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## Avion 2005-12-06

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

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## ERAU: TODAY & TOMORROW

### New five-year plan includes union, two dorms

Brian Case

Business Manager

After four months of work, the Daytona Beach campus has a new Master Plan for construction. The plan covers new construction for the next five years, and includes several projects that will be started within the next year.

Building a new freshman dormitory is the highest construction priority for the University. Over the past several years, a small number of double occupancy freshman dorm rooms in Adams and Wood Halls have slept three students to meet demand for beds.

The Master Plan calls for two new undergraduate dormitories, one on the east side of McKay Hall, the other on the west side. The western structure will be built first over the current McKay parking lot, and planning has already begun. Groundbreaking is expected in 2006, and is expected to sleep approximately 300 students when completed.

The western dormitory will occupy the space north of Doolittle Hall, where the

tennis courts and volleyball pit are now. That will be the larger of the two dorms, holding approximately 700 students. Once the second dorm is finished, McKay hall will be demolished, creating an open space for students in the center of the new dorms.

The challenge of where to build the next academic building has finally been solved. First conceived as an extension to the Willie Miller Instructional Center, the final plan is for a separate structure, east of the simulation center, across the legacy walk from the College of Aviation. In addition to classrooms, the building will house the College of Business, a department from Arts and Sciences and a student computer lab.

Groundbreaking is expected within the next year. The interior space is being blocked out now with input from the involved departments. When the building is completed, C Building and E Building will

be demolished to make way for another academic building.

The last major project expected to start in 2006 is the new fitness center. The 13,000 square foot facility will be built north of the pool, where the Tine Davis pool complex now stands. Fitness facilities on campus are taxed beyond their designed capacity. The 3,500 square foot weight room will help relieve overcrowding at the ICI Center's fitness room.

All the buildings slated for 2006 – the new dorm, academic complex and fitness center – have all been funded and are in planning, according to Chancellor of the Daytona Beach Campus Irwin Price.

The new Master Plan gave students

their first look at the new Student Union, which will be built over the current chapel and Armstrong parking lot. Conceived

**“The current freshman class will more than likely see groundbreaking.”**

- SARA MCCOOK

at 60,000 square feet, the union isn't likely to be built anytime soon. In a letter of agreement between the University and the Student Government Association, construction on the facility would only begin when the students had raised half

the necessary funds. In one semester, the Student Facilities Fee has raised \$427,650 of the estimated \$8 million necessary to start construction. Still, SGA President Sara McCook is

Please see “PLAN” page A2

### Johnson plans to cut poor spending

Jonathan Mettin  
Editor-in-Chief

At two open forums on Nov. 28, interim president Dr. John Johnson announced his intentions to cut excessive spending and improving efficiency within the University, beginning with cancelling the lease on the school's Citation jet, effective immediately.

Faculty and staff were invited to a forum at 1 p.m., while students were able to attend a similar forum at 2 p.m. The IC Auditorium was standing-room-only for the faculty forum, while about a dozen students attended the one for students.

“We [the administration] have to lead by example for cutting costs,” Johnson told the assembly. When he mentioned getting rid of the jet, he said that “it doesn't make sense” to have a plane available for ferrying administrators “when we're asking deans to cut costs.”

Besides cancelling the lease on the school plane, Johnson has deferred the construction of the new administration building that was going to be built next to Corsair Hall.

The CAPT program, which former University president Dr. George Ebbs said lost “a few hundred thousand dollars,” is also

Please see “JOHNSON” page A3



SHYAMAL ADDANKI/AVION

DR. JOHN JOHNSON, SEEN here at the press conference where he was announced as interim president, announced his intentions to increase efficiency, starting with the administration. “We have to lead by example,” he said.

### Chancellor to advise COB

Brian Case

Business Manager

After four years of service to Embry-Riddle, Chancellor Dr. Irwin Price will vacate his post, effective January 1. Price will advise the College of Business for the spring semester before retiring and leaving Daytona Beach with his wife to be closer to his children and grandchild.

Price has been involved with Embry-Riddle since 2001. He assumed the role of Chancellor of the Daytona Beach Campus January 2002, at the age of 62. “I found this place so interesting and exciting,” Price recalled.

Shortly after coming to Embry-Riddle, Price was offered a unique opportunity – to learn how to fly. To become better acquainted with Aeronautical Science, he went on a demonstration ride. He found the experience so exhilarating, he went back for another. After that, the flight department offered to teach him to fly. For several weeks after that, Price would arrive to campus

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#### Quick Facts

Price holds a Ph.D. in economics from Boston University, an M.B.A. in International Business from San Francisco State College and a bachelor of mechanical engineering from New York University.

Price is a former researcher with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Noise Abatement and explored the economic impact of airport noise.

Before coming to ERAU, Price was executive dean of George Washington University's Virginia campus, where he supervised the offering of over a dozen graduate degrees.



PHOTO COURTESY ERAU.EDU

CHANCELLOR DR. IRWIN PRICE will vacate his position effective with the new year. He will assist the College of Business in the spring before retiring at the end of the semester to spend time with his family.

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# Pathfinder has successful launch

Curtis Ewbank  
Chief Copy Editor

Project Icarus successfully tested its payload on a flight of the Pathfinder rocket from a field near Melbourne, Fla on Dec. 3.

Preparations for the flight began on Friday, and team members Mike Stackpole, Markus Zimmerman, and Ron Driggers worked through the night to prepare the rocket. They were joined early in the morning by other Project Icarus and Embry-Riddle Future Space Developers and Explorers Society members for the drive down to Melbourne.

At dawn, the five-car convoy arrived at the launch site and began setting up the primary ground station. Pathfinder would be transmitting data from its payload, including GPS, spin sensor, accelerometer, and barometric data. These data were recorded by computers at the ground station.

While some group members helped set up the launch rail, others prepared the rocket's class N motor, packed its parachute, and conducted final preparations of the payload. The payload was thoroughly ground tested, as the main purpose of the launch was as a pay-

load test. By noon, the Pathfinder was on the launch rail. A second ground station was set up about a mile away. At approximately 12:15 p.m., air traffic control gave the launch an extended waiver to 15,000 feet. Shortly after, the ignition button was pressed. Pathfinder roared skyward on a nearly perfect straight pillar of smoke and fire. Approximately 30 seconds later it reached an apogee of 12,075 feet.

Six minutes later, Pathfinder landed under its main parachute about a half mile from the launch site. With the help of the transmitted GPS data, the rocket was found a few minutes later. Pathfinder performed flawlessly; the glossy black and white paint suffered nary a scratch.

The Pathfinder launch day operations were carried out with an incredible amount of success. Although one ground station was not fully operational and the main parachute was delayed in opening completely, the rocket was launched safely and recovered effectively. This launch paves the way for a successful launch of the main Project Icarus rocket in March. Video of the launch can be found at <http://www.icarusrocket.com>.



PHOTOS COURTESY PROJECT ICARUS

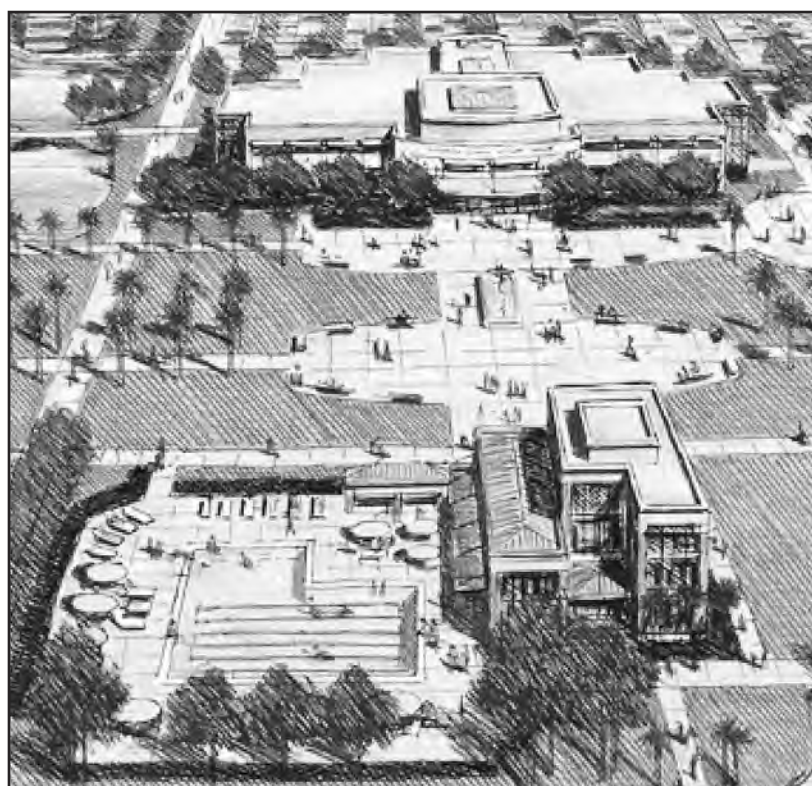


IMAGE COURTESY UNIVERSITY CONSTRUCTION & PLANNING

**THIS PERSPECTIVE VIEW SHOWS** the proposed main plaza of the Daytona Beach campus, with the new fitness facility and the current pool in the foreground and the student union in the background as parts of the five-year Master Plan.

### “PLAN” from Front

optimistic. “The current freshmen class will more than likely see groundbreaking,” said McCook.

The Master Plan includes many other features, including expanding the ICI Center, expanding the library and building two more academic buildings in addition to the one already mentioned.

Over the summer, several Master Plan concepts were presented for comment. Students wrote their ideas down at forums, which were

then compiled and presented to the Master Planning Committee. The committee is made up of representatives from the President's office, Chancellor's office, and various university departments. The faculty is also represented, and the SGA President speaks for the students.

The hope is that the new Master Plan remains intact over the next five years. The last Master Plan was approved in 2003, and was supposed to last until 2010. That plan only lasted two years, during which there was no major construction.

### “PRICE” from Front

early to fly with instructor Wendy Michels.

After several flights, he soloed at Kay Larkin airport in Palatka. “It was one of the great experiences of my life,” Price said. “I understood why it was so special, why students came here.”

Looking back, Price is amazed by the difference four years can make. In the time it takes most students to earn their first degrees, Embry-Riddle has become what he feels is “a much more mature university.”

One of biggest transformations Price has been a part of is the establishment of colleges. When he arrived in 2002, academics were organized into nothing but a series of departments. Now, four colleges with four deans make academic operations much smoother.

Price is also very proud to be a part of the movement to bring research to Embry-Riddle. He believes that for Embry-Riddle to truly lead the industry, it has to “contribute to the body of knowledge” in aviation and aerospace. Four years ago, some believed that research would distract from the University's mission to educate students. Today, plans are moving forward to build a research park south of campus along Clyde Morris Blvd.

An internal search for a new Chancellor was launched last week. The University is hopeful that the position will be filled by mid-January. Because the search is internal, the University was able to speed the process dramatically. “There's a real advantage to acting quickly,” Price said. “I think this place is in good hands.”

Price will assist the College of Business in the spring before leaving Embry-Riddle and Daytona Beach. “I'm in a unique position to help,” he said. Price hopes to see the College of Business earn a reputation equal to that of Aeronautical Science or Aerospace Engineering.

“To create a real business school ... is a major undertaking,” Price said. A blue-ribbon committee was assembled and made a series of recommendations to transform the College of Business. Price hopes to use his contacts to attract what he calls “magnet faculty,” professors with reputations that will attract other qualified faculty to the school.

With the departure of the University President just one month prior to the Chancellor leaving his post, the future direction of Embry-Riddle is largely up in the air. Price expects that all the plans put in place under the last administration will remain. “Those were not George Ebbs's plans; they were worked on by a lot of people, including students and faculty.”

## Showcasing Indian culture



AZDREN COMA/AVION

**THE INDIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION** put on a Diwali show on the Flight Deck last week. Featuring dances, music and culture, the students used the show to demonstrate some traditional Indian entertainment. India is the most-represented foreign country at Embry-Riddle, with ten percent of all international students hailing from the Asian nation.

## “JOHNSON” from Front

under Johnson's review, and he says he will terminate it if it is not fiscally responsible.

Finally, Johnson is looking at the University's movement to be part of Qatar's burgeoning Education City project, saying that the school would need some cash up-front.

"We're going to need some money," Johnson said, adding that Embry-Riddle does not have the economic force of Carnegie-Mellon or Texas A&M, two other schools in Education City.

Despite all the proposed cutbacks, Johnson said that there isn't a cause for alarm. "We are still operating in the black, folks."

Johnson assured the employee session, "but to meet the margin the Board has requested, we have to do some cost-cutting." According to Johnson, that margin is \$3.2 million.

Johnson emphasized that the University is still following Plan 2015, saying that that was the vision of the entire University and not just the previous administration. He did state, however, that the school has to look at what it can realistically do.

"It's important to say 'What can we do now?'" Johnson said, saying that what isn't high-priority or feasible at the time should be deferred.

As for the hot topic of faculty salaries, Johnson said he intends to get the faculty pay into the 70<sup>th</sup> percentile in the nation.

"It's high on my priority list," he said.

He also said that he would limit the amount of new programs the school offers.

"They have to be significant in scope and have the potential to affect a significant enrollment," he said.

He also commented on the retention rate, stressing that for every 50 students the University makes

\$1 million, and that ERAU is a university and not a business.

"Academics will be our priority," Johnson said. "That should be an obvious statement ... We cannot afford to have business initiatives that rob money from our faculty, staff and students. That has to stop." The faculty and staff session broke into applause after he said that.

Johnson also discussed the Chancellors of the Extended and Daytona Beach

discussed the Extended and campuses. He announced that Martin "Marty" Smith, who has been serving as interim chancellor since Robert "Skip" Myers left in May to accept the presidency of Daniel Webster College, will take over. As for Daytona Beach, effective January 1 Chancellor Dr. Irwin Price, who is retiring at the end of the academic year, will vacate his position and take up a position of Business.

*Editor's note: please see the full article about Dr. Price on the front page*

As for the search for a new Vice President of Marketing & Development, Johnson has said that he has put the search on hold until a new, permanent president can be found. He said it would be unfair to hire someone for the position before they knew who their boss would be.

Johnson also wants to begin an overhaul of the Extended Campus, including establishing a quicker curriculum review process, expanding

its civilian market while modifying its military one and investigating the possibility of separate accreditation, which would involve the Extended Campus to change its name.

Johnson took questions from the floor at the conclusion of his speech. One question brought up the business nature of Embry-Riddle.

"I really, truly want to get us back to basics," Johnson responded. "We are really an academic institution. We are a corporation in name only."

Another question brought up research by the University. Johnson responded that 22% of faculty salaries are paid from monies raised by research, adding that it somewhat alleviated the need for tuition hikes. He mentioned that John Metzner of External Relations is continuing work on the ERAU Research Park and is currently in the process of finding a manager for the site and getting money from Congress.

Johnson said that depending on how long the Board asks that he serve as interim, he may appoint an interim Provost. He also said he may throw his hat in the ring for the presidency, depending on what the Board of Trustees is looking for.

"I think I could do a good job," Johnson said. "I think I can make this a better place to work and live." He added that his tenure as president would be "consultative, collaborative and collegial."

He emphasized himself as a candidate for a "traditional president" rather than a businessman or a fundraiser.

"If they are looking for a traditional [university] president," he said, waving his hand over his head. "Here I am."

**“ Academics will be our priority. That should be an obvious statement. ”**

- JOHN JOHNSON

**“ We are still operating in the black, folks. ”**

- JOHN JOHNSON

**“ I really, truly want to get us back to basics. ”**

- JOHN JOHNSON

## Like sausage? Try Krakow

Melanie Pugh  
Copy Editor

If you still have yet to make plans for this summer, it is not too late. Consider taking classes in Krakow, Poland, one of the University's newest study abroad hot spots. Krakow, an economic and cultural center of eastern and central Europe, is also home to many renowned institutions of higher learning. Find yourself immersed in a new culture with two of Embry-Riddle's own professors, while attending classes at Jagiellonian University, founded in the fourteenth century.

Summer programs offer a rare opportunity to travel and study abroad, without taking a semester off from ERAU's residential campuses. All courses are also offered at half-price tuition as an added incentive. In addition to the unique experience the program lends itself to, take advantage of your location and add stamps to your passport on your free time, as classes are only held three days a week. Another option is to plan your airline itinerary to include dates before or after the program dates. Students will spend three weeks in Krakow and one week in the Tatra Mountains.

The program launches during the 2006 Summer B session, taking place between July 1 and August 4. Students will take a total of six credits from a list of three courses. All students will enroll in HU199 (Introduction to Polish), as prior knowledge of the language is not a requirement for the program. Students will then choose between EC399 (The Globalization Process of Central Europe and Eastern European Economies) and ENG399 (Real-Time Control).

EC399, taught by Dr. Lucyna Kornecki of ERAU's College of Business, will place an emphasis upon the changing economy, from command to market-oriented. The course will focus upon effects placed on the Polish economy, including the expansion of the European Union, the privatization process, and the importance of the Foreign Direct Investment

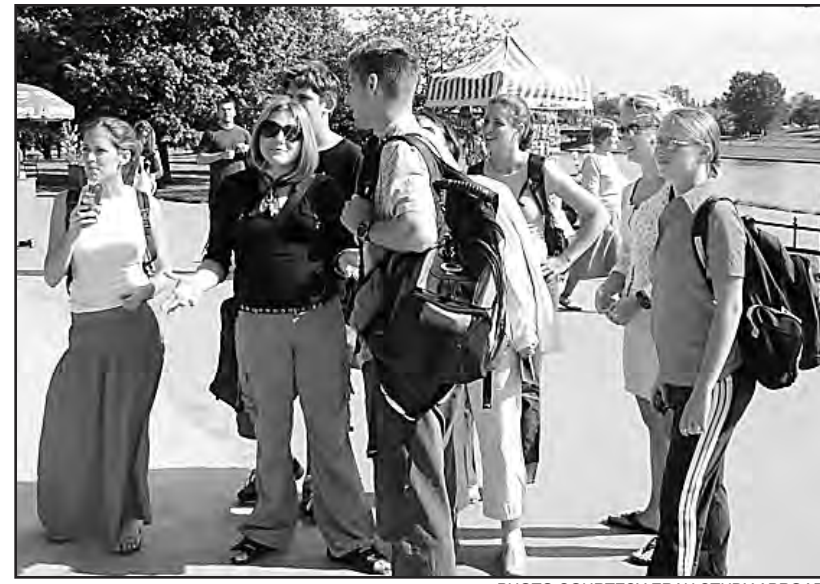


PHOTO COURTESY ERAU STUDY ABROAD

**THE KRAKOW, POLAND VERSION** of Embry-Riddle's Study Aboard Program will feature EC399 (The Globalization Process of Central Europe) and ENG399 (Real-Time Control) for summer 2006.

in Poland. The course will also feature guest speakers, including experts from the Krakow University of Economics (UE). Ranked second in the country, UE was established in 1925 and provides research opportunities and research up to doctorate level in the fields of management, finance, trade, banking, and economics.

ENG399, taught by Dr. Andrew Kornecki of ERAU's College of Engineering, will work closely with AGH University of Science and Technology and take advantage of the faculty and laboratories the University's Department of Automatics has to offer. Experiments with the inverted pendulum, magnetic levitation, and helicopter controls, designed by host faculty members, will be conducted in the Control Laboratory.

AGH, founded in 1919, is the second largest technical university in Poland, features all course level education in the fields of mining, metallurgy, electrical engineering, control, mechanical engineering and robotics, geology, geophysics, environmental engineering, materi-

als science, petroleum engineering, management, mathematics and engineering physics.

The last Krakow, Poland study abroad program took place during the summer of 2004 and included nine students. They enjoyed several field trips, including the Royal Wawel Castle, Krakow Old Town, Wieliczka Salt Mines, Auschwitz Concentration Camp, and various sites in the capital of Warsaw. Krakow's location also provides easy access to Budapest, Hungary and Prague, Czech Republic. Typically, programs are limited to twenty students, with slots shared between the Daytona Beach and Prescott campuses. Eligible applicants are admitted on a first-come, first-served basis.

A one hundred dollar deposit is due, along with your application to secure your spot. You must also have, by the end of the spring semester, at least a 2.5 GPA, sophomore standing and a valid passport. For more information or to sign-up, contact the study abroad office in room A-209, call x6215, or visit <http://erau.edu/omni/erstudyabr>.

The Avion would like to recognize several former and current staff members who are graduating next week.

- Shyamal Addanki**      **Tom Fleming**      **Adam Greiber**      **Ryan Jones**      **Oz Maitas**      **Ashley Moore**      **Christopher Noth**      **Crystal Passman**

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## Farewell from the EIC

It isn't without a tinge of sadness that I write this letter as I near the end of my tenure as Editor-in-Chief. As of Friday, Dec. 9, Photography Editor Mijeong Yoon will be taking over the reins, and I wish her the best of luck in her term.

It is tradition for outgoing Editors-in-Chief to write a farewell piece. While I am not normally one to use my station in this manner, I think this would be an appropriate time to mention a few people.

The Avion is losing some dear members of its family this year, and considering their contributions, I think that they deserve recognition

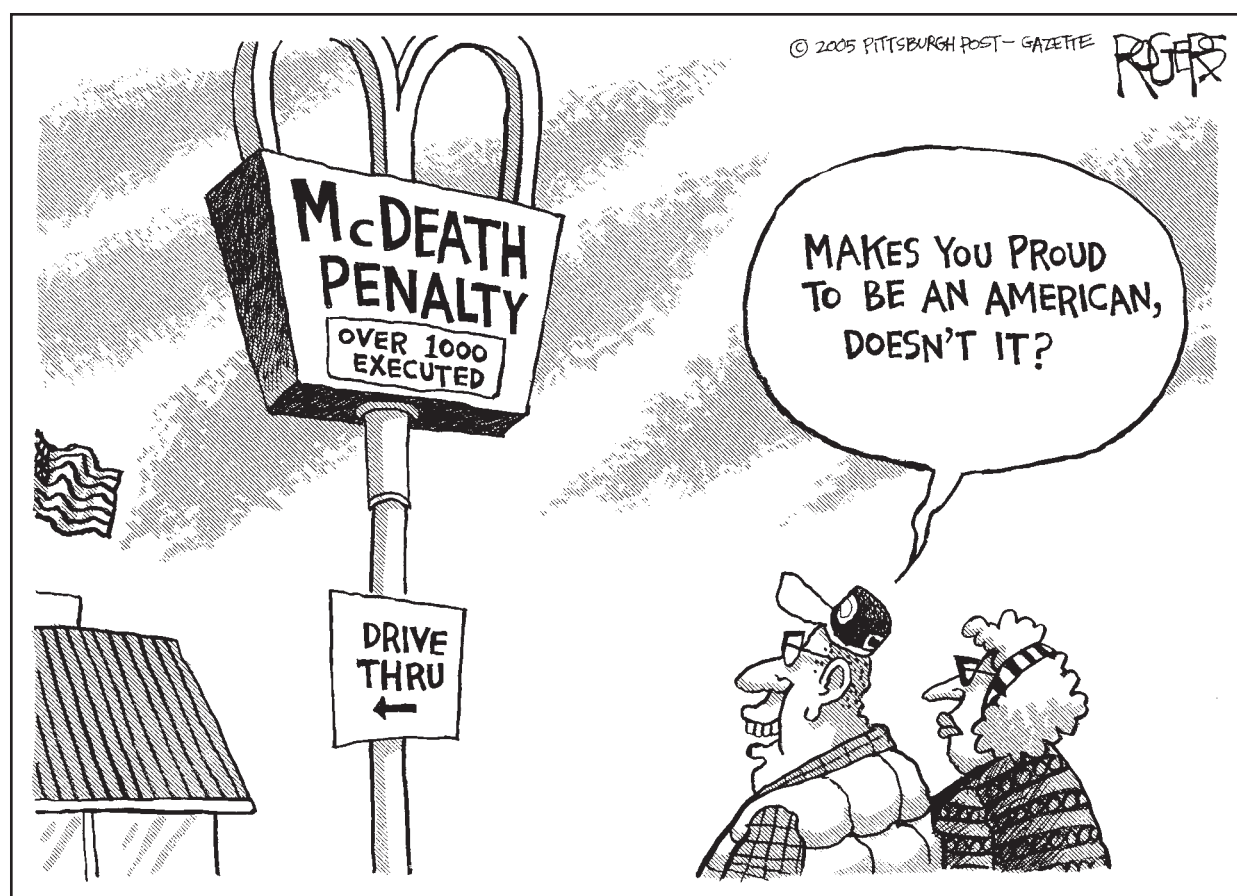
beyond a simple byline or listing in the staff box. Crystal Passman served as a section editor and has been a mother figure for many on staff. Ashley Moore, the paper's resident party girl, has headed up the Diversions section and made sure that everyone knew how to have a social life. Tom Flemming edited several sections, including Sports and Entertainment, and hosted many a staff party at his apartment. Oswaldo "Oz" Maitas was only with us for a semester, but in that time, became one of our most iconic members, doing whatever needed to be done with

that trademark grin and random Spanish interjections. Last, but certainly not least, Shyamal Addanki served in many roles, including Editor-in-Chief from the summer of 2004 to the spring of 2005, and is largely responsible for what you are reading - his leadership made the paper into what it is now.

My executive board has been, in a word, amazing, and also deserves praise. Each and every one of them always had the best interests of the paper in mind, and without their help, I would have gone insane. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Managing Editor Chris Tezak, News Editor Bob Scheid, Business Manager Brian Case, Photo Editor MJ Yoon, Advertising Manager Tom Kiley and Phoenix Yearbook Managing Editor Darrin O'Brady.

I would also like to thank Kerri Rottner and Allison Austin in the SGA office; both were a great help to the paper and to me, personally, during the semester. I don't think they get enough recognition, so, thank you, guys.

On Wednesday, we announced our Reporter's and Editor's Awards, and I would like to extend congratulations to Curtis Ewbank and Brian Case, respectively. Both of them did excellent jobs this semester, and I look forward to working with them in the future. It was difficult to pick only two winners, because most of my staff put in long hours after we lost a lot of staff to graduation and other things. Without them we would not have been able to put out



**JONATHAN METTIN HAS SERVED** *The Avion* as Editor-In-Chief for the last semester. Photo Editor Mijeong Yoon will take over Friday. She has served *The Avion* for over three years.

a paper every week. As for me, while I might not be sitting behind the EIC desk anymore, I will still do my part in the making of *The Avion*. So to those who will follow me, I wish them the best of luck. Leading this exceptional group of individuals may have been a crazy amount of work, but it has been nothing but an honor and a privilege.

~Jonathan Mettin

## THE NOTH FACTOR

### Missing mix tapes

Friday's Wall Street Journal marketplace revealed that, like Cabbage Patch Dolls and Tickle-Me-Elmos, iPod Nanos and X-Box 360s will be this year's most sought-after gifts. I find this surprising, because I don't know anyone who really wants an iPod that doesn't already have one. I don't know how Apple could possibly keep selling iPods - things seem flooded to me anyhow.

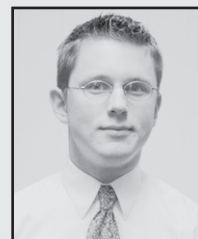
It's no secret that I'm not a fan of the iPod, nor any other portable music players for that matter. There are many reasons I dislike them. I don't like talking to someone with one earpiece in and one out; the only way I'll cooperate with someone wearing one earpiece is if he or she is a member of the Secret Service. As well, they symbolize a real impatience to me - is it really that far from the dorms to the Instructional Center that music is the only way to pass the tragically lengthy walk? Most importantly, though, portable music

players have killed something I truly love: the mix tape. There's something innately involved, caring, and sentimental about creating or receiving a mix tape (or mix CD as it may be). Creating a mix tape could mean "You're cool, so I know you'll like this," or it could mean "I'm head-over-heels, Air Supply-style, completely and totally crazy about you." Whatever mix tapes meant, portable music players have quashed their relevance.

Portable music players have destroyed this sacred entity by both making music listening an innately personal act and alleviating any need for other forms of portable media storage. What made mix tapes so important, so meaningful, was that they could be listened to in public or in private. As well, mix tapes could be enjoyed between a group of friends, or two people with a special relationship. Portable music players have made music listening less like an experience and more like a utility or requirement.

By eliminating the need for exchangeable, small forms of portable media storage (tapes and CDs), portable music players have closed the door on the perceived need and usefulness of a mix tape. And while nothing says I love you like "I made you a playlist - I'll beam it to your laptop from my PocketPC then you can upload it to your iPod to keep your mind slightly distracted while you mindlessly walk around," it just doesn't have the same romantic feel as "I made this for you to listen to remind you on some rainy day when you're feeling blue that I am thinking about you and hoping you're smiling."

Portable music players might bring comfort to some, but only to those who are incapable of enjoying what has always been there for them. On any given day, in a five-minute walk, I am soothed by singing birds, busy squirrels, and whispering winds. Sadly, though, it seems that when starting my car or firing up my CD player, I can't expect a mix tape anytime soon.



**Christopher A. Noth**  
Columnist

## Prof. Cortés makes class memorable

This fall semester was a very special experience for some lucky AS 408 Flight Safety students. Professor Antonio Cortés from the Aeronautical Science department guided the class into a world that for many was unknown. The theme of the course, as stated by Cortés, was "recognizing a developing accident chain and breaking it with courageous activism."

As the class developed, we discussed different topics and elements about flight safety while at the same time having interactive group discussions. However, this semester concluded with a presentation given by the Sub-Lieutenant Ian Watson, AKA "Soapy" (his call sign) from the Britain's Royal Navy. We learned about Soapy during a class discussion on different shocking aviation events. Cortés presented a case about a Harrier pilot who in June 1983, after a failure in the

aircraft's NAVHARS navigation system and lacking of fuel, could not return to the carrier. Instead, he landed on a passing Spanish merchant ship, the Alraigo, enroute to Tenerife, Spain.

One of Cortés' students mentioned that he knew Sub-Lt. Watson (currently living in the Deland area). Hence, they were able to get in contact with Soapy to arrange a meeting. After many phone calls he finally visited us and told his story.

Due to the lost in the navigation system which included radios, Soapy was not able to locate the aircraft carrier or talk to anybody after the mission's completion. However, he spotted a radar return which came to be the Alraigo. Without hesitation, he pointed the aircraft in that direction locating the Spanish ship off the coast of Portugal. After a "fast and low" fly-by to check for a landing zone, Soapy spotted one of the

containers with dimensions similar to many landing paths in which he had landed before. By means of the Harrier's vertical landing capability, Sub-Lt. Watson landed the aircraft on top of a container packed with milk and whisky. Soapy's quick response capabilities along with his excellent pilot skills saved an aircraft that would otherwise have had to be abandoned.

Soapy immediately became an honorary member of the AS 408

course. He attended many classes and safety presentations given by students and offered great input in our learning experience. Professor Cortés' AS 408 students would like to extend our most sincere appreciation to Sub-Lt. Ian "Soapy" Watson for his great efforts to make us better safety activists. He will always be welcome in this university and remembered by the fall 2005 Flight Safety class.

~Oz Maitas

**Want to add your two cents?  
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from The Avion's website,  
www.avionnewspaper.com**

## Stand Up!

In these columns, I often talk about a single person or event that I think is worth shedding light on. Since this will be the last column of the semester, I decided to talk about a more sweeping issue, one I believe is at the root of many of the problems in this country; the polarization of every issue into something black and white.

Everything now is Republican or Democrat, liberal or conservative, pro-life or pro-choice. There is no middle ground, no compromise. People are so concerned about taking sides, that no one is looking

down the middle to see the path we should be taking. It seems on every issue, someone needs to be wrong and someone needs to be right, and it does not have to be this way.



**Chris Tezak**  
Columnist

Take for example the term liberal. It used to be a docile term to describe one's political views. Now, in this country, a liberal has become one who is raving government hater and crazy person. It seems everyone packs anyone with a dissenting opinion, or someone who questions government, into a group with Michael Moore, who I believe is the leftist equivalent of Ann Coulter, both of whom are far

too radical. Though both of those people serve a purpose to the public discourse, they make people look at topics from different directions.

When people begin judging others and grouping them into categories because of one or two beliefs, communication breaks down. This is a huge problem right now in America. Look at Congress; it is a death wish for any Congressman to change his or her mind on subjects anymore. One would be seen as a "flip-flopper," or someone with a small constitution. Since when was changing one's mind a crime, something to ridicule? I thought it was a good thing to be flexible in the way you view the world. The environment in this country tells you to

stick to one side of the story and not consider anything else.

Abortion and religion are two examples of how this split is running rampant in this country. Abortion is a broad topic with many options, opinions, and issues. But whenever it is brought up, it seems one must pick pro-choice or pro-life. Than after they make that choice, they are automatically totally for or totally against it. It is ridiculous. On a topic that is so complicated as abortion, there is never a simple black and white choice. This fact goes for moral topics in general; there are always shades of grey and we have to realize that fact.

The battle over religion, lately, has gone completely out of control.

Religious symbols in government buildings, intelligent design, religious phrases on money, it all has gone awry. Most people fighting for either side of the subject are too stubborn or selfish to listen to the other, or the level to which this country tries to be politically correct takes over. I mean come on, holiday trees? It is a Christmas tree. If you are offended, don't be, and celebrate whatever traditions you have.

This country needs to realize the fact that having only two sides or options to a topic or question is a terrible way to live. We will soon be entering 2006, and I truly don't know how much longer we can last with this level of polarization and apathy. I guess time will tell.

*The world is not as black and white  
as some make it out to be.*

## Student Forum

The Avion asks: "What do you want for Christmas?"

—Compiled by Brian Case



**Terrance Drew**  
Aeronautics  
Sophomore

"Enough money to pay for tuition."



**Stephanie Henderson**  
Aeronautical Science  
Junior

"To solo before Christmas, then an iPod Nano."



**Udesh Chandran**  
Aeronautical Science  
Freshman

"A good pen for my collection. I have 30."



**Kyle Hill**  
Aerospace Engineering  
Freshman

"A digital camera, because I'm tired of all the disposable ones."



**Chris Carvalho**  
Aerospace Engineering  
Freshman

"A puppy."



**Mike Langan**  
Aeronautical Science  
Freshman

"I just want to be home for Christmas."

## Iran's new space program faces challenges

Curtis Ewbank  
Copy Editor

Iran is trying to learn as much as it can about space technology, as it fears the international community will seek to put restrictions on its nascent space program. There is concern over the security of the Middle East in light of Iran's developing technological prowess. President Ahmadi-Nejad recently called for Israel to be wiped from the face of the earth. Such an action is unpleasant in the eyes of the international community, and it seeks to prevent Iran from being capable of carrying out such threats. Yet, Iran wants to develop

technology, such as satellites and nuclear power plants, to enable a higher standard of living. Iran already faces sanctions regarding its nuclear program. As Iran's space program develops, it fears similar restrictions. Iran became the forty-third country to have a satellite in space in October with the launch of Sina-1. Sina-1 is a Russian-built satellite and was launched on a Russian booster. Iran has built a second satellite, Mesbah, with help from an Italian space company. That satellite is due to

be launched on a Russian rocket in approximately two months. Sina-1 was constructed to take pictures of Iran and monitor the country's natural disasters. The satellite has a three-year lifetime and a camera resolution of 50 meters. Iran's space program head, Deputy Telecom Minister Ahmad Talebzadeh, told the Associated Press, "Sina-1 is a research satellite. It's not possible to use it for military purposes...Technically speaking, yes. It can monitor Israel. But we don't

need to do it. You can buy satellite photos of Israeli streets from the market." While not truly useful militarily, the satellite represents an important step in Iran's quest to become a technological power in the Middle East. According to Communications Minister Mohammad Soleimani, aerospace faculties have mushroomed at Iranian universities in recent years. Iranian technicians are being trained in Italy, Russia, and China on how to design and build satellites. The Iranian government

has allocated \$500 million for space projects over the next five years. All of this research is aimed at providing better telecommunications within Iran. But the application of the technology can easily be switched to security purposes. Iran can be monitored by Israel by satellite, and Iran desires the ability to reciprocate. However, Iran fears it will not get the chance as the international community may decide to impose sanctions similar to those placed on Iran's nuclear program. Mohammad Reza

Movaseghinia, an Iranian space program official, told the Associated Press, "The moment they feel Iran has made a breakthrough, they will impose restrictions more than those they have imposed on Iran's nuclear program." Aside from satellites, Iran has also been working on developing rockets. Currently, Iran's most powerful rocket is the Shahab-3 missile. The Shahab-3 cannot launch satellites into orbit, but does have a range of 1,240 miles, and can carry a nuclear payload to targets in Israel and throughout the Middle East. Iran is working on a Shahab-4 rocket capable of putting satellites into orbit. It is not known when the Shahab-4 will be ready.

**" [It] is a research satellite. It's not possible to use it for military purposes. "**  
- AHMAD TALEBZADEH

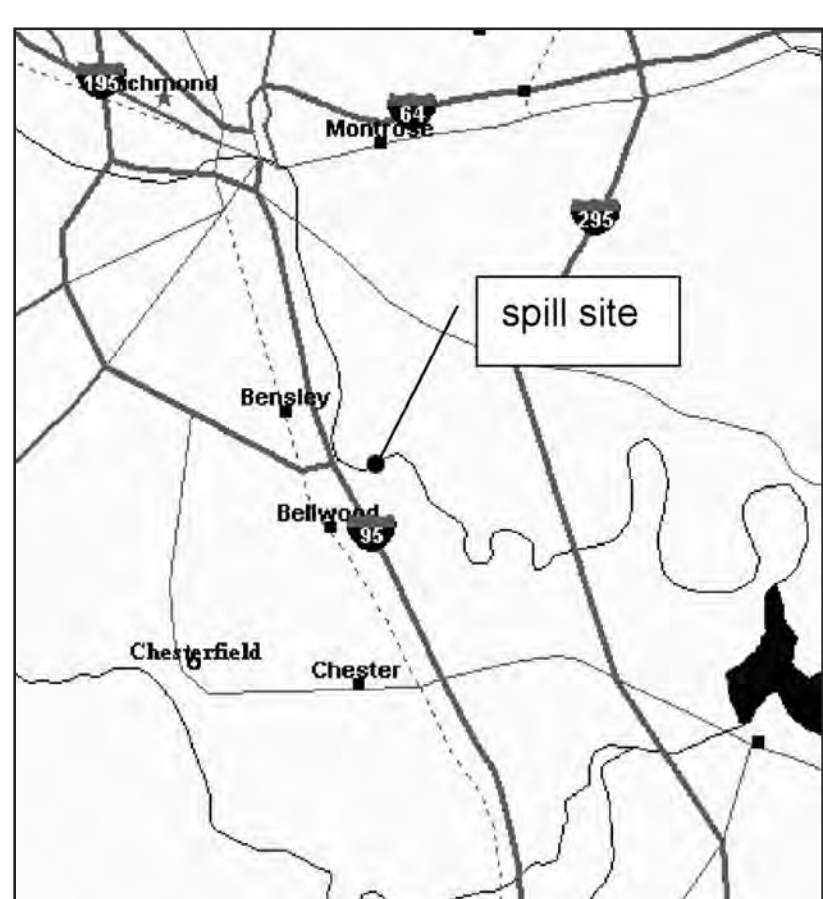
**" They will impose restrictions more than ... on Iran's nuclear program. "**  
- M. R. MOVASEGHINIA

## Asphalt spill closes James River

Luke Smith  
Guest Reporter

Thousands of gallons of hot liquid asphalt spilled from a barge last Monday after it ran aground near Richmond, Virginia. The Piney Point, operated by Vane Line Bunkering of Baltimore, Maryland, hit bottom in the James River at about 4:30 a.m. while being pushed by a tugboat about five miles south of its destination in Richmond. The tanker was carrying 1.26 million gallons of 270 degree asphalt in eight 127,000 gallon tanks. Only one of the tanks is suspected to have ruptured in the accident. Chief Warrant Officer Brandon Brewer, a Coast Guard spokesman on the scene said, "We estimate between 42,000 and 63,000 gallons have been spilled." A second barge has been moored along side the 250 foot Piney Point to offload the remaining asphalt. After it is unloaded crews will be able to begin the task of moving the disabled and nearly submerged barge. The accident closed a mile long segment of the river to prevent the spill from spreading and provide a better chance of containing and cleaning the pollution. A portion of the river was reopened Tuesday

allowing one ship to pass at a time. The James River is 200 yards wide at the point of the accident but only 100 yards is considered navigable channel. "The barge is not blocking the river," Brewer said, "but it is at an angle and depending on how big a ship is it might not get through." Most of the spill is concentrated to an area the size of a football field directly underneath or right along the sides of the barge making it necessary to clear the Piney Point before beginning to cleanup the spill. "Once we get the damaged barge out of the way, that is when the cleanup will really get going," said Brewer. This is not the first accident on record for Vane Line Bunkering. They are also owners of another barge that spilled almost 25,000 gallons of diesel fuel into the river in May. The Coast Guard said the company will be fined for that spill but Brewer was not able to find the amount. The maximum fine is \$10,000 for this type of spill. The Piney point was being pushed by The Barbary Coast, a 65-foot long tugboat, when it ran aground. "[The Barbary Coast] had an impeccable safety record prior to this incident," said the owner, Dann Marine. Tugboats push barges at about six miles per hour



GRAPHIC COURTESY MIJEONG YOON  
**THE VANE LINE BUNKERING** company lost about 42,000 to 63,000 gallons of asphalt when one of its tankers ran aground on Virginia's James River. The company may face a fine of up to \$10,000.

## Can. passes no confidence vote

Bob Scheid  
News Editor

Last Monday, Canada's parliament passed a vote of no confidence in Prime Minister Paul Martin's administration. The vote, which succeeded 171-133, was the result of three opposition parties joining together in protest of the minority liberal government that has been in power for only 17 months. Multiple scandals have rocked the administration, including the use of the equivalent of \$85 million U.S. for advertising campaigns in the late 1990s, with very little work being done at all. It has been suggested that the money actually went to government officials as kickbacks for awarding the contracts. Other controversies included a row regarding private health care spending. Opposition leader Stephen Harper has since said that the party no longer retains moral authority and should be

forced out. The Liberals responded by calling the accusations "false smears," and accused them of setting Canada back several decades. Martin had previously fought a vote of no confidence in May, and more recently refused an ultimatum to dissolve the parliament and advance the election by two months. "We said we would have an election in March. I think that's when it should be," said Martin. Now, the government has to hold winter elections for the first time in 26 years, with the campaigning to take place over the holidays. Martin's cabinet will remain in office until the vote is completed, though the parliament was dissolved after the no-confidence vote was taken. The vote will require a complete reelection of all 308 members of the assembly and the Prime Minister position as well. Martin said that he believes he will be reelected, and others have said that it is likely he will receive a plurality of the vote, but not a majority.

**" We said we should have an election in March... that's when it should be. "**  
- PAUL MARTIN



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## No. 11 Eagles win two games to capture the Daytona Mitsubishi Shootout Championship

Chris Tezak

Managing Editor

The Embry-Riddle men's basketball team took home first place at the Daytona Mitsubishi Shootout, held this weekend in the ICI Center. The Eagles won the first game comfortably, but their fight against Sienna Heights gave them a scare.

On Friday night, the men went up against the Edward Waters Tigers in a game that turned into more of a practice than a college match-up. The start of the game saw the Tigers playing a high-pressure defense and pressing the Eagles the full length of the floor. The Eagles were able to break the press most of the time, but the tough defense kept scoring down. Edward also came out with an impressive inside-outside offense that opened many shooters on the three-point line, though the

team ended up shooting an abysmal 29 percent from the field, wasting their good opportunities.

The scope of the game changed when the teams were tied at 19-19 with about eight minutes to go. The Eagles seemed to catch a spark and started to rattle the Tigers.

When the half was over, ERAU had a 26-8 run and the game was broken wide open. Edward Waters was put on their heels and got into foul trouble while being unable to do anything on offense. In the last five minutes of the half, Eagle guard Ryan Exter was able to sink three three-pointers, half of his total for the game. He also made a nice closing to the half with a beautiful reverse lay-up in traffic.

A methodical second-half appeared to be more of a pre-game warm-up than a full speed basketball game. The starters sat for most of the half and the Eagle second string got quite a bit of

playtime. Ryan Exter finished the night with 28 points, shooting 60 percent from three-point land. Starting center Nick Miller also had a solid game, putting up a double-double with 14 points and ten rebounds.

The Championship game of the Shootout pitted Embry-Riddle against Mich. Sienna Heights. The Saints came out; much the same way the Tigers did in the first game, with a high-pressure full press offense. Except, this time, the Saints were able to force a quick timeout and five-second violation.

Sienna Heights seemed to suffer the same problem Edward Waters did, poor shooting. The team had many opportunities to score but was unable to convert all too often. Both teams were unable to find any rhythm in the first ten minutes of the game with the only standout being Eagle forward Michael Pyle, who scored ten of the Eagles first 17 points.

With about five minutes left in the half the game picked up some pace as some of the Saints' shots began to fall. Two three-pointers gave the offense a shot in the arm and the team clawed back from a 19-10 deficit to make it 24-25. The Saints kept the pressure on but two late threes from Eagle guard Jake Pickett stunted the momentum and the half ended with the score 33-30.

Riding the late first-half charge, the Saints kept the scoring going into the second half. In the last 30 seconds, Saints point-guard Gerome Hunter made a lay-up off a steal and sank a three pointer. Pyle, who finished the game with 25 points and 13 boards, quickly countered for the Eagles putting up five of his own with some nice low post play.

The game then turned into a series of momentum changes with each team going on 8-10 point runs. Sienna Heights showed some impressive ball movement, opening up many open shots, but as the second half progressed the missed started coming in droves.

With 6:30 left in the game, the score had become 57-52 in favor of the Eagles. The teams started trading baskets as the final minutes ticked away. Both teams were in the bonus, and foul shots started to become key, but the final blow came to the Saints when their leading scorer Rodney Williams fouled out with less than three minutes left. Williams ended his night with 17 points. With ten seconds left, Pyle sank two free throws and then, for the icing on the cake, a turnover came back to Pyle, who slammed a mighty dunk in the closing seconds.

For the Eagles (9-1), this victory marked their third Mitsubishi Shootout crown since it started six years ago. The men will play a series of away games, including a tournament in Hawaii, before they return to the ICI for a set of tournaments over the holiday break.



ERAU'S MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM defeated Sienna Heights on Saturday to take first place in the Daytona Mitsubishi Shootout.

## B-ball beats LaGrange (Ga.)

Press Release

ERAU Sports Info. Dept.

Jumping out to a 40-point halftime lead behind an amazing 71.9 percent shooting from the field (23-for-32) was certainly the difference for the Embry-Riddle University men's basketball team in its 113-63 victory against LaGrange (Ga.) Wednesday evening at the ICI Center.

The Eagles actually shot better from the floor and the three-point arc (66.7 percent, 4-for-6) in the first half, than they did from the free throw line, converting just 64.7 percent of their attempts (11-for-17).

While the offense was firing, the defense was forcing the pressure and limiting the good looks for LaGrange which shot just 25 percent in the first half (8-for-32)

and ERAU scored 20 points off 16 Panther first-half turnovers.

Denny Joseph led the ERAU first-half charge with 12 points, while every Eagle made an appearance in the first half and all recorded points. Joseph finished with a game-high 17 points in 17 minutes of action to lead seven Eagles in double-figures.

Embry-Riddle jumped out to a 37-8 lead 11:44 into the game and never looked back pushing it to a 61-21 advantage at the intermission.

The hot shooting for the Eagles continued in the second half dropping 21-of-31 from the field (67.7 percent) and finished the night at 69.8 percent (44-for-63).

The Blue and Gold built their largest lead of the night with a 50-point margin at the 13:32

mark of the second half. Ryan Exter helped the Eagles' cause with all nine of his second-half points coming in the run which helped push the lead to 50. The junior guard from Winter Springs finished the evening with 16 points on 7-for-10 shooting from the field.

Senior Michael Pyle recorded 15 points and 10 rebounds in just 16 minutes of action converting 7-of-8 from the floor. Murat Hisarkaya added 16 off the bench with seven boards, three steals, two blocks and three assists. Drew Whitaker finished with 12, seven rebounds, two blocks and three assists, while Denver Cobb recorded 11 points, five assists and four boards. Tyler DeBord rounded out the double-figure scorers with 10 points and Jake Pickett led all players with six assists.

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# Industry & Technology

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The Avion, December 6, 2005

## NASA's SOHO turns ten, still watching Sun

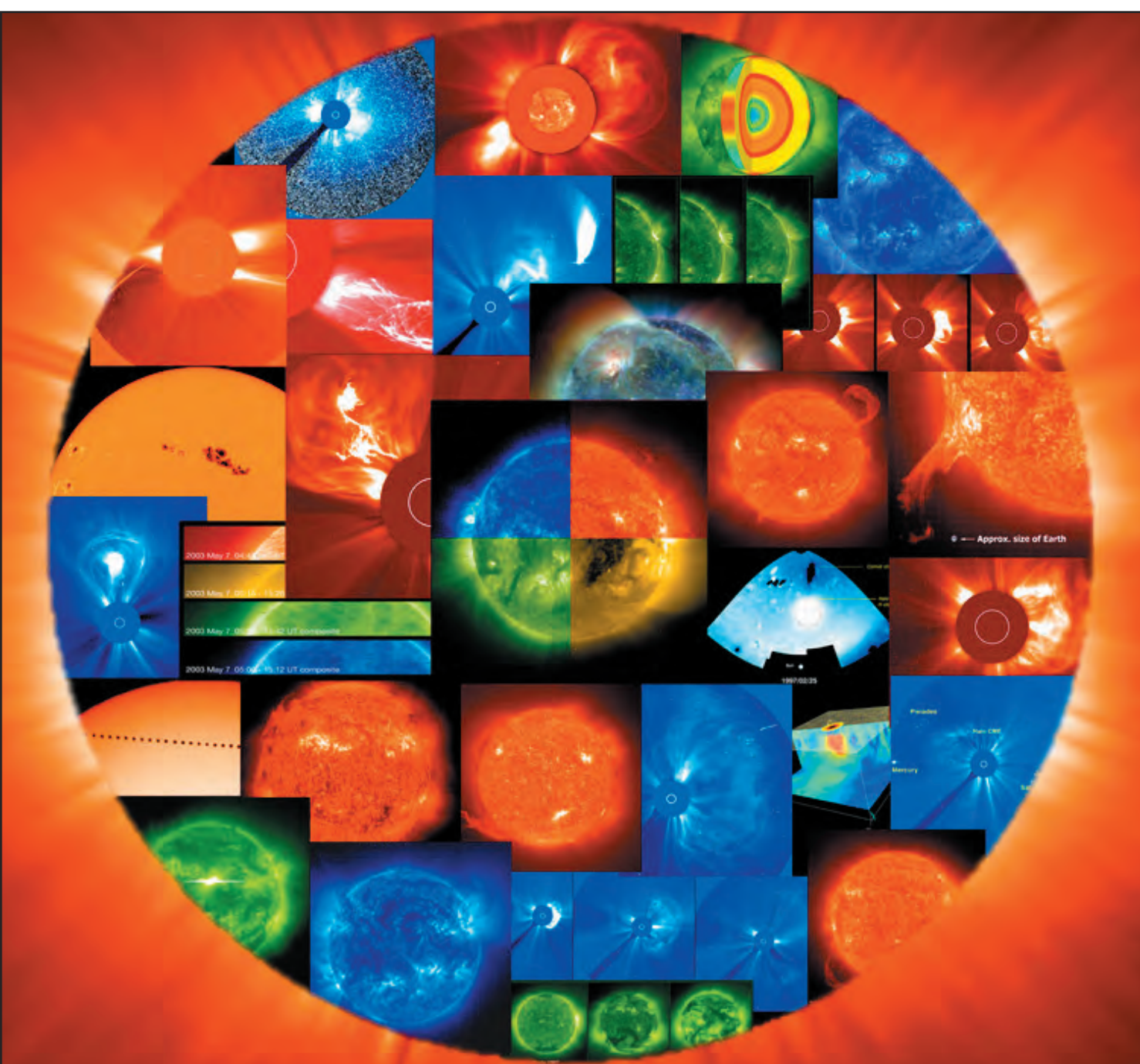


IMAGE COURTESY NASA.GOV

NASA'S SOHO SPACECRAFT HAS been the agency's primary solar research platform for the past ten years. The craft also acts as the world's early warning system for solar flares and other dangerous solar activity, despite suffering major damage.

Curtis Ewbank

Chief Copy Editor

The Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) was launched towards LaGrange point L1 on Dec. 2, 1995. Ten years later, SOHO is still the centerpiece of Earth's early-warning system for solar storms, despite having suffered critical hardware losses.

U.S. project scientist for SOHO Joe Gurman said, "It is impossible to overstate the importance of SOHO to the worldwide solar science community. In the last ten years, SOHO has revolutionized our ideas about the solar interior and atmosphere and the acceleration of solar wind." SOHO's suite of instruments has provided the most detailed images of the Sun's surface and interior ever.

Some of SOHO's accomplishments include: providing the first images of a star's turbulent outer shell, creating images of the Sun's far side so storms that threaten Earth can be seen far in advance, discovering the mechanism that releases enough energy to heat the Sun's corona to 100 times the surface temperature, and monitoring the Sun's energy output. By monitoring the Sun's energy output, scientists better understand the impact of solar variability on the Earth's climate.

SOHO is also the best detector of comets. Comets are brightest near the Sun and SOHO is in a prime location to view near-Sun objects. SOHO images are freely available online; people from all over the world have used these images to find comets. Over 1,000 comets have been discovered using SOHO data.

The mere fact SOHO is 10 years old is impressive. The joint NASA-ESA project was originally intended to be a two-year

mission. After initial success, the mission was extended to 2003 to observe a peak of the 11-year solar cycle. Hardware problems nearly prevented SOHO from making that original extension. In 1998, SOHO experienced a total loss of attitude control. Ground controllers spent three months reestablishing contact with the probe.

Later that year, the last of three gyroscopes aboard failed. Engineers then realized gyros were not necessary to orient SOHO. According to Joe Gurman, "If you have a spacecraft that is going around the Sun, you don't need gyros. We know where the Sun is. We know what our roll angle is because we have two star trackers. That gives us three points of reference, and that's all we need."

In June 2003 it looked as if SOHO was done for again when the motor drive on the high-gain antenna gave out. It was then discovered that the beam width of the high-gain antenna was eight times wider than called for in specifications. During SOHO's six month orbit, the high-gain antenna works for all but two short blackout periods. During these times, the spacecraft is flipped so the low-gain antenna points towards Earth. Very little of the mission is compromised.

Even with all the flipping, SOHO does not run the risk of running out of fuel. It carried extra fuel in case the initial deployment to L1 was off the mark. This fuel was not needed. As a result SOHO has about 100 kilograms of fuel left, yet it uses only 1 kilogram a year.

SOHO has lost important primary systems, but with ingenuity and luck this valuable spacecraft has been kept online. As the ESA's SOHO project scientist Bernhard Fleck said, "The only things left to break are the critical ones." Plans are to keep the project funded until 2009, when a suitable replacement is expected to be launched.

## New nanotech may revolutionize field

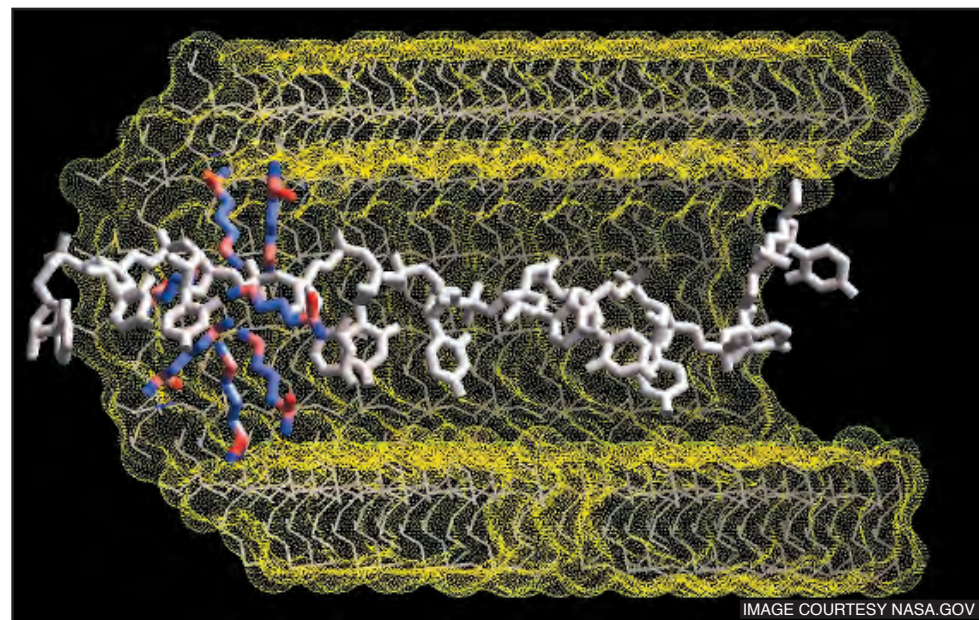


IMAGE COURTESY NASA.GOV

Bob Scheid

News Editor

A new method for nanoconstruction may revolutionize the ability of scientists to make ultra-small machines and structures.

Salvatore Torquato, a scientist at Princeton University, has reversed the conventional method of nanoconstruction to make things work better with less human intervention. The current method involves trial-and-error, creating a chemical structure

by letting the constituent parts combine as in nature and seeing if the result is approximately what was desired.

Torquato's method, on the other hand, is to create a blueprint of what they want to build, and then custom design the parts they need so that they will automatically assemble themselves in the correct fashion. He proposes that when the blocks are thrown together randomly, they would self-assemble into the pre-designed shape.

He likens the procedure to designing the cement blocks and two-by-fours of a house, and then, when they are thrown together, the house connects itself together automatically. In the current method, scientists have to try to build the house, and while it may come out right, it could also end up being a barn, a garage, a silo, or any other number of structures. Numerous experiments would have to be conducted to create the desired formation.

"In a sense, this would allow you to play God, because the method creates, on the computer, new types of particles whose interactions are tuned precisely so as to yield a desired structure," said Pablo Debenedetti, a professor of chemical engineering at Princeton.

One of the most impressive characteristics of the concept is the ability to create honeycomb lattices, a two-dimensional approximation of the three-dimensional crystal lattice, a holy grail in nanotechnology. It was not previously known that it could be created by a method other than covalent bonding, but now it seems that non-directional bonding can be used to create this structure.

"The honeycomb lattice is a simple example but it illustrates the power of our approach," said Torquato, "We envision assembling even more useful and unusual structures in the future."

Many are quick to point out that Torquato is a theorist and the actual implementation is not even being tested right now. Others, like Debenedetti, say that this kind of thought is what spawns advanced techniques in the future, and Torquato's team has already modeled the system theoretically using computers.

## Man hired to hack voting booths

Melanie Pugh

Copy Editor

Next week, Harri Hursti will attempt to hack into a California voting machine, but he has nothing to gain personally; someone else put him up to it. What kind of person would hire Hursti to do so? The man behind the master plan is none other than Secretary of State Bruce McPherson.

Hursti, a Finnish computer security expert, will attempt to prove Diebold Electrical Systems, the makers of electronic voting systems, vulnerable to attack, as he tries to alter election results. Black Box, a consumer group, is responsible for bringing hackers like Hursti in for equipment testing. Black Box Voting, among similar groups, argue that programs can be loaded, input new election results, and never be detected. Diebold counters that its equipment is accurate and secure.

Diebold hopes to gain approval for implementation of its newest voting system. As California presents the biggest market, the deal could make or break the company. Employees have their fingers crossed after McPherson previously refused

the contract, following the failure of 20 percent of test machines in a July study in San Joaquin County.

"This is part of our security mission. We want to make sure that every vote is counted and registered correctly," said Nghia Nguyen Demovic, spokeswoman for McPherson, "The secretary said that performance wasn't good enough."

Hursti's infiltration attempt, which is tentatively scheduled for Dec. 7, could be Diebold's only shot at certification. Hursti and a partner were previously hired by the company last May to test a system in Leon County, Florida. After entering the system with no problem, the results were changed, and the hackers flashed a message reading, "Are we having fun yet?" across computer screens. The results were pretty clear.

The county's report, authored by Election Supervisor Ion Sancho, read, "Granted the same access as an employee of our office, it was possible to enter the computer, alter election results and exit the system without any physical record of this action."

The test will involve a machine that uses a Diebold system, randomly selected from one of the state's 17 Diebold-using counties. Originally, the company was to provide the

test machine, but agreed to use one of the machines already in use. "We want to test a machine that's already been used," Jim March of Black Box said, "We want to avoid a so-called 'lab queen', a voting machine specially rigged for the test."

Diebold has to be careful, as it has already been blacklisted a number of times for various reasons, including security, malfunction, and political ties. The head of Diebold's parent company remarked in 2003 that he was "committed to helping Ohio deliver its votes to the President next year," in a letter to Republicans. This letter came as the company was trying to boost sales in Ohio, and later raised question again as George W. Bush narrowly defeated Senator John Kerry in Ohio in the 2004 elections, coupled with mass protest over the alleged voting system flaws.

In the 2003 California recall election, thousands of votes were inadvertently transferred electronically from Democratic Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante to Southern California Socialist John Burton. After the company's system disrupted proceedings at 180 precincts in a 2004 primary election, then-Secretary of State Kevin Shelley decertified the company's products in four counties and restricted its usage in ten others.

## Image of the Crab Nebula

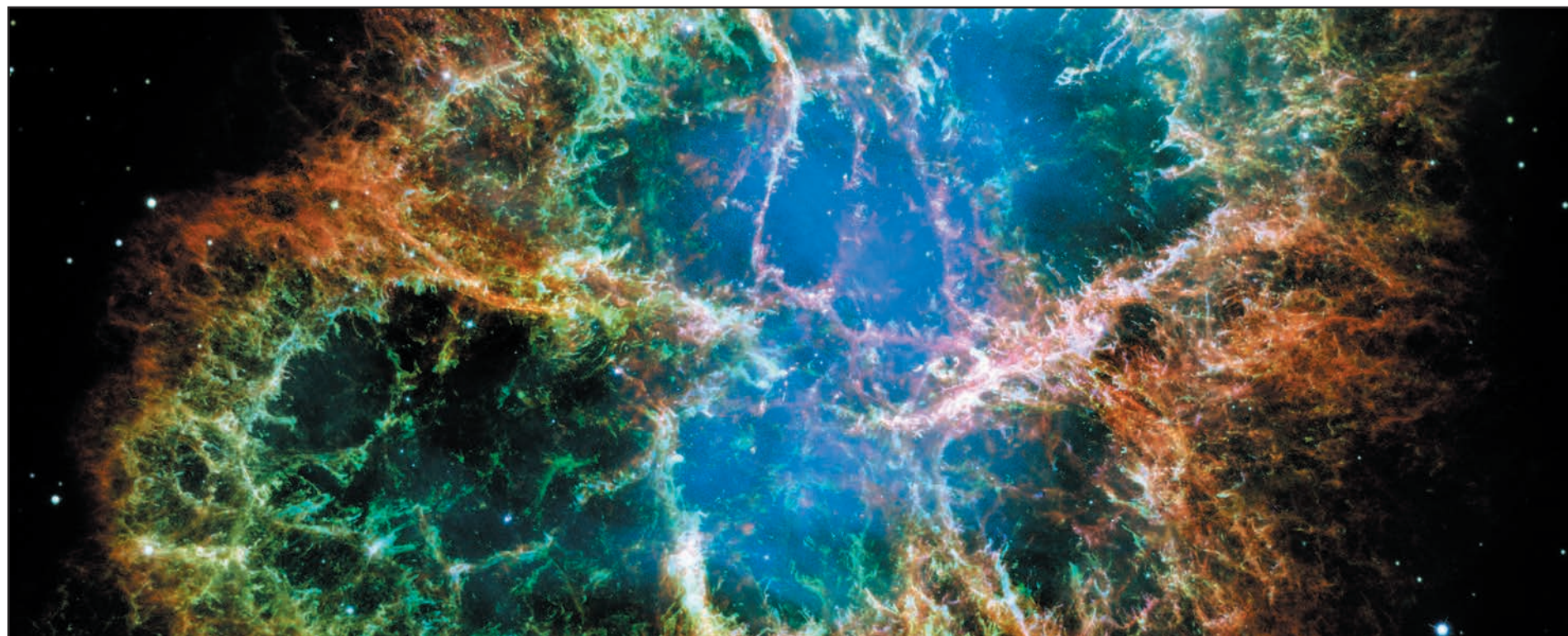


IMAGE COURTESY NASA.GOV

THIS ULTRA HIGH RESOLUTION image was taken by the Hubble Space Telescope on Dec. 1. The nebula is a remnant of a supernova and is a resident of the Taurus constellation. This image is one of the highest resolution images available as it measures 3864x3864. The full picture can be found on [jpl.nasa.gov](http://jpl.nasa.gov).





## U.S. and European Union reach open agreement

### First stage of talks complete

Michael McGraw  
Staff Reporter

After two years of strained talks between the United States and the European Union, the first stage of a transatlantic aviation agreement has concluded.

When the final agreement is reached, it is expected to include open skies between the United States and all 26 nations in the European Union. Any U.S. airline would be able to fly from any U.S. airport to any European Union airport. Likewise, any E.U. airline could fly to any U.S. airport.

However, there are still areas that need to be worked out,

including foreign ownership rules. By law, the U.S. Department of Transportation requires that at least three-quarters of the voting interest in a U.S. airline must be controlled by United States citizens. The president and at least two-thirds of the directors and senior officer positions must also be filled by United States citizens.

On the other side of the pond, E.U. law allows up to 49 percent of airlines to be controlled by foreign interests.

These more liberal regulations have long been a point of contention between the United States and the European Union, which has demanded that the United States relax or eliminate its ownership rules. The transportation ministers of the individual E.U. nations will be the final judges for this legislation, but they have made it clear that they will wait for the

outcome of the U.S. foreign ownership rule negotiations before they make their final vote. That vote is expected to take place sometime in spring of 2006.

The Bush Administration has proposed the 49 percent rule, but Congress has not agreed. In turn, more liberal definitions of citizenship were proposed, which would allow representatives of foreign investors to sit in key positions within the airline's management team. This would allow the U.S. to keep the three-quarters/two-thirds requirements while permitting increased foreign representation in airline management.

In the United States, however, those rules are being hotly contested by U.S. congressmen.

A bipartisan, but mostly Democrat, group of members of Congress has sent a letter to Transportation Secretary Norman

Mineta opposing the foreign ownership rules. The group claims that the new rules would run counter to what Congress has always demanded for citizenship requirements, even as recently as 2003, and that they disapprove the "back-door effort" to bypass Congress. They argue that any major change "should only be accomplished through the legislative process."

Comments on the new legislation are not due until the first week of January, and the DOT will require time to evaluate the comments. However, by no means does this time frame delay the implementation of open skies between the two continents.

At the earliest, the agreement would take effect in October 2006, which coincides with the start of the International Air Transport Association's 2006-2007 winter season.

The second stage of talks is set to begin no later than 60 days after the first stage is implemented. The second stage of talks is expected to include competition and government subsidies as the primary topics on the agenda.



PHOTO COURTESY HUMAN-FACTORS.ARC.NASA.GOV  
THE U.S. AND EUROPEAN UNION ended first round talks about transatlantic aviation on Nov. 21. The talks concluded any U.S. airline could fly from any U.S. airport to any E.U. airport and visa versa.

## UF creates wind tunnel to reduce airplane noise

Michael McGraw  
Staff Reporter

The University of Florida has completed a wind tunnel that it hopes will lead to a reduction in noise from commercial airliners overflying homes and neighborhoods. The \$400,000 wind tunnel is among only a few in the country, and the largest at any university, designed specifically to study noise created from airflow over the fuselage, wings, flaps, and landing gear.

The wind tunnel, which took two years to construct, is an "anechoic" tunnel because it is designed to minimize noise echoes.

The University of Notre Dame is the only other university with a similar wind tunnel, but the UF example is larger and faster than the one at Notre Dame. Virginia Tech is currently refurbishing its aerodynamic stability wind tunnel so that it may also be used for airframe noise studies.

The UF tunnel is contained in a soundproof room in one of the university's mechanical and aerospace engineering buildings. The walls and ceilings, as well as the door, are covered in three-foot fiberglass wedges that absorb 99 percent of the noise being studied. Models of real aircraft will vary in size from one-tenth to one-fifth the size of actual aircraft. Through filtering and other soundproofing techniques, the only noise that will be heard in the chamber will be from airflow. Anyone in the wind tunnel must speak loudly even to people standing only a few feet away.

A 300-horsepower fan, located outside the building on its own concrete foundation, is capable of

pulling air through the tunnel at speeds up to 170 mph, the typical approach speed for commercial jets.

While noise from jet engines has been significantly reduced over the last decade, noise from airflow over the airframe is becoming the prominent noisemaker from low flying aircraft. Today, most of the noise that people on the ground hear is from aircraft components other than the engines.

Since jet noise was the main concern many years ago, attention was focused at reducing that noise rather than airframe noise. As the jets have become quieter, attention can now be turned towards understanding the effect that airflow has on the noise emitted from the aircraft.



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## FAA and ATC talks stall

### Controller pay is source of disagreements

Brain Case

Business Manager

Labor talks between the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Air Traffic Controller Association have all but stalled. Now a federal mediator is involved to bring the two parties closer to an agreement. The heart of the disagreement is controller pay, which averages \$128,000 a year. With benefits, the cost comes to \$166,000 per controller.

Labor costs make up 80 percent of the FAA's \$8.2 billion budget, and the FAA employs 14,500 controllers.

"Their current proposal does not recognize the hard realities of an

industry that is in financial trouble, real taxpayer concerns, and the fiscal challenges confronting this agency," said FAA Administrator Marion Blakey in a statement.

"At the very time when the taxpayer, the agency, and the industry can least afford it, NATCA wants even more money," said Blakey.

The current proposal proposed from the controllers asks for 5.6 percent pay increase over five years. NATCA is also asking for a shorter work day, and more paid sick leave.

"All told, NATCA's proposal would add \$2.6 billion in pay and benefits to the FAA's operating budget over five years," said FAA Chief Operating Officer Russ Chew.

In addition to labor costs, the FAA would like to modernize its ATC equipment. Modernization is crucial to increasing capacity, as demand

continues to rise despite a struggling airline industry.

"Rather than agreeing to long-standing, time-tested provisions, the agency has insisted on trading proposals back and forth on several minor issues," said NATCA President John Carr in September.

The FAA proposal seeks for no increase in controller wages, to "narrow the gap" between controller pay and the wages of other FAA employees. In addition, the FAA is looking for more lenient work rules, and concessions in sick days and paid leave.

If the federal mediator declares negotiations are stalled, the FAA may present the labor contract to Congress.

Congress can then pass the proposal or the FAA can go ahead with the plan if Congress takes no action within 60 days.



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## Dino dung reveals ancient grass that passed

**Grass grew 10 million years earlier than first thought**

Nicole Titus  
Staff Reporter

Grass just recently found in fossilized dinosaur dung proves that grass grew on Earth much earlier than formerly thought and could have a huge effect on dinosaur history.

Discovery of the grass, otherwise scientifically known as coprolites, shows that grass grew 10 million years earlier than

previously thought. Scientists originally believed grass first appeared on Earth 55 million years ago, and therefore herbivorous dinosaurs grazed on other plants like trees, ferns, flowering plants, or cycads.

Caroline Stroemberg, a scientist at the Swedish Museum of National History, and two Indian researchers made the discovery. According to the scientists, the fossilized dung must belong to a titanosaur sauropod, found within close proximity to the dung. The titanosaur sauropod was a large, long-necked herbivorous dinosaur that weighed more than 100 tons, and was one of the largest creatures to ever walk on Earth.

The findings were published in Friday's edition of *Scientific Journal of Science*.

According to the publication, the grass was indicated by specific

phytoliths or tiny silica structures left behind by plants, in coprolites in the Gondwana region of India. Phytoliths are short, rigid cells that provide support to a plant and found exclusively in grasses. Most grass grows in dry upland areas where plants seldom fossilize.

The grass is dated back to 65 million years ago, at the end of the cretaceous period, when dinosaurs are believed to have died out.

The grass reveals a much larger diversification due to their highly variegated structures.

According to researchers, this evidence also suggests that early mammals with teeth adapted to chew grassy matter could have lived alongside the dinosaurs.

Before this discovery, the earliest traces of grass were found in a 55 million year old reproductive structure in Tennessee and in 70 million year old grass pollen in Egypt.



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.NPS.GOV

**EXAMINING FOSSILIZED DINOSAUR DUNG**, researchers determined the creatures were eating and digesting different varieties of grass between 65 and 71 million years ago. The imagined scene of the dinosaur realm must be reconsidered; in addition to ferns and palms, grass was also part of the picture.

## CO<sub>2</sub> levels are at 650,000 year high 'Body farm' needs funding, says prof.

Bob Scheid  
News Editor

European researchers have analyzed ancient bubbles found in chunks of Antarctic ice and have come to the conclusion that there is more carbon dioxide gas in the atmosphere now than at any point in the last 650,000 years.

The European Project for Ice Coring in Antarctica published an article in last week's edition of *Science* journal that outlined various changes in the Earth's atmosphere over the past several millennia. Among those data points released was the number of 380 parts per million (ppm) of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere today, up from 280 ppm two centuries ago.

Also among the data released was the fact that the average temperature is now one degree Fahrenheit warmer than it was only a few decades ago, what scientists are calling a significant rise.

Core samples contain air bubbles trapped between snowflakes falling over timescales of thousands of years. Since the snow may not melt for millions of years near the

South Pole, enough bubbles can survive long enough to be recovered by scientists, taken to a lab, released, and analyzed.

Previous ice core samples have dated back 440,000 years, but this recent sample was almost half again as old. Scientists are trying to use the data to identify how the Earth's atmosphere has changed in that time, and also how much the human population is affecting the natural ecosystem.

Skeptics of the global warming theory have claimed that the greenhouse gas levels are part of a naturally occurring cycle, which varies over time and that would eventually return to relatively low levels. More and more evidence, however, is supporting the theory that greenhouse gas emissions from industry and automobiles, among other producers are over-running the Earth's ability to cope. Thomas Stocker, of the University of Bern in Switzerland, noted that the carbon dioxide levels are 27 percent higher than they were at any point in the 650,000-year history recovered from this core sample.

"We are out of that natural range today," he said, adding that the

current cycle is proceeding at a speed "over a factor of a hundred faster than anything we are seeing in the natural cycles."

Continuing studies are trying to build models that can explain

the trends in global warming. Future core samples are hoped to provide samples from up to a million years ago, and would continue to firm up the models of carbon dioxide levels.



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.USGS.GOV

**WHEN ICE FORMS FROM** the buildup of annual layers of snow, an ice core sample can be used to reconstruct a climate record of the past using the chemical properties of inclusions within the ice.

**'Body farm' needs funding, says prof.**

Nicole Titus  
Staff Reporter

Tyler O'Brien, a biological anthropology professor at the University of Northern Iowa, is fascinated by Iowa's rich topsoil and climate - more particularly to learn about their influence on rotting corpses.

A body farm is best described as a farm used for scientific research on the decomposition of human bodies, whether they are stuffed in a car trunk or exposed to the elements.

The research will provide scholars and crime scene investigators with new information on human decay.

O'Brien is seeking a grant of \$400,000 to \$500,000 from the National Institute of Justice and other organizations to obtain the land and setup the project.

If the grant is approved it will be the second body farm in the nation. The first farm started up 30 years ago at the University of Tennessee's Forensic Anthropology Center. It is a secure, three-acre parcel near the

Tennessee campus where researchers work to document the decay of bodies buried in coffins and shallow dirt graves.

The researchers also study the effects of a decaying body partially submerged in a pond, exposed to bugs, rodents, and hot muggy summers.

The project and research has been used to teach hundreds of criminalists and has been the centerpiece of a variety of books.

William Bass, who heads up the project in Tennessee, believes there is a need for a second body farm in order to study decay in different climates.

Families in the region of the farm usually donate bodies. At the Tennessee farm more than 100 people filed donor applications this year and more than 600 are on file from the past 10 years. The list includes Roy Crawford, a 54-year-old mining engineer and part time forensic engineer.

According to Crawford, "the idea of being propped up against a tree to decompose sounds a whole lot better than being locked in a box and preserved under the ground."

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## 'Call of Duty 2;' a great action packed sequel



Chris Tezak  
Managing Editor

The "Call of Duty" (COD) series has become known as the ultimate WWII first-person-shooter of last few years. With the new release of "COD2," the series continues its prowess with its excellent action, impressive graphics, and stunning audio.

"COD2," like the original, throws you into the ferocious fighting of WWII in three different campaigns. You fight as the Russians trying to take back their country after the German invasion, the British in the dusty, dirty fighting of North Africa, and the Americans through D-Day and the crossing of the Rhine. The game is actually relatively short and took me maybe eight to ten hours to complete on regular difficulty. This shortness was unexpected, coming off the epic campaigns

of the original "COD." What this game lacks in its length it makes up in its sheer excitement and intensity. The game is very well made and makes you feel like you are as close as you can be to the battlefield, without actually taking you there. In the game you cannot just sit and take your time to aim and shoot at enemy troops, you have to run and shoot on the fly while using cover effectively. Smoke grenades are standard in the game too, and

you must use them in different parts throughout the game if you want to survive. In "COD2" tactics are definitely much more important, as the other people in your squad will actually fight like real troops instead of lumbering computers.

This emphasis on realism brings me to an interesting change made to the original game. The creators completely took out the health bar from the game. Now not only is the health bar an almost sacred FPS feature, one begs to ask the question, how else can you do it? Well the creators at Infinity Ward came up with a clever yet controversial system. Instead of a health bar, when you are hit the edges of the screen get progressively more red and your vision is blurred. The catch is the effects wear off when you get to cover and stop taking fire, almost acting like the rechargeable shields in "Halo."

Now before you knock the system, ask yourself this question, what is better? A health bar that sees you scurrying for health packs that drop off dead enemies, or this new system where a rapid succession of hits will take you down but a hit every once in awhile has no effect? To me there is no real difference, and if you want super realism just set the difficulty

to hard and it won't matter if you have a health meter or not, if enemy troops hit you, you are going down.

One thing that has not changed, and thankfully so, is the excellent audio in the series. The crispness and variety of effects and dramatic music really makes the game so great. The sounds of each gun, airplanes overhead, tracers going by your head, everything has a distinct sound. I really envy those people who have Creative X-Fi sound cards and surround sound systems, as they most definitely are in audiophile heaven.

The graphics are also quite stunning and I cannot wait until my next upgrade to see them with all the settings turned up. The shadows and particle effects are stellar, and the character models are done very well, though my

computer is a tad too slow to really make them stand out.

"COD2's" multiplayer is also solid, bringing in the best parts of the old game and mixing with the new. Infinity Ward even brought some of the old levels back from the original to help out with the switch. Maps like Dawnville and Railyard were redone and added to "COD2" in all their splendor and glory. The new maps are also done well and I especially like the ones based of the desert campaign.

Overall the second full installment to the "COD" series is a solid one. With a solid but short solo campaign, and the ever-awesome multiplayer, any fan of the series will be missing out on it. And for anyone looking for a decent FPS on the Xbox 360 I definitely think this is worth a buy.

Graphics	10
Gameplay	8
Audio	10
Controls	9
Concept	7
Average	8.8



## The Avion Holiday Buying Guide

### PC Upgrade Sweetspots



Nvidia 7800GT available for \$299 on [Newegg.com](http://Newegg.com). Best models are either the eVGA or BFG. The perfect combination of price and performance.



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### Top Xbox 360 Titles



"Need for Speed: Most Wanted" is an excellent arcade racer for the Xbox 360. The high pace action and tuning fun make the game great.



"Call of Duty 2," The first-person-shooter featured at the Xbox 360 kiosks, the game offers great action and excellent multiplayer. The PC and Xbox 360 version are similar so see the full review above.

### Top Handheld Titles

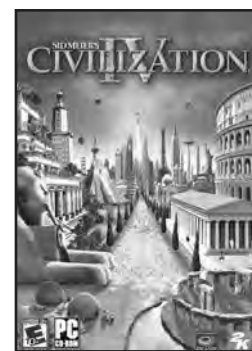


Bringing online Wi-Fi multiplayer ability matched with classic Mario Kart action, this is a must buy for anyone with a Nintendo DS.



The juggernaut that is the Grand Theft Auto series meets the portability of the PSP. With the quality of the previous games this shouldn't disappoint.

### Top PC Titles



"Civilization 4," the next installment in the storied series has critics raving and people forgetting what the sun is. A must buy for any gamer.



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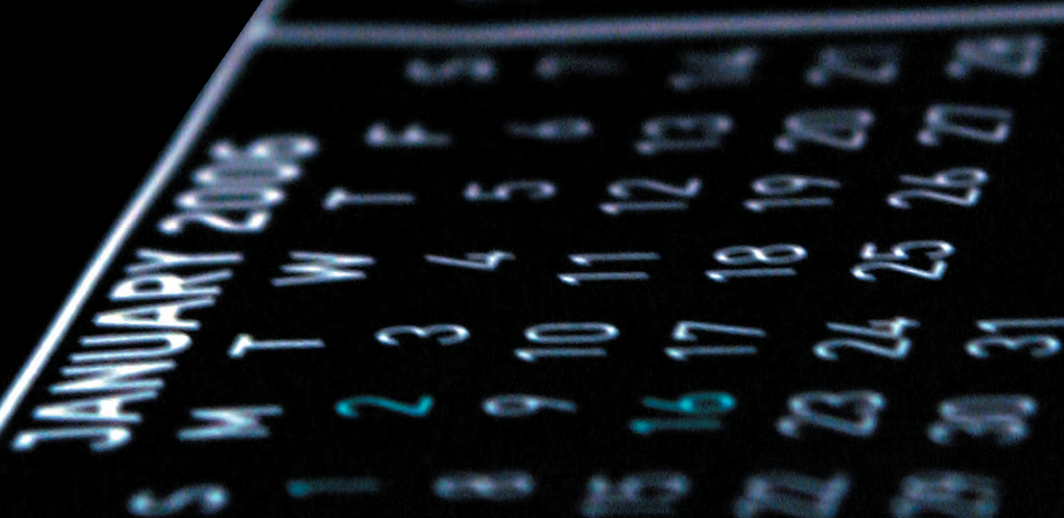
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# New Year's CELEBRATION

*Ring in 2006  
around the  
country*

*Diversions,  
Page C2*



## Cities nationwide will be celebrating New Year's in style

**"** In Seattle, Wash., people head out to Pioneer Square for its massive amount of bars.  
- NICHOLAS JORDAN **"**

**"** In Chicago Ill., all the bars have private parties that you have to purchase tickets in advance for.  
- BRENDAN BAKER **"**

**"** In Poplar, Wis., we don't countdown to the New Year, we just drink in a field until the sun comes up.  
- PHIL LARSON **"**

**"** For New Year's, we'll probably head down to NYC to go to Time's Square for the countdown, that is unless my friends and I get diverted.  
- A.J. THAMES **"**

**"** In San Francisco, Calif., there is an amazing fireworks show on the Bay. Add the nightlife, and New Year's sounds like a blast.  
- ASHLEY MOORE **"**

**"** Station Square in Pittsburgh, Penn. is a good place to go because it has a good variety of bars, clubs, fireworks, shops and restaurants.  
- SAM LAWRENCE **"**

**"** The Tempe Tostitos Fiesta Bowl Block Party is really popular, but my friends and I always watch the ball drop on T.V.  
- CASEY GROVER **"**

**"** In Houston, Texas usually you watch the fireworks over Clear Lake, but for party goers, the buzz is Club Monkey has a BLT (black tie, lingerie, and toga) celebration.  
- DARRIN O'BRADY **"**

**"** In St. Augustine, Fla. everyone goes to the Castillo de San Marcos to watch the fireworks.  
- BRANDON HASTY **"**

**"** At the the base of Aspen Mountain in Colorado, my friends and I watch fireworks before going out to parties.  
- CODY VANMETER **"**

**"** In Key West they close down Duval Street and drop a conch shell at Midnight.  
- BILL CAMPBELL **"**



GRAPHIC COURTESY SHYAMAL ADDANKI

## Mickey's Very Merry Christmas

Kerri Sue Rottner  
Guest Reporter

Whether you love the mouse or are just looking for a way to get into the holiday spirit, Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party is for you. What makes it different from an average day at the Magic Kingdom in December? First off the price, advance tickets for this event are \$38.95 and day of event tickets are \$43.95, both less than the normal Florida resident admission of \$53.75. As you enter the park you see that it's snowing on Main Street. Well, a Florida version of snow. Not as good as the real thing, but at least you don't have to shovel it. Free hot chocolate and cookies at various

locations throughout the park make it feel more like winter. Disney also offers free holiday photos for you and anyone in your party (with copies for all) at locations throughout the park. The only downside is that the locations were kind of hard to find and you don't get the pictures right away, they get mailed to you. This event runs from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. on selected evenings. At first this fact worried me, most days you go to a park and spend most of it on long lines waiting to go on rides. Before leaving, my boyfriend and I both

picked three rides we wanted to go on. We arrived at the park at 7 p.m. and headed off to Tomorrowland to start the night. While the park wasn't empty, we walked on to almost every ride and were finished with our list before 9 p.m. We also got to check out Mickey's Holiday Parade, which runs twice during the night, and then at 10:45 p.m. The park staff recommends that the "older kids" go to the later parade and that advice is well worth taking. By attending the later show we

were able to watch from in front of Cinderella's Castle without having to sit there for hours before the parade began. Between the two parades was the Holiday Firework Spectacular. The program was similar to Disney's Wishes display, but with Christmas music in the background. I wouldn't exactly call it spectacular but it did have some impressive new firework designs that I have never seen before. The holiday fun continues with special Disney merchandise, two stage shows and a holiday dance party. Despite the weary drive back to Daytona at 12:30 a.m. on a Sunday, the money on this ticket was well spent and I recommend it to anyone needing a little holiday spirit. This annual celebration runs every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday until December 20.

**"** ... we walked on to almost every ride ...  
- KERRI SUE ROTTNER **"**

## Mike Shinoda breaks out on his own

Jonathan Mettin  
Editor-in-Chief

While the name "Mike Shinoda" is hardly a household name, you probably have heard him and like his work. Shinoda is half the vocal power of the alt-rock group Linkin Park, which has sold

over 35 million albums. While maintaining his membership in the band, Shinoda worked on a side project where his rap - often incorporated into LP's music but rarely taking center stage - can have the floor, with Shinoda's lyrics blasting through the 16 tracks without interruption. After months of work, *The Rising Tied*, produced under the name Fort Minor on Machine Shop Recordings, hit shelves. Bringing in some rising stars like Black Thought (from The Roots), Styles of Beyond and John Legend, Shinoda pens every song and does most of the instrumentals in the back. He breaks from the traditional rap/hip-hop formula and tackles some themes you usually don't hear in the genre, including World War II Japanese prison camps in "Kenji," which includes voiceovers from his aunt and father, who were actually placed into the "relocation camps." "I went to the Japanese-American National Museum in L.A. last year,"

Shinoda said, "and it reminded me of all the stories my family had told me, how they were put into internment camps here in the U.S., not because they had done anything wrong, but because they fit a profile. I had to write a song about it." After a brief introductory track, the CD kicks off with a powerful 1-2-3 combo. "Remember the Name" is a catchy beat where Shinoda and Styles of Beyond declare themselves and ask for some respect, followed quickly by the slightly mellow "Right Now," with Black Thought joining the mix. Shinoda takes the stage solo for "Petrified," another rhyme where he asserts himself with biting sarcasm. The beat of "Petrified" is incredibly solid, with some quality mixing work in the back. The CD settles into a rhythm for a few songs, punctuated by the deep bass beat of "In Stereo" and the biting lyrics of "Cigarettes." "Kenji" anchors the middle of the

CD, with poignant voiceovers over a harsh rap that tells the story of a Japanese family thrown into the camps after Pearl Harbor. Shinoda pulls no punches as he attacks the hatred his own family endured. Two more tracks bridge to the final track, "Slip Out The Back," where Shinoda teams up with Linkin Park DJ Mr. Hahn to lay down an interesting beat about giving advice to a kid. While not the strongest track on the CD, it is a fitting song to end on. I will admit, I am not usually a fan of pure hip-hop, but *The Rising Tied* impressed me. Shinoda's name will draw in a lot of the LP faithful, and his laundry list of featured artists will draw in the more traditional hip-hop crowd. If you never liked any rap, this CD isn't for you, but if you like LP's rap-oriented songs (e.g. "Nobody's Listening" or the rap tracks off of *Reanimation*) or are a dedicated hip-hop fan you will enjoy Fort Minor's debut.

## Ashley's Assertion

I'm just going to put this out there, I'm graduating. That being said, this will be the last time I compose "Ashley's Assertion" for *The Avion*. So before I get going, I want to say 'good-bye' and 'thank you' to all my friends, family, acquaintances, teachers, faculty members, enemies and ex-boyfriends. Without ya'll, these weekly assertions would not have been possible and my life, for sure, would have been dry, boring and bland. Alright, since the beginning of the semester, when I announced my graduation, I have been asked the million dollar question, "What are you going to do after you graduate?", more times than any one person should ever have to hear those nine dreadful words. I mean, that is a scary question, and people ask it like it's something as simple as, "What did you eat for breakfast?" Now, I know that it's a formality and people ask because they want to stay up on my life, but that is such a broad question. Where do you even start?



Ashley Moore

Diversions Editor

Usually my answer is, "I plan to take over the world," which is really sarcastic and long term, but it beats my alternative answer, which is a little too honest and real for most people. Between you and me, I plan on having an amazing career in public relations, but I always wonder how people would respond if I said, "Now that I have this really expensive education, I plan on working at McDonald's for the rest of my life." You'd be able to see the judgment seeping out of their pores. You see, once you graduate,

people expect success and that's really stressful. This expectation of success has been wired into us since we were young and reading books like *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* by Dr. Seuss. Isn't it a little unfair to tell a six-year-old, as Seuss says, "kid, you'll move mountains!" From there, life is just a build-up of expectations until that one day when you're job searching and realize that in order to move mountains, you have to start at entry-level. Um...depressing. Now, what I really hate about these expectations of success, is when I impose them on other people. I'll never forget the day when someone really close to me expressed his/her plans of becoming an athletic coach. I snobbishly looked at this person and passed judgment. Needless to say this person is not in my life anymore, and I would attribute this loss to the expectation of success that has been imposed on me by society, and that I ruthlessly transferred onto this person. So what's my point here? Well, from now on, I think we should all rebel against society and free ourselves from the stress, and anxiety that comes with the dreaded question, "What are you going to do after you graduate?" Let's just stop asking the question. If someone wants to you to know what they're doing with the rest of their life, they'll send you an e-mail or post it on Facebook. On that note, enjoy finals, the holidays and the rest of your college career; it goes fast! Peace out Riddle.

## The Riddle of Life

By Jonathan Mettin

Yeah, not only am I on Santa's "naughty" list, I am definitely going to hell.



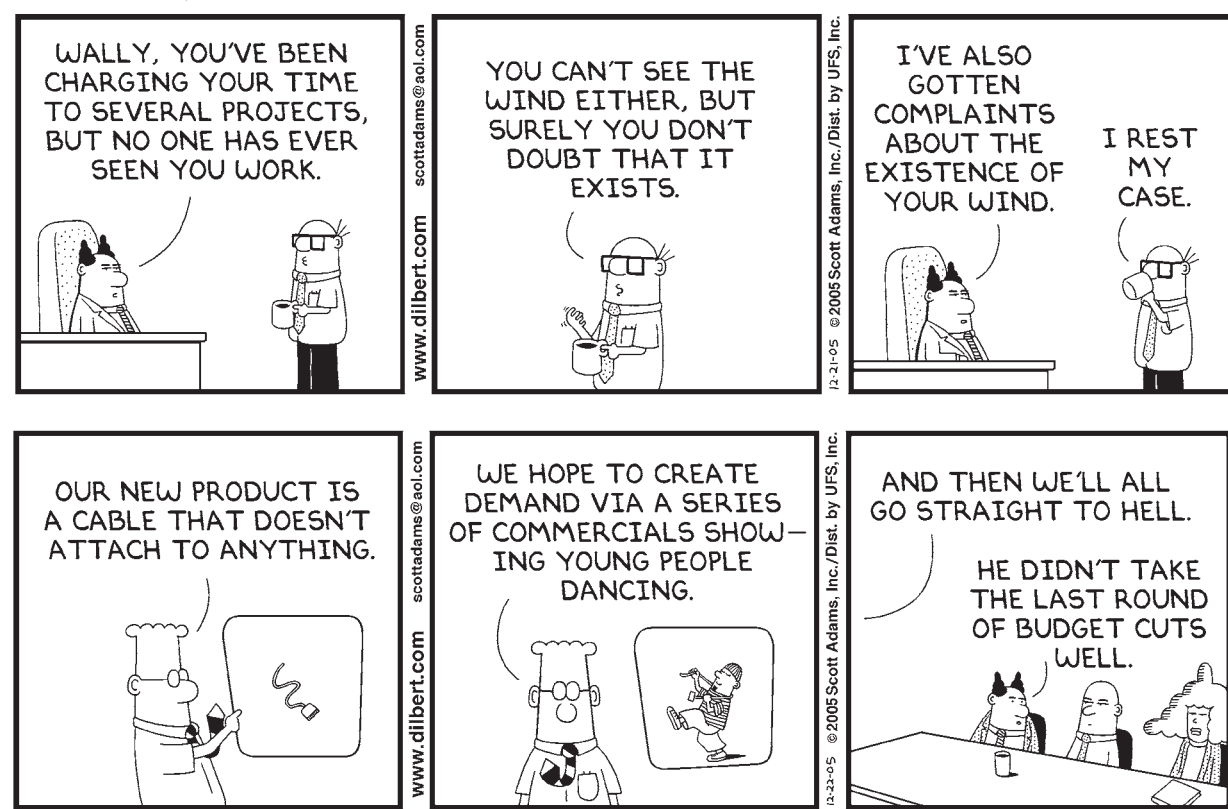
## Klyde Morris

Aviation's Only Ant!™

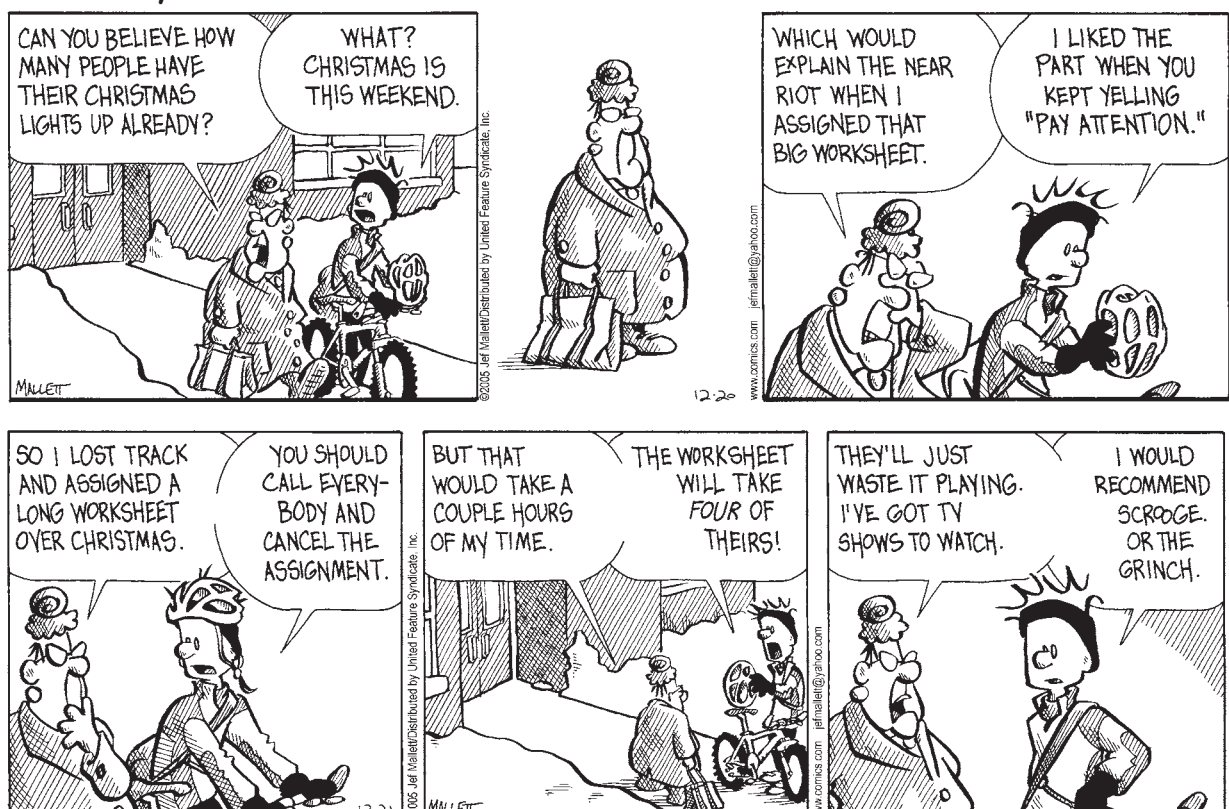
by Wes Oleszewski



## Dilbert by Scott Adams



## Frazz by Jef Mallett



## Christmas Collage

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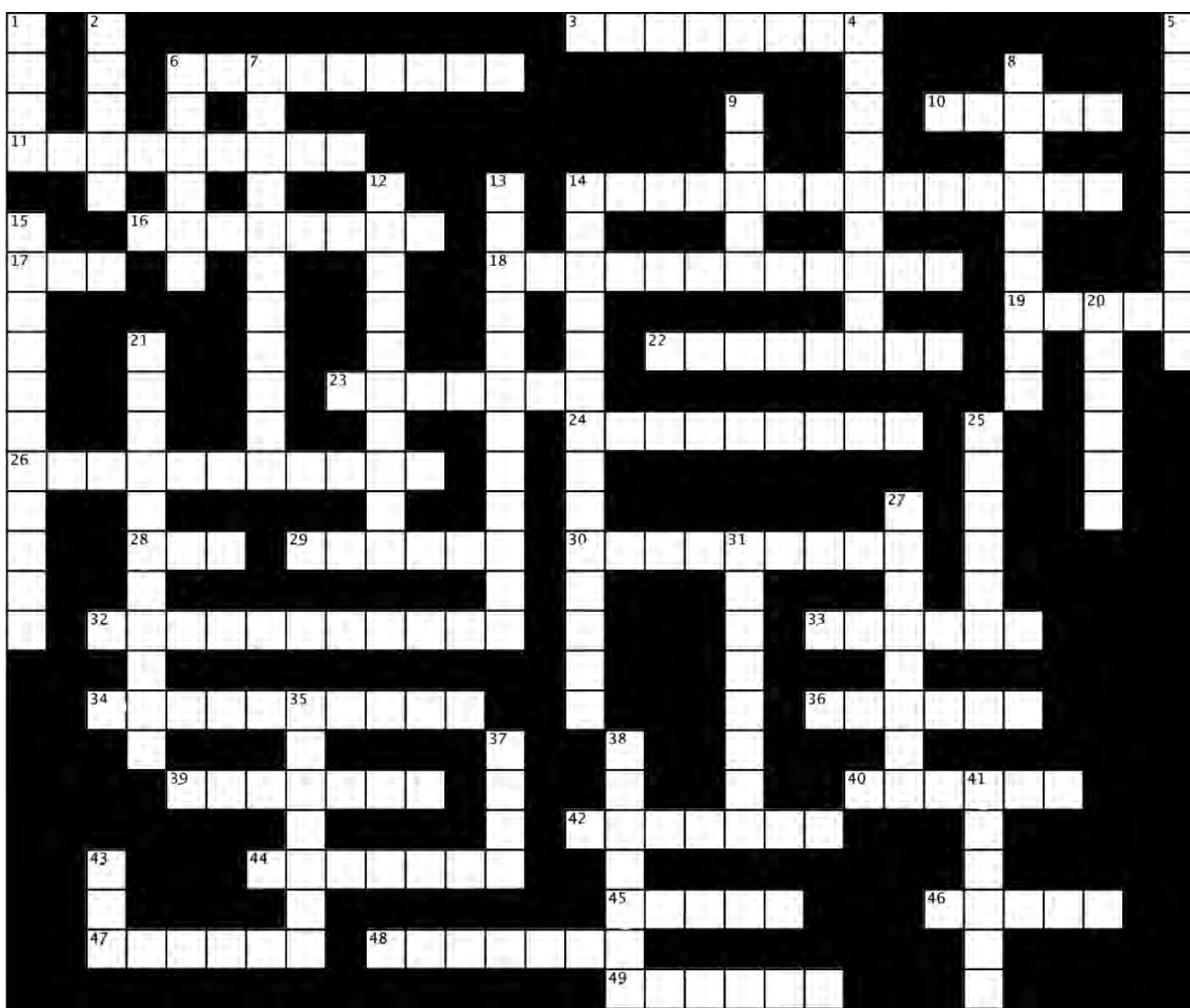
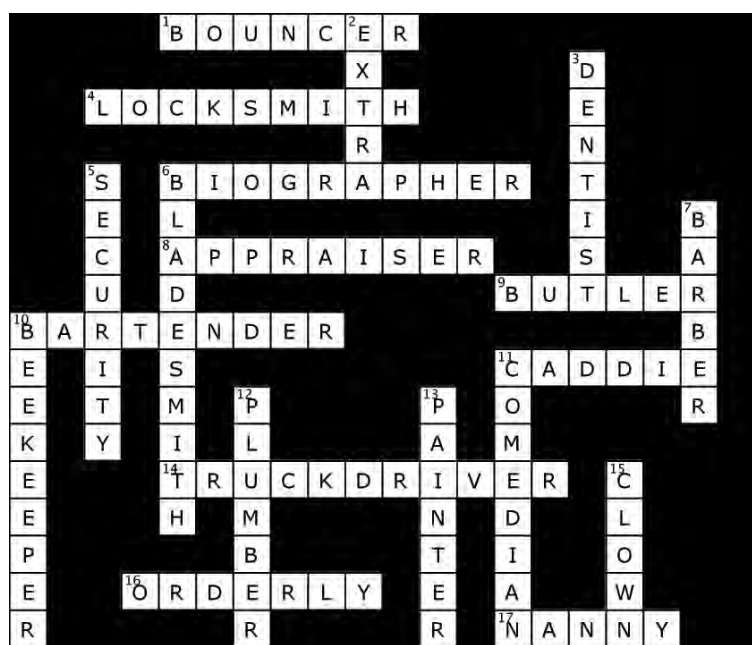
The first twenty people to turn in a completed, correct crossword will be placed in a drawing to win a \$15 Best Buy certificate. If you have turned in a crossword for a prize in the last month, you are not eligible.

- Across**
3. "You're a foul one, \_\_\_\_\_"
  6. evergreen leaves and white berries
  10. traditional Christmas song
  11. sweet tasting fairy
  14. Santa's diet
  16. ran over grandma
  17. "Walking \_\_\_\_\_ winter wonderland"
  18. can't kick a football
  19. Scott Calvin, by Actor Tim
  22. adds beauty, a decoration
  23. dreamed of the Red Rider BB gun
  24. filled with coal, if naughty
  26. poor ill-treated clerk
  28. christmas tree type
  29. glittering material with a metallic apperance
  30. treat or decoration?
  32. "A sleighing song tonight"
  33. trough for food
  34. Kris Kringle
  36. horse-drawn cart on runners
  39. Merry Christmas, cantar en español
  40. a circular band of flowers or foliage
  42. given as a gift
  44. a friend you can't bring inside
  45. reindeer in space

- Down**
46. "\_\_\_ snow"
  47. "\_\_\_ the snowman"
  48. made out of clay
  49. traditional Christmas drink

12. something serving to beautify
13. Fa la la la, la la la la
14. A Christmas Carol author
15. holiday construction material
20. strings of 50, 100, 200, 300
21. xmas shopping begins, day
25. Christmas tree type
27. Santa's horse power
31. the Christmas season
35. vertical structure of masonry
37. seventh day Christmas animal
38. "\_\_\_ on 34th Street"
41. arrival or coming
43. Will Ferrell

### Last Week's Answers





## Seventeen students in 2005 Model U.N. Conference

Levi Jordan  
Model UN

On Nov. 2, seventeen students from Embry-Riddle traveled to Charleston, S.C. where they competed in the Pan-American Model United Nations' Charleston-Savannah Conference. By the conclusion of the three-day conference, which gathered some of the smartest and most diligent students from across the country, Embry-Riddle students managed to covet winfive awards and one recommendation, an accomplishment unprecedented in the university's history. Ironically the conference took

place exactly one year after the historic presidential election that brought many similar international and geopolitical issues to the discussion table. After driving six hours and arriving in Charleston at 4 a.m. on Thursday morning, the team checked into the Charleston Riverview Hotel where four hours later they would all awake to represent Embry-Riddle amongst thirteen other colleges and universities from across the country. The seventeen delegates from Embry-Riddle were each tasked with faithfully representing the governments of the United States, Cuba, Denmark, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Columbia, Egypt,

Syria, Japan and the Netherlands. Each delegate was seated in one of four committees, set up to discuss and debate pertinent and current world issues. Among them were the United Nations Environmental Programme, the United Nations Economic and Social Council of Western Asia, the United Nations Security Council and finally the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. In the United Nations' Environmental Programme Committee, Christina Munro, represent the Republic of Cuba, wrote two very significant amendments to two potential resolutions titled "Bananas for Water" and "Cocaine for Sunshine," the first of which

passed. However, the latter failed, but with considerable support. Also in the UNEP, Iran and Syria passed a Resolution to put satellites in orbit to monitor global disasters with unwavering support from the delegate from the United Kingdom. With over thirteen countries represented, including Cuba, Japan, Syria, Iran, Colombia, and the United States, someone from Embry-Riddle was always talking. Shannon Maxey, a MUN veteran, utilized her superior research to draft solid working papers and with the help of Colombia's delegate, Chris Haas, a draft resolution was written and passed with only three abstentions in the minority. Both Maxey and Haas won awards for Distinguished Delegate, and Embry-Riddle sophomore Archana Shakur was mentioned as an honorable delegate. Senior Levi Jordan garnered the first award for Embry-Riddle by capturing the Research Award for Outstanding Research and Depth of Knowledge for the United Nations Economic and Social Council of Western Asia. "Overall, I think we represented ourselves well in at the conference and we're looking forward to taking on bigger competition at Harvard next semester," Haas said. From commencement to close, Embry-Riddle was able to dominate all four committees and pass several key resolutions through voting blocks one authorized the use of military force against nations like Syria and Saudi Arabia for failure to improve women's rights in their respective countries.

Awards were given based on overall performance including speech, attire, deportment and diplomacy and research. Prior to the conference, each delegate was required to write an extensive position paper describing and outlining his/her designated country's position on a list of pre-determined issues. This was also a major part of the evaluation of delegates, as well as opening speeches. By Saturday evening, no university present was unaware of Embry-Riddle as the closing ceremony served as the backdrop to the presentation of five awards and a commendation to the delegates from Embry-Riddle representing the governments of Iraq, the United States, Syria, the Netherlands and Japan. "In the beginning of this semester, the club had three members, three of which were officers, by the time we made it to Charleston we had trained many new members and recalled a few old members to create the team of 20 we have at the moment, and while only 17 of that team participated in Charleston/Savannah Model UN conference, the ERMUN team definitely left its mark on the other schools attending, let alone the staff running the conference." Embry-Riddle Model United Nations President Ramy Yaccoub said, "The team has even been asked to represent the United States and

the United Kingdom in next year's conference and many of the senior officers, such as Mark Smalley, have been asked to run committees inside the conference." The outstanding performance of the team was due to the semester-long preparation of researching, public speaking and writing. Students were also responsible for learning proper United Nations' decorum and procedures including speaking and writing formats. "As president of the Embry-Riddle Model United Nations team, I would like to give my utter most thanks to the SGA's Treasurer Mr. Ryan Rossi and all the members of the SFB, for financial support on this conference, also I would like to thank our advisor, Dr. Glenn Dorn for his continuous support and encouragement, Dr. Mohammed Camara for his briefings on the Middle East, and last but not least Dr. Janet Witt-Dillion, for her briefings on the History of the United Nations," Yaccoub said. He also added, "We are always looking for new members and new 'talents,' and don't be shy to come out and try MUN, even if you do not know anything about it, we will put you through a drill-program that will get you in shape, ready to compete nationally." With the Savannah-Charleston conference behind them, the team now sets it sights on the largest Model United Nations conference of the academic year, to be held by Boston's Harvard University at the Boston Park Plaza from February 16 to 19.



## Riddle Players hold open auditions for new talents

Pam Arpen  
Riddle Players

On Thursday and Friday, December 8 and 9, the Riddle Players Theatre Company will be holding open auditions for the spring 2006 production of "Zombies From The Beyond," a musical by James Valcq. "Zombies" is a musical comedy celebration of American ideals and foibles in the Eisenhower era. Set in the fictional Milwaukee Space Center in 1955, the staff

is a buzz at the arrival of rocket scientist Trenton Corbett. The budding romance of Trenton and Mary—the daughter of Space Center commander Major Malone—is jeopardized when afflying saucer lands in Milwaukee. The craft is piloted by Zombina, a buxom alienaviatrix bent on procuring he-specimens to repopulate her planet. Can Mary uphold her lady-like demeanor while using her facile intelligence to save Milwaukee from a Red Menace

and a flying saucer invasion? Can plucky delivery boy Billy ever get secretary Charlene tonotice his tap-dancing charms? Can the stalwart men of Milwaukee survive brainwashing by a musical menace from another world who gives new meaning to "stratospheric" soprano? Taking its cue from pulp movies popular at the time, ZOMBIES FROM THE BEYOND brings the 1950s nostalgically and hilariously to life with a tuneful, toe-tapping score. Come audition and be part of the invasion!

## Residence Halls Olympics to start in Spring semester

Michael Bullington  
Housing and Residence Life

On January 13, The Department of Housing and Residence Life will be holding the Embry-Riddle Residence Hall Olympics, challenging you to prove that your floor is the best.

The events being held include four-on-four volleyball, four-on-four soccer, three-on-three basketball, four-on-four flag football, as well as a two-person biathlon relay. The teams should have members that live on the same wing in the residence halls and have the same Resident Advisor. This event is free to enter.

Winners will receive medals and other great prizes. There will be free food and anyone can enter. Sign-ups will be held the first week back from break through your Resident Advisor. Start planning your teams now because the games will be held the first weekend after school starts, on January 13 to the 14.

## Delta Airlines V.P. in the Auditorium



ALPHA OMICRON ALPHA AERONAUTICAL Honor Society presented Captain Michael Quillo, Vice-President of Corporate Safety and Security Compliance of Delta Airlines past wednesday Nov. 18 in the IC Auditorium. Quillo spoke about the state of the aviation industry and its future.

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# THE DUKES OF HAZZARD

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Thursday, December 8, 2005  
Student Center 8:30 p.m.  
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## The Student Government Association needs YOU!

There is one (1) Opening on the Student Representative Board For the College of Aviation for the Spring 2006 Term.

Applications are available in the SGA Office NOW!  
Application deadline is  
**Tuesday January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006 @ 5pm**

Be a Student Leader and join an Organization that is committed to bettering the lives of students both today and tomorrow!

**APARTMENTS/  
ROOMMATES**

**Two Rooms for Rent**

Female EP student looking to share three-bedroom, two-bath house in Port Orange. Only \$500 per month includes all utilities. Call Carey. (386) 760-8574.

**Room for Rent**

Historical home on the river. Close to ERAU. Must be a non-smoker. General privileges included. Foreign students and faculty welcome. Call Hirotoshi. (386) 846-9386.

**Port Orange Condo for Sale**

Perfect for investment. Spacious two-bed, two-bath split-plan condo is located in Whispering Woods. Second-story unit overlooking lake. Carport, ample parking, community pool, storage unit, built in 2002. Close to ERAU, highways and shopping. Only \$199,900. Up to 1.5% rebate available! Call Gina Silvestri @ Doran Real Estate Rebates, LLC. (386) 383-4149.

**Port Orange Townhome**

Located 79 Springwood Square. Beautiful two-bed, 1.5-bath townhome. Two-story floorplan with upper deck, small patio with privacy fence. New roof. Asking \$800 per month. Requires first and last months rent. Small pets ok. Please call for more details. (386) 254-7563 or (386) 334-4472.

**Beachside Apartment**

Completely renovated Beachside apartment. New kitchen, bath and tiles throughout. Only 10 minutes from ERAU. Call for more details. (386) 405-2540.

**APARTMENTS/  
ROOMMATES**

**Room in Private Home**

Private home directly off intersection of I-95 and Dunlawton. Approx. five miles from ERAU. Includes use of entire home. Only \$500 includes all but food and phone. High-speed Internet and TV in room with cable are included. Housed international students for last seven years. English a bonus. Call or e-mail for more details. (386) 760-8865 or (386) 212-2832 or koolpeg39@yahoo.com.

**Room Available Dec. 20th**

One bedroom in a three-bedroom apartment in The Barrington. All inclusive: Internet and electric will be split 3 ways per bill. Rent is \$231.67 per month. Located 875 Derbyshire Road, Apt. 195. Leave a message if interested. (321) 251-6235 or eopoku@hotmail.com.

**Port Orange Townhome**

Townhomes West unit available. Large 1560-sq.-ft. townhome. Furnished. Two master beds, with two full baths and walk-in closets. Extra half bath downstairs. All appliances included. Inside laundry in rear glass porch. Berber/tile. Eat-in kitchen. No smoking/pets. \$1,300 per month includes water, electric, basic cable, pool and lawn maintenance. Phone service is tenant's responsibility. Only \$995 per month for 6-month or longer lease! E-mail for photos. References required. (386) 334-2297 or cinbad58@aol.com.

**Room for Rent**

Roommate wanted. Only \$210 per month plus 1/3 utilities. Located at The Barrington. Call Bobby. (386) 334-2297.

**APARTMENTS/  
ROOMMATES**

**Roommate Wanted**

Roommate to share two-bed, two-bath apartment with washer/dryer. Apartment complex is San Marco in Ormond Beach. Your share of the rent would be \$300 plus 1/2 of electric, Internet and cable. For more information, call Drew. (201) 951-5849.

**Spacious Ormond Townhouse**

Large two-bed, 2.5-bath. Private bath in each bedroom. Tons of closet space. Brand new tile. Washer/dryer. All appliances. Gated patio with storage shed. Great neighborhood. Only \$1,200 per month including water, trash and lawn. First and last months security to move in. Available Jan. 1. Contact Krissy. (386) 235-8496.

**Beach House for Rent**

Three-bed, two-bath beach house for rent in the heart of Daytona Beach. Walk to Main Street, beach, Convention Center or Ocean Walk. Cable hook-up for internet access in each bedroom. Brand new washer/dryer. Freshly painted. Very clean, like new. Asking \$1,500 per month. (386) 246-9634.

**FREE Rent**

Nice place: free rent for some help during second semester. Located on Dunlawton Blvd. at Ridgewood Ave. Prefer male ERAU undergraduate, non-smoker. Includes large private bedroom, telephone, Internet and all utilities FREE. Meet Jay, retired college professor, in the ERAU cafeteria. Call for an appointment. Seven ERAU students have liked this situation in past years. (386) 322-1899 (Home) or (386) 846-1230 (Cell).

**APARTMENTS/  
ROOMMATES**

**Room for Rent**

Nicely furnished bedroom with bath and large solarium/living room. Use of kitchen and private garden included. Separate private entrance and parking. Steps from Granada Bridge in Ormond Beach. Walk to beach, river, stores, restaurants, post office and banks. Central air and heat, cable. All utilities included. Lease is optional. Only \$500 per month with a \$500 refundable first months deposit. Available now! Foreign students and faculty welcome. Non-smokers only. (386) 295-3577.

**Roommate Needed in Port Or.**

Port Orange couple in need of third roommate in three-bedroom home. Willow Run neighborhood. Ten-minute drive from ERAU. Features washer/dryer and high-speed internet in each room. Must like dogs. Each pays 1/3 of rent and bills. Approx. \$317 rent, \$120 bills per month. Call Jim. (386) 795-0652.

**3 Bed/2 Bath for Lease**

Magnificent clubhouse with large heated pool & spa. Billiards room and media room with oversize HDTV. Gym, computer business center, energy-efficient appliances to include washer/dryer. Basic cable & water. No Pets. Beautiful lake, gated community in Port Orange. \$1500 per month lease. (386) 405-7154.

**Housing to Share**

Nice subdivision six miles from ERAU. Includes furnished bedroom, full bath, general house privileges, washer/dryer, utilities, and high-speed internet. Only \$425.00 per month. Deposit and references required. Non-smokers only. Call (386) 226-2380.

**APARTMENTS/  
ROOMMATES**

**Luxury Condo**

Two bed, two bath. Only \$1,000 per month. Deposit \$1,000. Water includes up to 4,000 gallons. Gated community, pool, spa, Internet access, clubhouse, 24-hour security, first floor ample parking. Call Frank/Pam (386) 761-6601 or Bill/Marge (770) 360-5888.

**Spruce Creek Fly-In**

Four-bed home in Spruce Creek Fly-In (Port Orange). Share with two adult professionals. Furnished bedroom with private bath, high-speed Internet access and gated security. Only \$500 per month + 1/3 utilities (approx. \$150 per month). Must like dogs. References required. e-mail: tmb578@hotmail.com.

**Roommate Wanted**

Roommate wanted to share spacious townhouse / apartment with two ERAU students, one male, one female. Private room and parking spot. Digital cable and wireless Internet included. Only 1.5 miles from ERAU. Female preferred. (651) 249-8992.

**AUTOMOBILES**

**1995 Plymouth Neon Sport**

Five-speed. 110,000 miles. AC, airbags, ABS. Runs great! Asking \$1,100 O.B.O. Call Martin for more information. (386) 226-6356 (Office) or (386) 253-4342 (Home).

**1997 Ford F150 XLT**

Supercab with third door. Single owner. Highway miles. V-8 auto. Loaded, new parts. Excellent condition. New tires. Class 3 hitch. Asking \$5,400. (386) 258-0465.

**AUTOMOBILES**

**1991 Buick Century**

Only 95,000 miles. New paint job (dark blue). All new tires. Asking \$1,200 O.B.O. Moving in December. Must sell! (610) 955-7114.

**1995 Mitsubishi Diamante**

Power windows, power locks, tinted windows, cd player, low mileage. Asking \$2,975. Call Johanna for more information. (386) 441-4288.

**ITEMS FOR SALE**

**Moving Sale**

Double bed, barely used: \$45. Dresser: \$20. Nightstand: \$10. TV stand: \$10. Bookshelf: \$20. End table: \$10. Leather recliner: \$15. Call Krissy. (386) 235-8496.

**Moving Sale**

TV \$50, couch \$100, washer/dryer \$150, desk \$40, bar stools (x4) \$125, lamps \$50, dishes \$50, cookware \$30. Various other items available too. Call Mary for more information. (214) 549-3999.

**Furniture for Sale**

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