualify for the program a university has to be a non-profit educational facility and receive state funds. Embry-Riddle - which is a non-profit organization - currently receives state tuition vouchers.

Instead of paying taxes on vehicles every year, such as private citizens and companies, University vehicles will only pay a one time \$21.10 fee, regardless of the size or type of vehicle, and are exempt from paying the annual vehicle tax.

According to Tamm, this will result in savings of \$1,354.40 this year - because of the University had to pay the initial \$21.10 fee - and savings of around \$2,500 for years to come.

THE AVION

Next issue will be published
Wednesday, July 21, 1993

All submissions are due
Wednesday, July 14, 1993

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Northwest extends restructuring talks

Associated Press

EAGAN, Minn. — The news for Northwest Airlines was slightly less gloomy as the financially beleaguered company remained in a holding pattern over possible bankruptcy plans.

The carrier put on hold a decision on whether to seek bankruptcy protection until next week to allow talks with pilot union leaders to continue. Northwest is the largest passenger carrier at Detroit's Metropolitan Airport and in the state of Michigan as a whole.

After a briefing from top Northwest managers last Monday, the company's board of directors said it was interested in reaching a financial restructuring out of bankruptcy court, company spokesman Chris Clouser said in a statement.

"We continue to hold discussions and we remain hopeful," Jim Faulkner, a company spokesman, said of the talks with representatives of pilots and smaller airline unions.

The two sides met for three straight days without reaching an agreement, which has some analysts wondering what it will take.

"They are implicitly saying they didn't get the kind of agreement they wanted even after banging heads all weekend long," said analyst Phil Brannon of Mabon Securities.

"They are essentially saying to people, 'Listen, we're very close to bankruptcy. If you don't agree to voluntarily do this, we will have to go to the courts.'"

Although reaching a concession agreement with the pilots would not solve Northwest's problems, it would likely delay a bankruptcy filing while the company tried to secure wage and benefit cuts from other unions.

The labor cost cuts are key to finalizing an agreement with bankers to give the airline more time to pay back debt associated with its 1989 leveraged buyout.

Northwest's board met last week and talked via telephone again Monday and told managers to give



Northwest Airlines is extending its talks between the board of trustees and the pilot's union in order to delay filing for bankruptcy.

the pilots talks more time, the source said. Northwest had told unions that it would file by this week if the concessions weren't approved.

Curt Kruse, spokesman for the pilots union, said the union has never paid attention to this week's deadline.

"We're negotiating to get the right

deal," Kruse said. "It's not a factor in the decision-making process."

Machinists union members rejected an agreement between their leaders and Northwest managers to contribute to a plan that would save the airline \$886 million over three years. Flight attendant representatives, who also agreed to the plan,

stopped their members' voting after Machinists turned the deal down.

Nancy Stella, spokeswoman for the Teamsters union, which represents Northwest's flight attendants, said union leaders are watching the talks with pilots and waiting for an outcome before deciding their next move.

Debt ends PA airshow

Associated Press

HARRISBURG, PA — A \$60,000 debt has forced cancellation of the Pennsylvania International Air Show, state and local officials said.

The annual show at Harrisburg International Airport owes the money to the state, Lower Swatara Twp. and other concessionaires.

The show's director, David L. Frey, said the loss from last year's show was \$40,000. Attendance was down because the state delayed approval of the required lease until a week before the show.

Keith Chase, deputy secretary for aviation in the Transportation Department, said the state feels it shouldn't contract for another show until the debt is paid.

Moreover, the state, which owns the airport, is reluctant to hold future air shows there because of parking, insurance and pedestrian mobility concerns, Chase said.

Frey said that the nine years the show was held, it contributed \$250,000 to 37 charities and spent over \$1 million.

McDonnell Douglas to market DASH system

By Ron Hess
Aeronautics Editor

get and pilot head position. The information is displayed over a 20 degree field of view.

The agreement calls for both companies to actively market the DASH system to current and future operators of the McDonnell Douglas F/A-18 Hornet. Marketing will include providing demonstrations, briefings and documentation.

Elbit will provide McDonnell Douglas with a functioning DASH system and a night vision goggle heads-up display. McDonnell Douglas will provide DASH system demonstrations and briefings on tactical utility. F/A-18 air crews visiting McDonnell Douglas will be able to use the DASH system and the night vision goggle displays.

McDonnell Douglas and Elbit



McDonnell Douglas and Elbit Ltd. agree to joint market the Elbit manufactured Display and Sight Helmet (DASH).

have already integrated the DASH system into the Israeli Air Force's F/A-18 aircraft and flight simulators.

If the helmet mounted sight and

display system for the F/A-18 is well received, then McDonnell Douglas and Elbit will work together to incorporate the DASH system into the Hornet.

United cuts service to six US locations

Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — United Airlines will discontinue scheduled service at six U.S. locations, including Huntsville and Great Falls, Montana, as part of the airline's overall cost-reduction program, the company announced last Tuesday.

The cuts are effective September 8. The other areas affected are Bangor, Maine, Fargo, N.D., Fresno, Calif., and Sioux City, Iowa.

"It is with deep regret that we announce the closing of United's operations at these six locations,"

said J.C. Pope, president and chief operating officer of the Chicago-based airline.

"But the economic reality is that we have sustained a very large financial loss at these cities over the past five years."

"We simply cannot wait any longer for a hoped-for turn around and recovery," he said.

The airline's 30 flights to and from the six locations employ 114 full-time and part-time employees.

United said its reservations staff will make alternate travel arrangements for passengers book on flights to those locations September 8 and thereafter.



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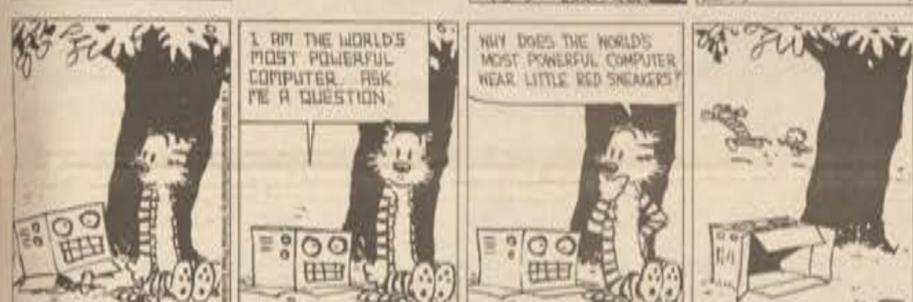
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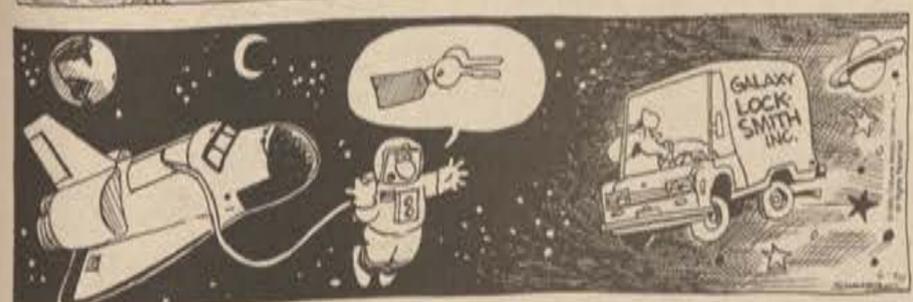
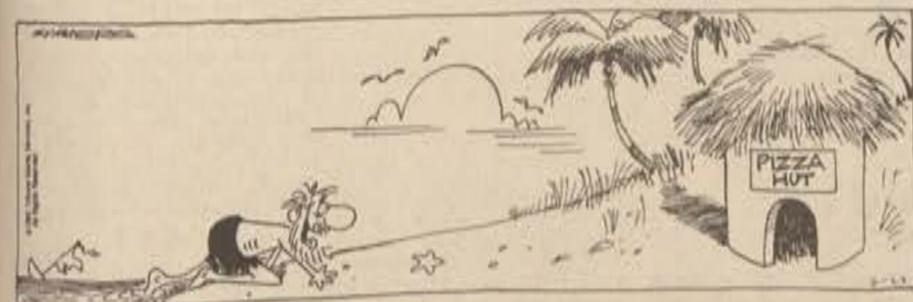
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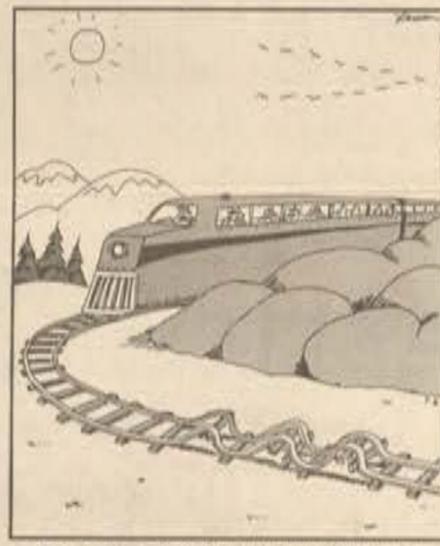
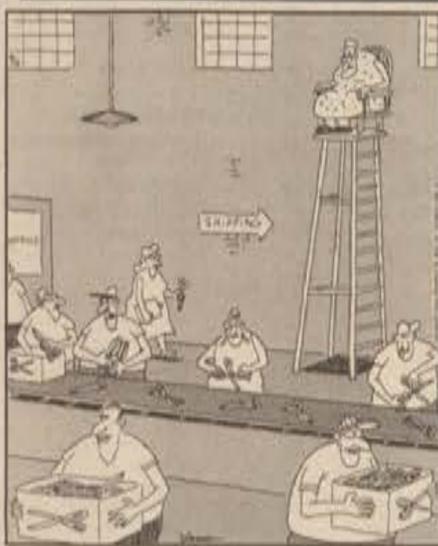
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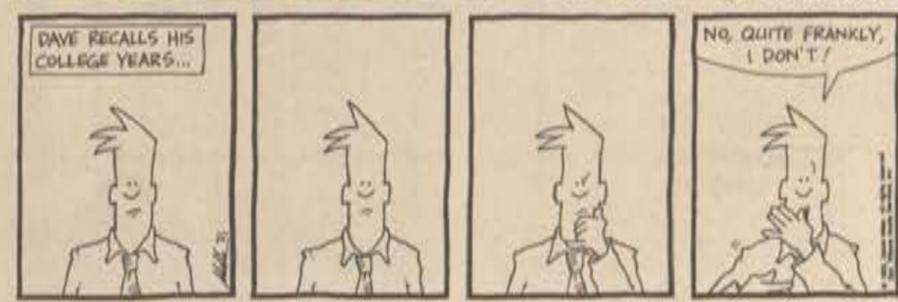
Far Side

by Gary Larson



Dave

by David Miller



→Autos for sale

1984 Yamaha XT600. 6000 miles and in excellent condition. Great Price. Contact James Hotelling at 258-6618.

1979 Volkswagen Rabbit. Great transportation to and from school or beach. Asking \$600 O.B.O. Call Brian at 756-0768.

1975 Porsche 914 (Parts car) 2.0 L rebuilt engine, 44 mm Weber carbs, late model (6th shift) transmission, 22mm front anti-sway bar, interior parts/auto glass 930 turbo tie-rod kit, (much more) call Bob: 822-9583 price negotiable.

1983 Kawasaki LTD 750. Recent tune up, new battery, Asking \$550, call 756-7853.

1987 Nissan Maxima GXE. 60K miles. Excellent condition, \$6500 firm. Call 756-7853.

1981 GMC Caballero for sale. 350 4bdr, tilt steering, lowered, wide tires and rims. It's loud, fast and looks good. Asking \$3200. Call 673-9022.

1984 300ZX Black, dark tinted windows power lock & windows. Asking \$3,900, call 238-0801.

→ Roommates

Non-smoking male roommate needed to share two-story house in Edgewater with alumni who works as a space shuttle mechanical technician. \$230/month with no lease and only 25 minutes from ERAU. Call 428-1077.

For sale or rent-2 bed/2 bath townhome. Two levels, full appliances. Pool, table TV, water and trash removal all included. Located only 2.5 miles from ERAU. Call 788-4343.

Room for rent. Quiet furnished home in Port Orange. 4 bedroom/2 bath with washer and dryer. 1/4 utilities. 2-car garage, central air. \$200 per month. \$100 deposit. Call 756-1494

Clean roommate needed. 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath. Only 2 miles from school in Forest Glen townhomes. Fully furnished (except bathroom) with cable. Call Pete or Chris at 248-2962.

Apartment for rent: 1 bed/1 bathroom. Great Ocean & River view from 5th floor. Ceiling fan, lots of space. No deposit, \$389/month. Call @ 238-4473.

Chris and Francis, need a third roommate for the Fall (Male or female) Located at River Point apts. Spacious rooms. Non-smoking serious student required. Rent is \$183/month and 1/3 utilities. Call 258-8522.

Seeking a roommate for Fall 93 through Spring 1994. Dependable and willing to pay between \$230-65 for rent and also share utilities. Would like to locate near campus for convenience. If interested, please write to: Eric Martinez, 601 Bill France Blvd., Daytona Beach, FL 32114.

→ Misc. for sale

For Sale ***Mainland*** 3 bdrm, 2 bath, fenced yard, excellent condition, non-qualifying assumable mortgage, 9 1/2% interest, convenient location. \$56,900. For information on these properties, please call Jeri Nehall at 788-2367 or Hudson Realty at 238-2698.

For Sale ***Beachside*** 2 bdrm, 2 bath, Florida room, eat-in kitchen 200 yards from the beach, excellent condition, move right in!! \$36,900. For information on these properties, call Jeri Nehall at 788-2367 or Hudson Realty at 238-2698.

For Sale ***Mainland*** 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath townhouse, screened porch, community pool, 30 minutes from campus, excellent condition, great location. \$51,900. For information on these properties, call Jeri Nehall at 788-2367 or Hudson Realty at 238-2698.

Moving Sale-3 piece corner desk-\$20, DP weight bench (good cond.)-\$10, Welder weight bench set with 300 lbs-\$75, Yamaha keyboard-\$20. Call Chris @ 767-4841 or 6736.

Super single, full motion waterbed mattress for sale with liner, thermostat and heater pad. No leaks. \$20. Call 756-2359 and leave message.

Black lanquer queen size waterbed with mattress and headboard, great condition. \$325 or best offer. (904) 756-7857.

For Sale: Water bed, ceiling fan (with lights), file cabinets, and bookshelf. Call 257-1430 or 252-3119.

For Sale: Waterbed, Queen, semi-waveless, darkwood, sleep easy for \$50. 14 in. Alloy wheels. Turbine style with tires. 4 lug, will fit most Japanese cars. \$100 O.B.O. Call 756-7965.

Desk: 30"x45" with two drawers. One hutch book shelf included and office type swivel chair/reclining chair. Walnut finishes. Great for computer use or studying. Asking \$50.00 call 226-6768 and leave message.

Mini-Mig! skateboard with tracker trucks, vision wheels and all the razz. Good condition. \$75 o.b.o. Also: Powell Perata Board. \$25 o.b.o. Call 756-2359.

→ Miscellaneous

Microwave: Litton Touch pad programmable. Oven size 16" wide 10" high. Includes meat probe and broiling tray. \$40.00 call 226-6768.

Exercise Bike: Sears Lifestyle \$75. Programmable. Excellent condition \$40.00 Call 226-6768.

Stereo Component cabinet: Will hold up to 6 components such as VCR, CD player, Tuner, etc. Glass front door for remote tuning. Accessory draw on bottom. Cabinet on hidden casters. Walnut finishes finish. \$45.00 plus 226-6768 and leave message.

Yes...another flight instructor ad, but get this: Multi-Engine rating or MEI for \$75 dual. Call 756-1494 for details.

Looking for someone to split cost and driving to in Grand Rapids, Michigan. On a 50 mile radius of G.R. will leave on Aug 13 after finals and return on Aug 29. Call Ken @ 322-0082.

Learn to scuba dive in just 3 weeks! Paid open water course is just \$100. Includes: All instruction, 4 dives, certification fees, and use of all scuba gear. See what it's all about, call Jan at 761-0699 or 426-1442.

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DEAR AVION STAFF:
Why are AMT students so rarely represented in the "student forum?"

TO RLC AND FRIENDS:
Thank you for the mail. I just want to let you know it's not true.
CMI.

OBI-WAN KENOBI ...now that's a name I haven't heard in a long, long time. Have I ever heard of him? Of course I have...he's me!
OBI-WAN KENOBI

DEAR POOPS,
Good luck after graduation and don't forget to change your coffee filter.
B.S.

BRIAN,
Congratulations on your "Burdy Bowl Award." Your outstanding performance shut down an AMT toilet for six days. Incredible!

Who's more foolish? The fool or the person who follows the fool?
THE FOOLISH PHILANTHROPER

Wanted: Anyone interested in playing bluegrass or folk music. Call me at 274-3309.

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Attention: To any exotic pet keeper a select few trying to do a herpetological society or exotic pet society. If you have a pet snake, lizard, turtle, tarantula, scorpion, etc. or are just curious, call Scott at 767-1308.

→ Personals

JOKE OF THE WEEK
You know when you're in college too long when the Playboy Playmates become younger than you are...

ROLEPLAYER WANTED: For campaign in TORC - a story-based RPG where Earth is invaded by other realities. Mega-corporate ninjas, cyberpriests, lizardmen shamans, shapeshifters, fantasy magicians; all fighting to free Earth from the invading High Lords. Interested players leave a note in B215.

DADDY,
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MAISIE

YO MOM SO FAT...she wore a "Malcolm X" t-shirt and a helicopter tried to land on her. Do you know any good momma jokes? Send them to BOX 6535.

DEAR AVION STAFF:
Why are AMT students so rarely represented in the "student forum?"

TO RLC AND FRIENDS:
Thank you for the mail. I just want to let you know it's not true.
CMI.

OBI-WAN KENOBI ...now that's a name I haven't heard in a long, long time. Have I ever heard of him? Of course I have...he's me!
OBI-WAN KENOBI

DEAR POOPS,
Good luck after graduation and don't forget to change your coffee filter.
B.S.

BRIAN,
Congratulations on your "Burdy Bowl Award." Your outstanding performance shut down an AMT toilet for six days. Incredible!

Who's more foolish? The fool or the person who follows the fool?
THE FOOLISH PHILANTHROPER

DEAR PHOENIX SUNS,
Well, you may have the best record in the NBA, but we have the three-peat championship under our belt! Remember this: Mezz with best, die like the real! **THE CHICAGO BULLS**

A man should be able to do it all: shoot a gun, write epics, drive a car, make love, fly a plane, program a computer, balance a checkbook, raise a child, cook a meal, carve sculptures, plan a war, design a ship, and skin a fish. Specialization is for insects. **THE BATHROOM PHILOSOPHER**

Do you have a boring life? If so, why not join the Avion? Then you can have a fun-filled life with the rest of us poor people who can't think of anything else better to do! Sweat under the pressure of deadlines, put up with pushy editors, and eat free pizza! What bears that?

"How many licks does it take to get to the center of a tootsie roll pop?" is the second most popular question asked besides the "what is the meaning of life" question. It's too bad more people in the world could answer how many licks it takes...

W.L.L.L.
What do you say we get back together sometime and make a comeback? Show everyone we're just as bad as we were in the right! **W.L.L.L. will return!**

I find that the finer things in life are the cheapest or even free. Who says that material things and money can make you more happy than friendship? Oh yeah...the greedy and loudly ones do. **THE WANDERING MINSTREL**

If thou can readeth this message, then thou art wasting thy time doing so...thou might as well stop reading.

HUMANS
The Borg are on their way. Nothing can stop us now. We are evil and we are out to destroy the human race. You have been warned! **THE BORG**

I would just like to say hello to all of my fans out there. I know there are only two of you out there but thanks anyway!

KITTY Meow?
PUSSYCAT

SASQUATCH!
Thanks for all the memories. It's been one heck of a year. Good luck in North Carolina and finding that special southern belle!
JOSHUA TREE

Letters

(continued from page 2)

his most-prized ERAU pilot's certificate and license. Over 800 people visited the funeral home and saw these items together with other photo displays depicting his life.

On the day of the funeral, a procession of two and one-half miles of cars went to the cemetery where, following a brief service there, Ruth and several of his closest childhood friends released a commemorative "Let's Party" balloon (representing, of course, an undeniable part of Ryan's true spirit) while some 300 people stood for many minutes in complete silence on a beautiful spring day and watched the balloon as it began to soar higher and higher into the sky. When it was almost out of sight, unbelievably, a jet flew overhead leaving a clear white trail across the sky. It was undoubtedly one of the most extraordinary experiences of our lives and I believe of many other lives, as demonstrated by the fact

that none of the people present seemed to want to leave the cemetery after the service!

Finally, we would like you to know that Ryan's headstone will prominently display the official emblem of ERAU on the front above his name and on the back, will picture a jet aircraft in flight with its white trails across the sky and the words "Solo Flight To Heaven" inscribed below.

In conclusion, we cannot tell you how much the recent contacts from ERAU have meant to us, especially considering that Ryan had only been there for one year. If the University decides to conduct a memorial service in the Fall, please let us know and we will both make every effort to attend. In the meantime, feel free to share this letter with anyone at the University and know that the last year of Ryan's life was very fulfilling and meaningful to him and to us because of your school.

Very truly yours,
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen R. Shaw

Cable

(continued from page 2)

"Oh, we get several," she again joyfully answered, probably because this was a question she could answer.

"Well, doesn't that tell you something, that you guys are doing something wrong?" I replied.

"Like I said, sir. All you can do is write the manager," she answered.

I finally hung up, after commenting on her level of intelligence and the night job she may or may not have.

"What bonehead comes up with these decisions," I thought. But, therein lies the problem. Without competition, they don't have to think, and they don't have to put out a quality product. Many of my friends have over 50 channels to choose from, including new cable channels like the Cartoon Network, the Sci-Fi Network, and, yes, you guessed it, The Learning Channel, and some pay even less for their service than you and I do.

Next time, when you pay your bill, scribble them a note, and tell them to pull their heads out of a dark place and start producing a service that will make everyone happy.

SGA

(continued from page 4)

class schedule allows them to attend their assigned meetings.

If it is reported to the President by the SRB Chairman that the performance of the delegate is unacceptable, or if the delegate's GPA falls below the acceptable level as described above, the President will remove the delegate from his or her position.

This could be used as a stepping platform for the student to use when he/she is eligible to be a representative.

This could help students get involved from their very first semester at ERAU. This will help the SGA and ultimately the entire student body by making sure that there is student representation on every decision level. If you have any questions, please stop by the SGA office in the student center to pick up an application and see us.

ORFEUS

(continued from page 5)

of the mission. It will remain there at a distance up to 60 miles from Discovery until day seven, two days before the scheduled return of the shuttle. Discovery will then recover the pallet and its payload and return it to earth, where it will be reused for future missions.

This mission will mark a change in how NASA does its business. For the first time, control of the pallet and its payload will be conducted from Kennedy Space Center and not from Johnson Space Center in Houston, which normally has control of shuttle missions once they are in orbit.

The pallet, called ASTRO-SPAS, is the result of ten years of development by Deutsche Aerospace (DASA) for the German Space Agency (DARA), following the success of two similar SPAS-01 missions in 1983 and 1984.

NASA and DARA have agreed to four ASTRO-SPAS missions, of

which this is the first. Dubbed ORFEUS-SPAS, this mission will also carry on the pallet IMAPS (Interstellar Medium Absorption Profile Spectrograph), an instrument built by Princeton University that will allow it to study interstellar gas detected around nearby stars.

Also on the pallet will be a Surface Effects Sample Monitor (SESAM) and an IMAX camera, which will film the satellite's perspective as it leaves the shuttle's cargo bay during deployment.

NASA has been trying for some time to put an IMAX camera on a shuttle payload. According to Dr. Konrad Moritz, the ASTRO-SPAS program manager, the mission offered the opportune time because there was room left on the pallet, and there were no real weight constraints.

NASA has set a tentative launch date of July 17 for Discovery. Besides ORFEUS, the five man crew of Discovery will also deploy the Advanced Communications Technology Satellite attached to a Transfer Orbit Stage (ACTS-TOS).

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