



Dhanush Balusa for Horizons

Leadership Transition in the College of Engineering

A Conversation with Interim Dean Wood

TAYLOR BROWN
Editor In Chief

Spring 2024 marked a tumultuous time for the Embry-Riddle Prescott campus as leadership and faculty dealt with the implementation of a new administrative policy regarding faculty tenure. Some members of the College of Engineering (COE) were particularly concerned about how the new policy was developed and what it meant for faculty regarding performance expectations.

“Last spring the implementation of the new administrative review process did leave some Prescott faculty feeling uncertain of their future. Following several months of persistent tension, administrative changes were deemed necessary to ensure the campus moved forward in a way that best supported our faculty and students. It was during this time that I assumed the role of Interim AE Department Chair and later had the opportunity to become Interim Dean of COE,” said Dean Kathy Wood.

While Dean Wood may be new to her role, she is not new to campus. Dean Wood is a proud alumnus of Embry-Riddle Prescott, and after a fulfilling 30 years in the commercial aerospace industry, she returned to her alma-mater as an educator.

“Because I had been so engaged with COE for many years, coming

back to teach seemed like a natural fit and at that time there was a heightened interest in bringing in faculty with significant industry experience,” Dean Wood shared.

Just as Dean Wood’s industry career brought value to her role as a professor, her faculty experience coupled with her leadership experience in industry have prepared her for academic leadership.

“It would be difficult for me to be successful as a Chair or Dean without being faculty first because industry and academia are so incredibly different. I needed the time as a member of faculty to understand what is fundamentally important to our faculty and students. Upon reflection, I also see the similarities in helping students achieve their dreams and goals with helping my team members in industry do the same. This passion for helping others achieve what is important to them is what led me to accept my current position as I see it as the opportunity to help the COE faculty thrive and when that happens, our students will also thrive,” said Dean Wood.

Dean Wood is hesitant to initiate concrete changes in COE before she has collected the necessary data to inform such decisions. Until she has spent some time in the role, Dean Wood’s primary goals are to “earn the trust of the faculty and to

stabilize the COE environment and improve morale.”

That being said, the college is planning to make some improvements to COE registration and advising processes in conjunction with Academic Advising to create opportunities to streamline the path to graduation for engineering students. Students may expect some changes to pre- and co-requisites for courses, as well as some added technical electives.

As of now, several COE faculty members attended the KEEN National Conference where they are gathering insight into how to embed the entrepreneurial mindset (EM) into several aspects of the ERAU student experience. To learn more about this new prospect, visit [<https://engineeringunleashed.com/mindset>] or stop by the Dean’s office.

Overall, Dean Wood hopes that her service leaves “a positive impact” and that she can not only maintain but expand the connection to the student body she had as a professor.

“I’m sure some students have been impacted by changes over the past year. There has been faculty turnover, for several reasons, and because our faculty are so engaged with students in and out of the

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classroom (mentoring projects, collaborating on research, etc.), I can't see how there would be zero impact when those faculty leave us. However, change is inevitable and often out of our control, so we need to find the positive in these situations and look toward the future. Just as I see it as my responsibility to shield my faculty from 'external noise,' I also see it as the responsibility of facul-

ty to do the same for our students. Rest assured, when there is something that calls for discussion, I will make sure we do so," Dean Wood expressed.

As the 2024-2025 academic year goes on, Dean Wood stressed that her office door is always open, and as a former ERAU student herself, she is eager to connect with the current student body.

"As an alum who was in industry hiring other alum, I know first-hand how highly regarded a degree from ERAU is. Our reputation comes in large part from the applied nature of our curriculum and because we hold our graduates accountable to a demanding set of expectations academically, professionally, and personally. Maintaining this brand value is critical to the university's long-term success and is one of the

reasons students come to ERAU to get 'the same' degree they could get closer to home or less expensively," the Dean shared.

Ultimately, Dean Wood put her sentiments succinctly: "I'm proud to be an Eagle, am proud of the reputation we have in industry as Eagles, and I will work hard to make sure the COE plays its part in ensuring our collective future success."

Prescott Marches for Peace and Justice

Local Community and ERAU Students Honor Dr. King with Peace and Justice March

KAYLEIGH BISSET
Correspondent

Prescott residents, students, and the local community came together in a vibrant show of unity and purpose during the recent Dr. Martin Luther King (MLK) Jr Day Peace and Justice March and Celebration. With over 300 participants in the march and 500 attendees at the celebration event, the gathering proved to be one of the most significant commemorations of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy in Prescott Arizona's history.

The event, held on January 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., began at Prescott College. Marchers proceeded to the Prescott Courthouse before returning to the United Methodist Church, where the celebration continued. Participants carried American flags, flags with peace signs, and Pride flags bearing the word "peace," creating a vivid display of unity and diversity. Following the march, attendees gathered at the church at 11 a.m. for a community service. Guests also enjoyed hot chocolate, donuts, and live music, adding a nice touch to the day's activities.

Jim Helbling, Chair of the MLK Committee in Prescott and a retired Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University professor, expressed his delight at the event's success. "We were thrilled to see so many people from our community show up to honor our great American hero, Dr. King," he said. "I was especially happy to see DeeAnn Resk and the ERAU students who accompanied her. After teaching at Riddle for 20 years, I still feel a close connection to the campus, and I applaud DeeAnn for her work in creating a more inclusive campus environment."

Helbling noted that DeeAnn Resk, the Director of the Center of Diversity and Inclusion at ERAU, had played a massive role in helping launch the first MLK Day Peace & Justice March 13 years ago. "Our committee owes her a debt of gratitude for starting the work that we are continuing," Helbling told Horizons.

Students from ERAU's Black Student Union (BSU) also took part in the festivities. Nevaeh Gayle, an Aeronautical Science Fixed Wing student and President of BSU, reflected on

the day's importance: "I thought that the march and celebration was the most amazing experience I had in the Prescott community."

"It was so nice to see everyone from diverse backgrounds come together and not only celebrate the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. but also realize that there is still work to be done," said Gayle. "We all need to come together as a community and make differences and not wait for only MLK Day to make a change."

A highlight of the event was the mosaic banner, created by the Program Associates of the CDI, Nevaeh Gayle, and Zoe Burger, who led the charge for the "Thoughtful Thursdays" initiative; where they encouraged students to share their hopes, dreams, and affirmations on colorful sticky notes. These notes were then

transformed into a stunning mosaic banner that became a centerpiece of the event, resonating deeply with attendees who saw it.

The event also highlighted the ongoing commitment of the Prescott community to honor Dr. King's legacy through action and inclusivity. "I love finding opportunities for college students to be involved with the larger community and to be civically engaged in positive ways," said DeeAnn Resk. "The MLK Day of Service is a perfect opportunity to do just that."

The annual celebration demonstrates the importance of remembering Dr. King not just on one day, but throughout the year. Prescott's residents and ERAU students left the event inspired to continue their efforts in promoting peace, justice, and equity in their community.



CDI Prescott for Horizons



CDI Prescott for Horizons

Spring Organization Fair

The Fair Where Interests Bloom

ISABELLA PIWOWAR
Correspondent

On Jan. 16, 2025, the Spring Organization Fair was held in the Lower Hangar from 6 p.m.- 8 p.m. This Organization Fair, although smaller than the Fall Organization Fair, was full of Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs), that were abundant in variety.

At the end of the Fall 2024 semester, sign-ups for the Organization Fair went live on EagleLife. To secure a table at the Fair, RSOs filled out a form on a first come, first served basis. To account for the smaller attendance at the Spring Organization Fair, the number of tables were limited to 59 instead of the usual 100+.

Prior to the event, a representative from Student Engagement sent an email reminding the RSOs of their involvement at the event. Additionally, an email was sent out the day of the Fair, to inform the RSOs of when to arrive for check in, and where their table would be located.

The RSOs tabling the event included organizations like Chi Alpha, Archery Club, Eagle Music Club, and the Fraternities and Sororities on campus. Jaxon Danner, a member of Eagle Music Club, shared with Horizons, “the Org Fair is a very good way for students to get involved in clubs on campus because... you’re speaking with someone who is actually in the club.” Danner explained that the Organization Fair is a beneficial environment for students to learn about the clubs on campus and allows students to gain a realistic perspective of the club’s beliefs and goals.

Margo Tollefson, a representative for the Pride Network, gave some insight into what their club brought to the Fair. Tollefson said the Pride Net-

work brought “pride flag stickers, pronoun pins, and flag pins.” Having small and handy trinkets to provide students with was a common theme amongst the other RSOs at the event. Many tables had stickers, candy, and other grabbable items to give out to the students. One RSO gave out a free slice of pizza plus a drink for doing a certain number of push-ups. Alongside these items, flyers, brochures, and other forms of paper information were provided by the clubs.

Overall, while the Spring Organization Fair is smaller than the Fall Fair, the turnout for the event was great. Students could be seen wandering around the event and discussing with representatives for the club(s) that caught their interest.

To stay up to date with the clubs you are interested in, consider joining their EagleLife page, or reach out to their officers via email!



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SGA Open Meeting

Your Student Government Did It Again

TAYLOR BROWN
Editor In Chief

Embry-Riddle Prescott’s Student Government Association (SGA) is back at it and kicked off the Spring semester with an Open Meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lower Hangar. After updates from the SGA council members, Service Organizations, and Auxiliaries, President Christopher Sorensen introduced the evening’s discussion items.

Firstly, the council announced their Election Commissioner Appointment, Mikayla Gill. Gill is known as the sitting SGA Treasurer, responsible for governing SGA’s distribution of funding. In her role as Commissioner, Gill will oversee a fair election of next year’s SGA Council. Following the appointment, the council voted on updates to their bylaws. Most notably, SGA’s

Bylaws Committee determined in the case of a tie between College Representative candidates, the candidate who received the most votes from their college will win the election. This procedure would take place instead of a second election.

Lastly, President Sorensen conducted the Arnav Sharma’s Oath of Office. After Kaija Martin announced her retirement as Organization Representative, Sharma was appointed to the role. The Oath of Office marks his official appointment to the SGA council.

Whether to fulfill attendance obligations to qualify for

tier-funding or to act on campus/student issues, all students are encouraged to attend SGA Open Meetings every other Monday in the Lower Hangar.



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Women’s Basketball Conference: They Take Down Life Pacific

MIA CARROLL
Correspondent

On Jan. 4 the Embry-Riddle Prescott women’s basketball team started off their Conference with a win against Life Pacific. They won with a score of 72 to 40. Every member played for over 10 minutes and everyone scored. The girls worked very well as a team together to pull off the win.

The women’s basketball team uses their size and intelligence to beat opponents. Coach Trujillo told Horizons, “We wanted to use our size and physicality to our advantage, and we did that as we got 27 offensive rebounds and out-rebounded them by almost 40.”

Ella Schott, a senior on the team, used her size to

her advantage and led the team in scoring with 16 points. Meghan Strickler dominated in rebounding, with 11. The girls worked as a team with 17 assists.

They worked together very well and fed on each other’s energy. Coach Trujillo was very prominent in keeping a positive and supportive attitude in all situations. Trujillo’s attitude helped the girls play their best even when games do not start off well.

Nithya Pattamatta, a freshman who watched the game, expressed her excitement by saying, “I think the team will do good this season and they play well as a team.” Attending games also allows Embry Riddle students to receive a chance to be entered into a raffle. The season runs until mid



Tom Ohlsen for Horizons

February.

Overall, the women’s basketball team started off the conference with a win. Their next home game is on Jan. 30 at 5 p.m. in the Activity Center. Come support the Lady Eagles as they compete for another win!

Men’s Baseball: Eagles Picked to Finish 4th in GSAC

PRESCOTT, ARIZ. – Defending NAIA National Champion Hope International is the favorite to win the GSAC in 2025, according to a poll of the league’s coaches. Arizona Christian was selected to place second with OUAZ coming in third. Embry-Riddle leads the three first-year GSAC members by being picked to finish fourth. The Master’s came in fifth, with Benedictine Mesa and Park Gilbert ranking sixth and seventh, respectively.

Hope International received six first-place votes for a total of 36 points in the voting. Those are the maximum totals available, as coaches were not allowed to vote for their own teams. The Royals are ranked No. 2 in the NAIA Top 25 to start the season following their run to the red banner last spring in Lewiston, Idaho.

This year’s Hope International squad returns two All-GSAC starting pitchers in Trey Seeley and Josh Landry. The lineup will look slightly different with only Amari Bartee back among last

season’s regular starters. Arizona Christian earned 31 points and one first-place vote in the poll to place second. After going 38-21 with a trip to the NAIA World Series, the Firestorm are ranked No. 10 in the NAIA Top 25.

OUAZ was awarded 24 points in the poll to end up third. The Spirit earned their first bid to the NAIA National Tournament last season after reaching the semifinals of the GSAC Tournament. Joey Winters returns after being named to the All-GSAC team in helping OUAZ to a 35-19 record last season.

Embry-Riddle enters its first season in the GSAC picked to finish fourth with 21 points in the poll. The Eagles won the Cal Pac Tournament in 2024 to make the NAIA National Tournament for the first time in program history.

Following a 23-18 season in 2024, The Master’s was selected to place fifth in the GSAC this season with 18 points. The Mustangs return five

lineup regulars from last season’s squad. Benedictine Mesa received 11 points to place sixth in the poll following a 33-15 campaign in which they advanced to the finals of the Cal Pac Tournament. The Redhawks return three All-Cal Pac performers to the 2025 lineup.

Park Gilbert rounds out the poll with six points. The Buccaneers move to the GSAC with a pair of All-Cal Pac recipients leading the way on a team that finished 22-26 last season.

The new GSAC baseball season begins on Thursday with three games in Arizona. All seven teams in the league will play their first game by January 30. Conference play begins on March 7 with the teams playing two doubleheaders during a conference weekend series.

The top four teams in the conference standings at the end of the regular season will advance to the 2025 GSAC Tournament. That will run April 28-30 at Hohokam Stadium in Mesa, Ariz.

Men’s Basketball: Five Eagles in Double Figures as ERAU Takes Down BenU

PRESCOTT, ARIZ. – Embry-Riddle had five players score in double figures as the Eagles took down Benedictine Mesa 96-84 on Saturday afternoon in the Activity Center.

From the start, the home team, Embry-Riddle, set a dominating pace with a halftime lead of 50-36. They executed a strong offensive game, their largest lead reaching 18 points midway through the first period. Key contributors to the victory were Noah Gifft, who led the scoring with 19 points, Jacey Canalin with 18 points, Peter Dress



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adding 17 points, Demari Hackett 14 points, and Jake Klingler added 13. These players not only led in scoring but were also pivotal in rebounds and steals.

ERAU shot 47.8% from the field and 48% from three in their win as the Eagles sunk 12 three point baskets.

Embry-Riddle will head to Hope International next as the Eagles play the Royals Thursday evening at 8:30pm Arizona time.

CHINA: Brokered Myanmar Ceasefire to Last Longer than Broken 2024 Ceasefire

Summary: The ceasefire agreement between the Junta military regime and the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) will likely last longer than the January 2024 ceasefire agreement due to the Junta reestablishing control of Lashio.

Development: On 20 January, Beijing facilitated a ceasefire agreement with the Junta Myanmar military and MNDAA. The ceasefire requires the MNDAA to withdraw from the previously Junta-controlled city of Lashio. Lashio hosted a major regional military center for the Junta, which it lost during the second phase of Operation 1027, executed by the MNDAA and its two allies in the Three Brotherhood Alliance. During the first phase of Operation 1027, the alliance captured substantial portions of Myanmar's borders with neighboring countries, including China. China brokered a ceasefire with the Three Brotherhood Alliance and the Junta in January of 2024, ending the first phase of Operation 1027. The ceasefire lasted until June 2024, with Junta airstrikes against the rebels eventually culminating in the second phase of Operation 1027, which



eventually captured Lashio. Lashio plays a critical part in the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC) plan as the largest city near the Myanmar-China border, making it the first destination of the corridor on its way to the Indian Ocean. Beijing invested millions in Myanmar as part of CMEC, which would connect Beijing to the Indian Ocean. After the rebels captured Lashio, the

Junta government conducted airstrikes in the city leading to significant infrastructure damage and Beijing, stopping the supply of MNDAA-controlled territories after its capture.

Analysis: The current ceasefire agreement will likely last longer than the one from January 2024, with the Junta government regaining control of Lashio. The recapture of Lashio will likely prevent airstrikes against the rebel groups, which the rebel groups claimed as the reason for violating the ceasefire themselves. Beijing almost certainly desires stability in Lashio and the region connecting to protect its multi-million-dollar investments. Beijing will likely pressure both parties to respect the ceasefire agreement, especially regarding Lashio. The MNDAA will likely uphold the ceasefire due to the pressure of Beijing cutting off supplies to its territories again. However, this ceasefire agreement is unlikely to achieve lasting stability as the rebel groups still control large parts of Myanmar's international borders and territory.

[Sebastien Bragg]

RUSSIA: North Korea Mutual Defense Pact Likely to Shift Tide of War with Ukraine

Summary: Moscow and Pyongyang recently signed a mutual defense pact providing additional Russia with North Korean forces, equipment, and munitions, which Russia deployed to the Kursk region to reclaim the territory currently occupied by the Ukrainians. The combined force likely will overpower the Ukrainian military in Kursk, although many North Korean deserters offered to assist Kyiv and may provide additional tactical support to combat the additional soldiers added.

Background: On 11 November, Russian President Vladimir Putin and North Korean Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un signed a mutual defense pact, sealing security cooperation between the two countries. This defense pact marks the first significant pact for both countries since the fall of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War. This pact follows recent security cooperation between the two countries and the deployment of thousands of North Korean soldiers to bolster Moscow's fighting forces, according to AP News. Pyongyang dispatched around 12,000 soldiers to the Kursk region of Russia, where there are ongoing skirmishes between Ukrainian and Russian forces.

Significance of the Alliance with North Korea: The additional 10,000 North Korean soldiers may help Russia reclaim the Kursk region. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy stated that Ukrainian soldiers fighting in the region face nearly 50,000 Russian and North Korean soldiers. The North Korean soldiers lack 21st-century ex-

perience and will only succeed if they can adapt to the modern conflict style, according to AP News and Al Jazeera. Pyongyang supplied Moscow with a large amount of 122mm and 152mm artillery, rockets, and mortars of reportedly poor and unreliable quality, according to Al Jazeera. The North Korean soldiers will support the Russians in the region allowing the reclamation of the area.

Defectors Aiding Ukraine: Many North Korean defectors recently joined Ukraine, potentially reducing the impact of the North Korean troops on Russia's side but likely not significantly improving Ukrainian capabilities. Additional defectors may join as the war progresses due to the lack of loyalty and the better living conditions that the defectors may experience with Kyiv. More than 30,000 defectors left North Korea and moved to South Korea. Almost 200 of these soldiers started to move to Ukraine to fight against Russia and its allies, according to the Kyiv Post. These additional soldiers likely will help Ukrainian military leaders modify their plans, negating the new tactics of the North Korean soldiers and leaders. The defected soldiers hope to use their prior service in the North Korean military to launch a psychological warfare campaign on the Pyongyang soldiers, according to the Kyiv Post. However, the number of North Korean soldiers deployed on the Russian side dwarfs the number of soldiers on Ukraine's side. As a result, Russia's strategic gain from these events likely far outweighs Ukraine's. Acting independently from any government, the defectors likely will not provide significant sup-



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plies or weaponry to Ukraine's cause.

Outlook and Implications: The deployment of North Korean soldiers in Moscow's Kursk region because of the Russia-North Korea mutual defense pact likely will overwhelm the Ukrainian forces that currently occupy the area. As the war continues, Moscow may rely more on the additional North Korean forces and equipment that provides, as Russia's military might continue to diminish. However, the lack of experience and dedication of the deployed North Korean soldiers in support of Moscow may result in additional soldiers who defect, bolstering the Ukrainian forces in the area. Kyiv may also utilize the new expertise of the North Korean defectors to assist in planning the defense for Kursk and subsequent battlefields as the war continues. Even with these additional soldiers, the Ukrainian forces may not withstand the combined Russian and North Korean forces in heavy conflict areas like Kursk and might have to concede the key terrain they currently occupy.

[Aidan Brewer]

BCA PRESENTS: TWISTERS

Glen Powell Blows ERAU Students Away

NYOMI GARZA
Correspondent

On Jan. 24 in the Davis Learning Center (DLC), the Board of Campus Activities (BCA) organized a showing of the movie “Twisters” featuring Glen Powell and Daisy Edgar-Jones. The event was highly anticipated due to the fliers advertising a Glen Powell look-alike contest and free popcorn.

Upon arriving, students were greeted with a table holding popcorn offered in two flavors, kettle and butter. Next to the popcorn, there were two barcodes for attendees to sign in, one for members of student organizations and another for members of BCA. Members of student organizations must attend BCA and Student Government Association (SGA) events for tier funding later in the semester. The other barcode allows BCA members to win prizes for their participation in events around campus.

After students settled in for the movie some students could be seen searching for any Glen Powell look-alikes in the crowd. Emma McBride shined some light on the situation stating that she “put the Glen Powell look-alike contest on there as a joke because, on social media, you see a bunch of videos of the look-alike contests.”

The look-alike contests became a trend on social media, with hundreds of people participating, proclaiming their uncanny similarity to celebrities such as Timothee Chalamet. McBride did not know people would take the contest seriously,

but to everybody’s dismay, nobody showed up to compete as Glen Powell.

Although, Aiden Martinez, Director of BCA, argued that BCA had their own Glen Powell in “Carter, our great secretary!” Upon hearing Martinez’s comment Carter Maciejewski protested but McBride agreed with Martinez by stating “Who needs Glen Powell when we have our very own?”

Shortly after 7 p.m., Maciejewski introduced the event and reminded students to scan the barcodes at the front if needed. Once the movie began, students sat waiting in anticipation for the

action-packed film to begin, only to hear another noise that also evoked the autonomic nervous system: an Outlook notification. The notification caused several students to chuckle, but once the notification went off again, students laughed.

BCA events aim to bring together students and allow them the chance to relax from their studies. Although an Outlook notification can cause students’ hearts to race, watching Glen Powell and Daisy Edgar-Jones fight tornadoes took their minds off their perilous academic journeys for a few moments. Be sure to keep a look out for future BCA events for free food, company, or laughs.



UM Today News for Horizons

A Trip to Prescott’s Farmers Market

MATHEUS PAULI
Correspondent

The Prescott Farmer’s Market is a weekly occurrence that has become an important event in the Prescott community, with both residents and tourists coming to Prescott to be a part of its tranquil and relaxing atmosphere every week that can be observed in the market. From 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays, the Farmer’s Market is a center for regional farmers, crafters, and food tents to come together and share their products with the community.

According to their website, its mission is “To support and expand local agriculture, cultivate a healthy community and increase access to affordable local food.” It is also mentioned that the market has well over 50 vendors and with that “Thousands of customers visit our markets each week for fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, eggs, and locally crafted artisan foods grown and prepared here in Yavapai County. We are proud to support local agriculture by bringing you the highest quality locally grown food – sold directly by the growers.”

Jenny Wolf, the market manager, highlighted the significance of the weekly Farmer’s Market, describing it as “kind of a threefold thing.” She explained, “The first important thing is community. We bring all parts of the community together here. The second part is for food and

for healthy food for that community, and the third is supporting a more sustainable economy, hyper locally.” Reflecting on her favorite memory, she shared, “My favorite memory of the Farmer’s Market is seeing people super stoked about produce.”

The Farmer’s Market is ideal for connecting with the local community and learning about its various aspects. Sellers come from all around the region, often bringing the best the local area has to offer. You will find a wide range of agricultural products, meats, eggs, and dairy products there. Different types of homemade crafts and products can also be found.

Joshua Wilkerson, a sophomore at Embry-Riddle, shared his enthusiasm for the Farmer’s Market, saying, “It’s such a great way to bring people together. I love how it supports local businesses and gives students like me access to fresh, healthy food.” He added, “The atmosphere here is always so welcoming—it’s honestly one of the highlights of my week.”

The weekly Farmer’s Market is more than just a place to shop for fresh food; it’s a space where people come together, enjoy healthy options, and support local businesses. From the excitement of finding fresh produce to the connections it builds, the market has become a favorite event for many. Overall, it’s a simple but important part of the community.



Matheus Pauli for Horizons



Matheus Pauli for Horizons

BCA Hosts Bingo Night

Students compete for grocery-related prizes

RITI DINESH
Correspondent

On the 15th of January 2025, students at Embry-Riddle Prescott gathered for Bingo Night hosted by the Board of Campus Activities (BCA) at the Lower Hangar. The event offered students a chance to relax, connect with friends, and compete for a variety of coveted food-related prizes.

Held on a weekday evening, Bingo Night provided students with a much-needed break from the routine of classes, quizzes, and assignments. For many attendees, the highlight of the event was the prizes, which ranged from giant packs of ramen to boxes of mac and cheese, as well as gift bags from Walmart. Participants appreciated the practicality of the prizes, noting that they were chosen to meet the needs of students – they were not just fun to win but also genuinely useful. Abigail Groeneveld, one of the attendees, expressed her enthusiasm: “As a broke college student, I like the opportunity to win food prizes.” She added, “It needs music though, it’s kind of bland in here.”

The event featured multiple rounds

of Bingo, each offering a different prize. The stakes grew higher with special rounds, such as the blackout round, where the rewards were bigger and better. Prizes included a rice cooker and a crockpot. Freshman Kaylee Trujillo emerged as the proud winner of one of the coveted blackout rounds, taking home a crockpot for herself and her room-

mates. “I’m going to make so many recipes—hot chocolate, chips and dip—I’m so ready for this,” Trujillo shared with excitement. “I didn’t expect to win, especially not the blackout round.”

The event wasn’t just about prizes, however. It offered students a chance to catch up with friends and

classmates in a relaxed and informal setting. Groeneveld remarked, “I like the opportunity to hang out with friends I don’t have classes with. We wouldn’t have had the chance to meet up otherwise.”

Not all students went home with prizes, but many shared that the opportunity to socialize made the event worthwhile. Enrique Pereyra, another attendee, commented, “I know I’m not going to win anything, but it’s good to have fun.” His sentiments were echoed by others who appreciated the opportunity to unwind and engage in a lighthearted activity with the opportunity to win something.

As the semester unfolds, students can anticipate more opportunities to unwind, build connections, and create memories. The BCA is committed to hosting more events in their ‘What’s Up Wednesday’ event series that not only provide a break from the demands of academic life but also encourage students to come together and fully enjoy their college experience. Upcoming BCA events include “The Price is What?” on the 31st of January, and a comedy night featuring comedian Learnmore Jonasi on the 7th of February.



Jordan Stephens for Horizons



Jordan Stephens for Horizons

Wildfires Sweep Southern California

MIA CARROLL
Correspondent

On Jan. 7, 2025, wildfires broke out all around Los Angeles (LA) County, Calif. The largest fire being the Palisades Fire. It burned around 23,000 acres as of Jan. 22. Around the start of the fires, the wind was extremely gusty. This caused the fires to spread quickly and made them hard to control. [1]

The Palisades Fire has caused eleven fatalities and four injuries, at the time of publication of this article. It has also destroyed or damaged over seven thousand structures. Multiple resources from various local and federal agencies have been poured into containing and stopping this fire. Their effort has paid off as the fire is around seventy percent controlled. [1]

The second biggest fire in LA County was the Eaton Fire, which burned over fourteen thousand acres. Luckily, this fire is around ninety five percent contained. Although this fire was smaller, unfortunately twenty-six people have been killed

or injured. It also destroyed almost ten thousand structures. Eaton Fire, being in a densely populated area, caused more damage and casualties than the Palisades Fire, despite its smaller size. [1]

Another fire, Hughes Fire, started on Jan. 22 and in one day burned over nine thousand acres. Strong winds were blowing in California causing the fire to be zero percent contained. This fire started around 11 a.m. and authorities are still unsure what caused the fire. [1]

Over five thousand firefighters have been deployed to fight the Palisades and Eaton Fires. There has been an overwhelming amount of support and help from other fire stations across the United States and North America to help LA County. On Jan. 11 Mexico sent over seventy firefighters to LA County to help the efforts. [1]

Although the fires in LA County are a serious problem, there are multiple fires throughout the state of Calif. At the time of publication, there are six total fires burning in the state.

The combined damage of the fires has burned over 46,000 acres and destroyed or damaged over 15,000 buildings. While the efforts to contain the flames are still ongoing, the greater LA community has come together to support those impacted. [1]

For Embry-Riddle Students impacted by the wildfires, President P. Barry Butler expressed his support in an email sent at the beginning of the semester: “Our thoughts and sympathies go out to all those effected by

this tragic event. It is particularly poignant for us as a community, knowing that many of our students, faculty, alumni and friends have deep connections to this region.” Dr. Butler continued, “The strength of our Embry-Riddle family lies in our compassion and our willingness to support our fellow Eagle and their friends and loved ones during difficult times.”

[1] Current emergency incidents. Cal FIRE. <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents>



Los Angeles Times for Horizons

The Prescott campus – then and now

Note from the Editor:

Horizons Newspaper has been around for longer than most of us have been alive, and our office is stocked with issues dating back to the 70s. Ranging from the creation and destruction of degree programs, to not-so-current events, to the rise of social justice on campus, our archives are a goldmine of Embry-Riddle lore.

I hope you enjoy our ‘vintage’ Horizons highlights!

- Taylor Brown, Editor In Chief

From Horizons Newspaper,
November 19, 2007

SUZIE ROTH & PAT WATKINS
Special to Horizons

Once the site of Prescott College (“The Harvard of the West” - [http://www.prescott.edu/History/index.html]), our present-day campus has seen many changes since it acquired the name of Embry-Riddle’s new ‘Western Campus’ in 1977. After many renovations, the campus opened its doors to 264 students and a small staff in the fall of 1978.

At this time, the ERAU Prescott Campus offered just one degree program — a BS in Aeronautical Science. Students were divided into two groups, gold and blue, and they alternated their classes and flight schedules throughout the week.

Over the years, there have been many remodeling projects and new buildings on our Prescott campus. The new Chris and Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Library and Learning Center is one of the latest additions to the campus, opening in February of 2008.

But what changes have occurred to the Prescott Campus library throughout the years? To get a feel for the history of our great academic library, we talked with Sarah Thomas, Library Director and 27-year veteran of ERAU Prescott about her views of the changes to the campus and the library in these years.

History
Sarah began working at ERAU Prescott in 1980, one of just 4 library employees. In these early

years, Sarah wore 3 hats – as Reference librarian, book and magazine acquisitions librarian and cataloger (deciding which call numbers to place on books and where to shelve them).

In 1980, the library was open 85 hours per week, and each of the 4-library staff rotated their schedules to fill these hours. In 1978, the square footage of the original library was just 4,992 square feet. In 1986, the space roughly doubled to 9,840 square feet and again to 16,080 square feet in 1991. The summer of 2003 saw a major remodeling of the existing space and the current Media department moved from the library to the new DLC building.

At the dawn of the Internet Age (1994/1995), the first computers arrived on campus, providing internet connectivity to the public. At first, there was 1 computer in the reference area. The following year 2 more were added – the library now had 3 vintage 486 PCs running on DOS (Disk operating system).

Our ERAU Prescott library was the first in Yavapai County with computers for public access to the Internet. We were also the first to initiate a computer ‘Information Commons’ -- very controversial in LibraryLand at the time. The ERAU Prescott library was very ‘cutting edge’ for the time and we hope to continue that tradition.

In 1978, the book collection in our library began with 15,000 books and just 50 periodicals. Today, our collection includes over 38,000 books and 640 active periodical subscriptions (not including the thousands of periodicals we can access via the library’s 60 article database subscriptions). That early staff of 4 has now grown to a team of 15!

Fast forward to Future
When asked about the biggest change she has witnessed, Sarah is quick to respond: “Print to Electronic”. Back in the day, students conducted research by pouring over the ‘index books’ (Listings of articles and their sources in various publications). Imagine then having to track down the print magazines and have a pocket full of quarters to feed the copy machine for a hand copy of each article page-by-page!

Hard to believe, but now article databases, computers and the Internet make quick work of projects that once took weeks to complete. Today’s research process seems a snap in comparison. Cruising through the library today, we more often see teams and groups studying. In the Age of Aquarius, a walk through the library would find students working and studying solo in individual carrels. The 21st century is all about teams and partnerships and this has had a decided impact on our new library environment.

Sarah envisions the library of the future as a “gathering place where scholarship and contemplation, teaching and learning occur in conjunction with the classroom.” The old idea of a library as a ‘building full of books’ is no longer a working paradigm for a library. Now the demand is for information in multimedia formats: Print and electronic as well as oral and face-to-face interaction – increased collaboration between student and the campus community in a “socially dynamic environment.”

If you’ve not had the opportunity to read “The Sky is Home” by John McCollister and Diann Dais, pick it up at our library. This book recalls the early history of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – quite a contrast to where we are today in the 21st century!

In our next article, we plan to highlight the elements for the new Chris and Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Library and Learning Center – the building, the services, and our continued high-tech learning environment. Perhaps a new chapter will soon be written for the next edition of “The Sky is Home”?

Word Search

N	B	R	E	B	W	I	O	A	E	T	N	E	O
W	I	L	D	F	I	R	E	D	A	A	F	L	Y
T	N	I	O	O	R	G	F	A	I	R	O	A	A
A	A	T	T	U	X	E	D	O	S	I	S	R	N
Y	D	A	O	R	B	A	A	K	I	N	G	W	A
L	W	W	M	A	R	D	R	W	M	L	K	A	N
O	T	I	A	T	A	T	D	T	O	X	K	T	A
R	I	U	R	T	T	A	T	W	M	O	S	D	B
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- Wildfire
- Twisters
- Org Fair
- Wood
- Market
- Abroad
- King
- Banana
- Tuxedo
- TikTok

Sudoku

			5	8				9
		1		9			3	
	7	4		2				
					2			5
6	9						1	3
3			9					
				5		7	4	
	5			1		9		
1				7	9			

Difficulty Level: Hard

Study while traveling the world!

MATHEUS PAULI
Correspondent

The Study Abroad Spring Forum, held on January 21st at 5 P.M., inspired students to broaden their horizons and explore academic opportunities abroad. Hosted by the Study Abroad Office, the event brought together passionate student assistants, experienced travelers, and eager learners to discuss the transformative impact of studying in foreign countries.

Daniel Stone, a software engineering major and student assistant with the Study Abroad Office, shared his personal experiences and emphasized the life-changing benefits of studying abroad. “I think the biggest benefit was the networking opportunities I got from the people I met on my trip,” Stone said. Having studied in Morocco, Stone noted the cultural enrichment he gained, adding, “Just learning about how other people live and adapting those lessons to my life helped me better understand the world.”

The forum highlighted several

exciting upcoming trips, including language programs in Taiwan for students interested in Chinese, introductory and advanced Arabic courses in Morocco, and specialized engineering programs in Italy and Mexico. For those interested in Europe, student Jaden Kimber expressed enthusiasm about a UK trip hosted by Professor Amberly Neese, stating, “The study abroad program is so cool, more people need to know about it!” Kimber’s interest really highlighted the forum’s impact in inspiring students to explore global opportunities.

The forum highlighted not only cultural and personal growth but also academic benefits. Many programs allow students to earn credits in fields such as business, engineering, and language studies. Stone remarked that studying abroad offers a rare blend of adventure and academic progress, making it an appealing option for students across all disciplines.

The Study Abroad Office offers a wide variety of programs to suit

every student’s schedule and academic needs. Students can choose from summer, semester-long, or even year-long programs, allowing flexibility for those balancing coursework, internships, or other commitments. These programs provide opportunities to earn credits in diverse fields such as language studies, engineering, business, and cultural studies, among others. Whether students are looking for short-term cultural immersion or a longer, more in-depth experience, there is a program designed to fit their goals. With such a range of options, students can find the perfect fit to enhance their education while exploring the world.

For those hesitant to leave their comfort zones, Stone offered a succinct piece of advice: “You get to see the world in a different way while working toward your degree.”

With programs spanning continents and disciplines, the Study Abroad Office encourages students to take advantage of these opportunities to expand their global perspectives.

For more information, students are encouraged to visit the Study Abroad Office or their website to learn about available programs and application deadlines.



Dhanush Balusa for Horizons



Dhanush Balusa for Horizons

Study Abroad Scholarship Opportunity

DANIEL STONE
Study Abroad Assistant

The time has come! Scholarships for Summer 2025 Study Abroad programs are now open. One scholarship we want to highlight is the ERAU Deans’ College Scholarships. Each college Dean is giving \$5000 to distribute to students from their college. For example, if there are 10 recipients, each student will receive

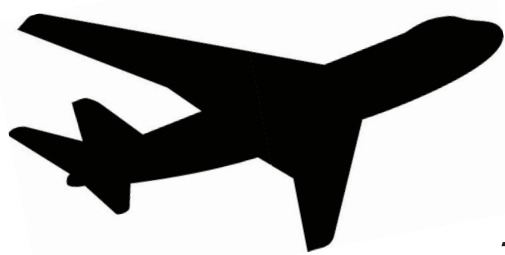
\$500. You can find the application on the Study Abroad website under “Funding Your Study Abroad.” You can access our website through “Tools” in Ernie or by going to [studyabroad.erau.edu].

Completed applications must be sent to [GoGlobal@erau.edu] to be considered. The deadline to apply is Saturday, March 15th.

Deans’ scholarship recipient Katelynn Wall said the scholarship eased the financial burden of studying abroad and allowed her to “have a bigger budget for food, experiences, and souvenirs” on her trip to Switzerland and France. Katelynn added, “The Deans’ scholarship was extremely helpful, and because of it, I was able to go on some epic and life changing adventures.”

There are a variety of external and campus specific scholarship opportunities on our website.

If you have any questions about Study Abroad or different scholarships, please feel free to email the Study Abroad Advisor Denise Dotson at [dotsond@erau.edu] or stop by our office in CIPS (bldg. 51) in the Maze.



In Memory of Col.

Honoring the Lasting Legacy

FRANCESCA KEEL
Chief Copy Editor

Colonel (Col.) Fred Cone had a lasting impact on the faculty, students, and community of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Upon retiring from a decorated career as a Naval Aviator in the United States Marine Corps (USMC), Col. Cone began his career as an educator and served Embry-Riddle students in the Air Science department, later named the Aeronautical Sciences department.

In his announcement to the Embry-Riddle Prescott campus, Chancellor Ken Witcher wrote: "It is with tremendous sadness that we share the passing of Colonel Fred Cone, a cherished member of the Embry-Riddle family. A Marine Corps veteran and lifelong educator, Col. Cone made a lasting impact on the students, faculty, and staff that had the privilege of knowing him."

Born in St. Joseph Missouri on July 20, 1933, Col. Cone attended the University of New Mexico, earning a degree in Civil Engineering before commissioning into the USMC in 1956. Following his commission, Col. Cone went on to earn his Naval Aviator Wings from The Basic School and Flight School. He later earned a degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School and a master's in civil engineering from the University of Arizona. [1]

During his career in the Marine Corps, Col. Cone gained 8600 flight hours in 21 different airframes, with 1000 combat flight hours over Northern Vietnam. He was also inducted into the Arizona Aviation Hall of Fame in 2007.

In his biography from the induction ceremony, Col. Cone was credited with helping the Marine Corps introduce the A-6 Intruder and OV-10 Bronco into service. In addition to establishing the first Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps detachment at The University of Arizona, Col. Cone commanded seven units and was the Chief of Staff of the Second Marine Air Wing during his military career. His medals include the Navy Cross, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, the Navy Commendation Medal, and 41 Air Medals. [2] Once Col. Cone retired from the Marine Corps, he began teaching at Embry-Riddle. During his time at Embry-Riddle he never ceased to prioritize the wellbeing and success of his students, going so far as to make his office in AC-1, the easiest to find on the second floor.

"I was here when he got hired and we used to share an office together back

in the nineties, and actually this used to be his office when we first built the building... Fred picked this particular office because it was close to the elevator and that way the students could find his office easily," said Prof. Sean Jeralds.

During his time as a professor, Col. Cone was voted class marshal, leading students in the processional at graduation. He thought this was the highest honor a faculty member could be given.

In a 2007 letter addressed to each student at graduation, Col. Cone wrote: "It is my hope that you have gained a little better understanding about life itself and how we humans interact with one another and with our machines. If we can all work together in harmony, then everyone will benefit. Through my association with you here at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University you have certainly taught me some ways of sharing and how to be more efficient and effective, and I thank you for that! I must admit that I always learn as much, if not more, than the students each time I go through a course, and this is very exciting to me."

Col. Cone's reputation has been defined by a great number of strengths and accomplishments, but the degree to which he cared about each and every one of his students has left a lasting impact on Embry-Riddle's staff, students, and faculty.

During his time as a professor, Col. Cone was voted class marshal, leading students in the processional at graduation. He thought this was the highest honor a faculty member could be given.



Sean Jeralds for Horizons

"He actually, really, truly cared. And that was probably the single biggest thing for 20 years," said Jeralds, "If it didn't help the students, he didn't want any part in it. He was completely, outwardly focused for the individual student."

A memorial service was held for Col. Cone on Jan. 11, 2025, in the Lower Hangar. The event began with a Missing Man flyover at 11:00 A.M. piloted by Marines, followed by a 21-gun salute and flag folding ceremony in the amphitheater.

"We all know that when one chapter ends there is a new one to write. Fred doesn't just have a book he has an entire series. Today looking at this room there are people here honoring him from all parts of his story," expressed Leah Richwine, Assistant Director of Business.



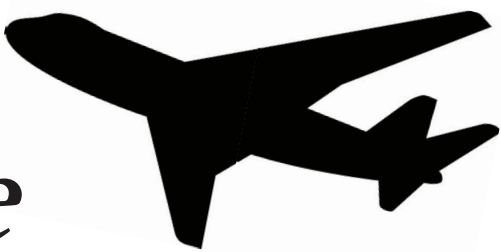
Sean Jeralds for Horizons



TheDailyCourier for Horizons

Colonel Fred Cone

Legacy of a Beloved Eagle



Hunter Hourany for Horizons

Richwine recalled how Col. Cone took great pride in commissioning the graduating class of Marines.

“There was nothing like the oath of office for the Marines at graduation. He would bellow out (no microphone needed) about the Mameluke sword, tell the story about the shores of Tripoli, tell the cadets to take one step forward and commission

them as new officers,” said Richwine.

Both Richwine and Prof. Jeralds emphasized the care and impact Col. Cone had on everyone he met. Richwine stressed that “Fred was always concerned for everyone else; he always asked how you were and really meant it. He was ready to minister to you when you needed it.”



Col. Cone’s legacy is one of care and compassion for every member of the Embry-Riddle family, and that legacy will be survived by all who had the honor to learn from him. He will be greatly missed.

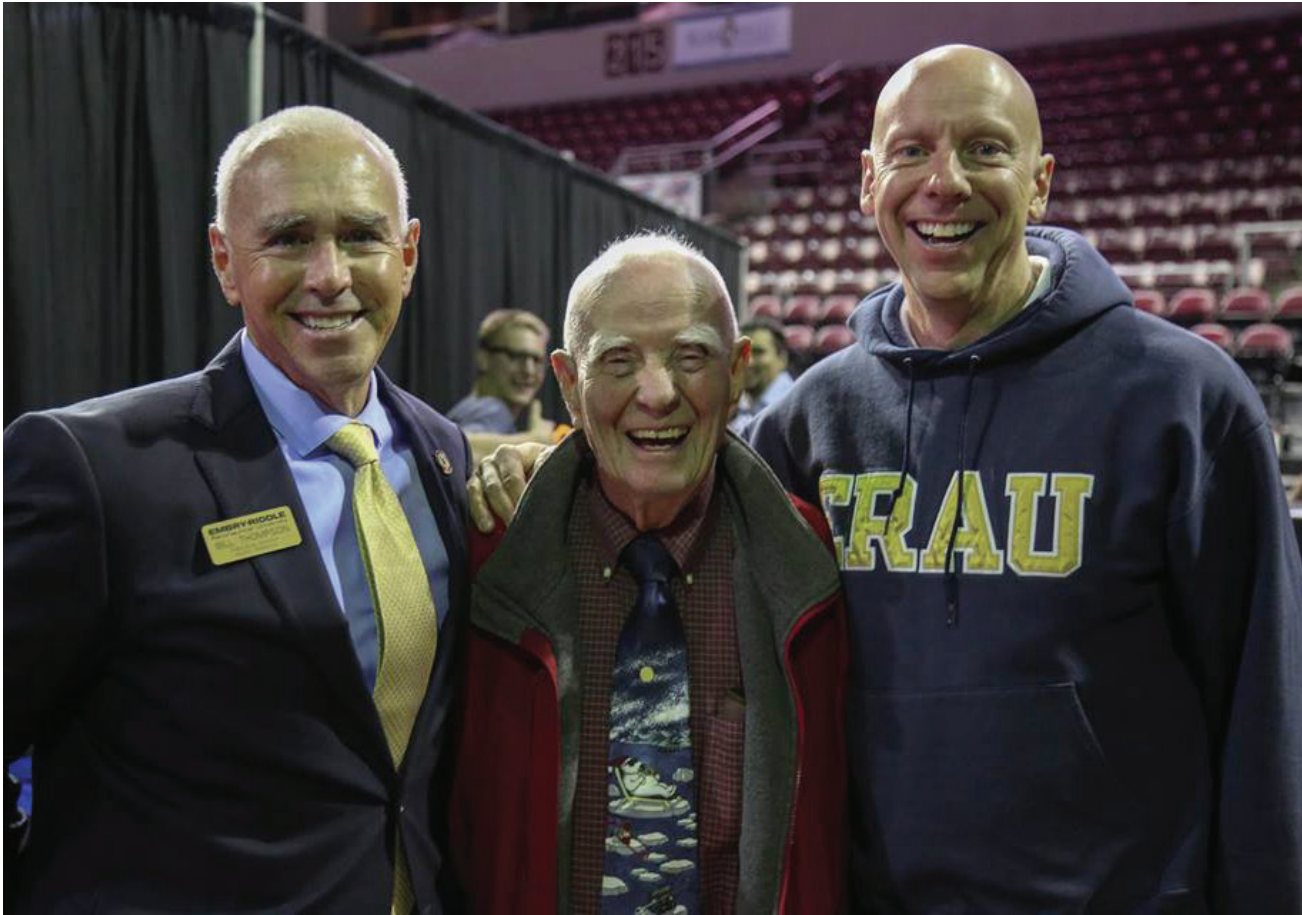
In closing, Prof. Jeralds said it best: “I am a better person because I met Fred. Just meeting him made you better.”

“I am a better person because I met Fred. Just meeting him made you better.”

- Professor Sean Jeralds



Dave Pawson for Horizons



Sean Jeralds for Horizons



Pima Air and Space Museum for Horizons

[1] <https://www.heritagefuneralchapels.com/obituaries/Fred-J-Cone?obId=34328878#/obituaryInfo>

[2] <https://pimaair.org/hall-of-fame/fred-j-cone/>

Club Profile: International Students Association

MATHEUS PAULI
Correspondent

The International Student Association (ISA) at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) is a dynamic organization that celebrates cultural diversity and fosters a sense of unity among students. Under the leadership of Humaid Al Shehhi, the current president of ISA, the organization continues to fulfill its mission of “Connecting the World, One Culture at a Time.” By hosting vibrant events and promoting cross-cultural dialogue, ISA brings the richness of global traditions to the Riddle community, creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all students.

Humaid emphasizes the importance of ISA’s role on campus, stating, “The ISA brings the richness of global traditions to Embry-Riddle, fostering unity through diversity.” This commitment is evident in the association’s numerous events and activities that highlight the cultural heritage of its members. “Be a part of ISA and experience vibrant cultural festivals, global food fairs, dynamic performances, and unforgettable traditions bringing the world to ERAU!” said Humaid, inviting students to engage with the global community. These experiences allow members to celebrate their own cultures while learning about others, strengthening the bonds within the Riddle community.

Joshua Wilkerson, a sophomore who frequently



Brian Park for Horizons

attends ISA events, shares his perspective on the organization. “ISA events are some of the highlights of my semester,” says Joshua. “They’re not just fun but also a great way to meet new people and learn about different cultures. It’s amazing to see how diverse our campus really is.” For students like Joshua, ISA provides a platform to connect with peers from all over the world while gaining a deeper appreciation for global traditions.

This February, ISA is preparing for two exciting events: Arabian Nights and the Korean Festival. While the date for Arabian Nights is still being finalized, the Korean Festival is set to take place on February 27th. Both events promise to deliver unforgettable celebrations, featuring music, dance, traditional cuisine, and more. These events exemplify ISA’s dedication to fostering cultural awareness and unity through shared experiences.



Brian Park for Horizons

By joining ISA, students become part of a global family that values diversity and collaboration. As Humaid highlights, the organization not only connects students from different backgrounds but also enriches the campus experience by “bringing the world to Embry-Riddle.” ISA continues to be a vital force in creating an inclusive and vibrant environment where students can thrive and grow together.

In conclusion, the ISA stands as a beacon of cultural celebration and unity at Embry-Riddle. Through its engaging events and inclusive mission, ISA not only connects students from diverse backgrounds but also enriches the campus experience with unforgettable memories. Whether you’re attending for food, performances, or friendships, ISA offers something truly special for everyone. Join ISA and be part of a community that brings the world closer, one culture at a time.



Campus Resource: Big Interview Your Career Multitool

JACOB HEUSUK
Correspondent

If you have been searching for tips and tricks to assist with interviews and resumes, ERNIE has the perfect tool: Big Interview. Instead of your typical course, guide, or video, Big Interview is an app with tailored practices where you are assessed on common interview questions and will build a resume for you. The best part is that Big Interview is available for no extra cost!

As we near the career fair on February 20, and internship applications are closing soon, I cannot recommend Big Interview enough. Even if you have had success in the past, Big Interview has practices for people looking to change careers, seek promotions or raises, and even has interviews for schools. From Aircraft Mechanics to UX Designers, there are countless personalized interviews for each industry.

You may be curious about how it all works, and it’s very simple! You can click on “practice” and begin recording your responses to a pre-recorded question. After a few minutes, the AI-powered feedback will tell you how you did in various sec-



Google play for Horizons

tions. In my first report, I was shown my pace of speech, answer relevance, “um” counter, vocabulary, and power words. Other aspects analyzed were filler words, pause counter, eye contact, negative tone, length, authenticity score, volume, and lighting. All of these factors may seem like a lot of variables, though the website generated a simple action plan for me to help me improve for

next time.

As for the resume builder, it prompts you to input some information with a summary. The site will recommend what to enter in each section. You can add basic info, a summary of yourself, education, experiences, projects, certifications, and skills to your resume. When you finish entering information to generate your resume, you can customize it with different themes and tips tailored to your industry. The whole process was straightforward, and I liked how you could generate multiple resumes using the resume builder and easily export them.

The Big Interview service is always available, and I highly recommend you try it out. It is very convenient and easy to follow. Overall, Big Interview is a great service due to its handy, uncomplicated, and relevant nature; provided to us by Embry-Riddle. Any student looking to improve their interviewing skills quickly can effortlessly utilize this tool. If you are wondering where to find Big Interview, on the main ERNIE page, select “All Tools” and then look for the blue sun icon with “Big Interview” underneath. Good luck with your internship and job applications/interviews!

Pet of the Week: Milo the Tuxedo Cat

ISABELLA PIWOWAR
Correspondent

Milo (Burger) Piwowar-Waite is a cuddly cat, adopted from Miss Kitty’s Cat House at 4 years old, after his previous owner discovered he couldn’t handle other cats. Milo, whose original name was Loki, received his name change after his owners, Isabella Piwowar and Ryan Waite did some extensive digging on websites dedicated to cat names. During the name changing process, Waite wanted to name the cat, “Burger”, but Piwowar was not okay with that. So, the two settled on Burger, being the middle name instead.

Milo is a loving tuxedo cat, who enjoys cuddling all day long. He often naps during the day and demands cuddles all night long. Even though he is a lover, he also has a wild side. His favorite toys include random household objects like zip ties,



Isabella Piwowar for Horizons

Apple Watch bands, and his owners’ limbs. Recently, Milo got a yellow string toy for Christmas, which he loves.

His fierce facial features, like his sharp eyes, may lead you to believe he is a stubborn and unapproachable cat. But that is quite the opposite. According to his owners, whenever someone comes over to their residence, Milo is quick to approach them and subdue them into his cuddling routine.

Unfortunately, the recent change in weather caught Milo off guard, causing him to fall ill. While this was a scary experience for his owners, Milo never failed to make his owners laugh. One night, during her slumber, Milo woke up Piwowar by sneezing in her face.

The affectionate cat, with piercing eyes, and a loving personality, has found his furr-ever home. His two loving parents treat him like a son and can’t wait to learn more about his personality in the upcoming years.



Horizons Staff Shoutouts

Gabriel Corneaux
Correspondent

I am currently a senior in Mechanical Engineering and this is my first year working at Horizons and it’s been so great to be part of the team. I’ve always loved to draw and this has been a great opportunity to be able to share my art and make silly topical cartoons for the newspaper for you all to enjoy! In my free time I love reading, drawing and playing games. My favorite book is The Invincible by S. Lem and my favorite game would have to be Alien: Isolation



Angela Prevatt
Correspondent

Horizons has been an incredible opportunity to be a part of what’s happening on campus. I’ve been able to attend events and speak to people I likely wouldn’t have otherwise. Being able to see the passion and care that students have for their events and activities has been a very special experience. Already I’ve learned so much more about what goes into producing something like a paper and seeing all the hardworking people on the Horizons team is really inspiring!



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ALPHA SIGMA TAU

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Alpha Sigma Tau Presents

TEA WITH THE TAUS

+ ORIGAMI MAKING

lets spill the tea on AST

☐ values
☐ philanthropies
☐ connection opportunities



origami tutorials will be played throughout the event

Time & Place
2/5/2025 (wednesday)
@ 7-9pm
in 52A

are you looking for a chance to bond with more women on campus? consider joining us for some warm tea and origami making in this winter weather

JOIN US!

any questions
goncev@my.erau.edu

Alpha Sigma Tau Presents

PICNIC

WITH THE SISTERS OF AST

FREE FOOD | TRANSPORATION PROVIDED
2/8 12-4PM @ WATSON LAKE

get to know our sisters a little better with a picnic at Watson Lake!



JOIN
Alpha Sigma Tau
at our free, enjoyable recruitment events!
please contact goncev@my.erau.edu with any questions!

Club Profile: Black Student Union Senior Potluck

MIA CARROLL
Correspondent

On Nov. 25 the Black Student Union (BSU) held a potluck in the Haas Chapel. This was to celebrate and recognize the graduating seniors. Neveah Gayle, the President of BSU, told Horizons, “As the Fall 2024 semester ends BSU had an event to celebrate the end of the semester, while congratulating the Class of 2024.”

There were three graduating seniors; Ian Ngeti (Former President), Ambre Batchan, and Andre Jones. All of the seniors received a stole for graduation. These stoles were given by DeeAnn Resk on behalf of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion (CDI).

The potluck had a variety of food and fun. The food included chicken, mac and cheese, and mashed potatoes. Most of the people who went brought a dish to share with everyone. It was a wonderful time to bond with people and share a meal.

Not only did they have delicious food, but they



also had lots of fun. You could sit and listen to music as well as sing along with karaoke. They also had a few raffle drawings! Gayle said, “This was a perfect way to de-stress before the start of finals week.”



Jordan Stephens for Horizons

BSU is a club all about making bonds with people. Everyone is welcome to join! If you are looking for a family here at ERAU Prescott, BSU might be the place for you. Their next general meeting is Jan. 23 at 7pm in building 17 room 147.

If you are interested in joining or have any questions you can contact Gayle via email at [Gaylen1@my.erau.edu].

Faculty Profile: Professor Nazir Gandur

MATHEUS PAULI
Correspondent

Professor Nazir Gandur is a dedicated educator in the Department of Aerospace Engineering, where he teaches Aerodynamics II. Originally from Brazil, Professor Gandur reflected fondly on his roots. “I’m originally from Brazil—born and raised,” he shared, adding that his journey to the U.S. was motivated by both family and career opportunities. “I have family around—some live in the Prescott area, Pine, and Chino Valley. Being close to family and having the opportunity for a really good job like I have here, I’m super satisfied.”

At Embry-Riddle, Professor Gandur’s favorite aspect of teaching is the personal connection he can foster with students. “The class is not too large, so I have the opportunity to know these students very well and help them in a way that each one is unique. I individually help them better understand,” he said. This commitment to student success defines his teaching philosophy.

For those looking to achieve their goals, Professor Gandur offered simple yet profound advice: “Do it with passion. If you love what you’re doing, you’re going to be so successful it won’t even feel like work—it’ll feel like pleasure.”

In addition to teaching, Professor Gandur is



TU Dortmund for Horizons

actively involved in research and is excited about his upcoming publications. “I’m working with my group of students to publish a paper this year at the IMECE conference, the International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition,” he explained. The research focuses on “the reliability of 3D printing under wind tunnel conditions.” He is also preparing another paper for 2026, which will explore “Supersonic shockwave properties of airflow.” His enthusiasm for these

projects is clear: “I look forward to that.”

While he doesn’t often take breaks around campus, Professor Gandur enjoys his office space, which serves as a hub for student interaction. “I usually come to my office. I enjoy my office; I have a good space, and as you see, my door is always open. I have that policy because I want to interact with students. I always have candy,” he told Horizons with a smile.

For students approaching the later years of their engineering education, Professor Gandur emphasized the importance of career preparation, particularly when it comes to resumes. “You need to spend some time working on your resume,” he advised. “I see a lot of students send me their resumes for research positions, and sometimes I see they lack just the style or format. Having a good resume that represents you properly is key.” He stressed the importance of tailoring resumes for specific positions: “A lot of people just do a general resume and don’t fine-tune it for the position they’re applying to. That’s the bridge between your undergrad and your next job.”

Professor Nazir Gandur’s passion for aerospace engineering, dedication to student success, and excitement for innovative research make him a valued member of the Embry-Riddle community. As he puts it, “If you love what you’re doing, success will follow naturally.”

Photography Column

“Cars”

HUNTER HOURANY
Chief Photographer

JORDAN STEPHENS
Photographer

DHANUSH BALUSA
Photographer

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Historical Figures in STEM:

Ada Lovelace, The woman who Envisioned Computing

LAUREN BAILEY
Correspondent

“There is no great invention without a great imagination” - Ada Lovelace

Born on December 10, 1815, Augusta Ada Byron was the daughter of Lady Anne Isabella Noel-Byron and the famous English poet Lord Byron. However, Lord Byron left the family shortly after Ada’s birth, leading her to be raised by her mathematically inclined mother. Lady Anne ensured that Ada received a comprehensive education by hiring renowned tutors to teach her subjects such as mathematics, science, social structures, medical practices, and astronomy. [2] As a result, Ada developed a passion for machines, which fostered a friendship with mathematician Charles Babbage, often regarded as the father of computers. Their correspondence over mathematical ideas continued for many years. [1]

In 1835, Ada Lovelace married William King, a supportive husband who helped her by copying articles for her in libraries, as women were not allowed in those spaces at the time. [4] Despite managing a large household and raising three children, she continued to pursue her passion for mathematics.

Babbage and Lovelace quickly became close friends. Babbage, who is regarded as the father of computers, shared his plans for an analytical



Playground for Horizons

engine with Lovelace. This machine was designed to perform calculations on more complex equations than his earlier computational device. In 1837, Babbage proposed the Analytical Engine, a machine that received input through punched cards and could store 1,000 numbers, each with 40 decimal digits. [3]

In 1848, Ada Lovelace translated a French article about the “Analytical Engine” into English. Along with the translation, she included her own comments, referred to as “notes,” which ended up being three times the length of the original text. [1] These notes demonstrated Ada’s understanding of the machine’s potential beyond mere numerical calculations. They included methods for using codes to communicate with the machine to generate meaningful characters, such as letters and numbers, as well as steps for creating looping processes—concepts that programmers still use today. This makes Ada Lovelace the world’s first computer programmer. [2]

Shortly after her paper was published, Lovelace’s health began to deteriorate, and she spent many months visiting various doctors. By 1851, she was diagnosed with cancer. Lovelace passed away on November 27, 1852, at the age of 36. [4]

During her lifetime, Lovelace’s contributions went unnoticed until the 20th century when her notes were recognized. In the 1970s, the computer language ADA was named after her and was one of the pioneers of computer science because of her achievements. [1]

Ada Lovelace is an example of one of the many women in STEM pursu-

ing a career while facing obstacles. Throughout different eras and times, women have had to contend with considerable prejudices, often coming from gender stereotypes and bias. Despite these challenges, there have been positive developments such as programs, mentorships, and role models like Ada Lovelace have inspired more girls to be interested in STEM and pave the way for a more diverse and innovative future.

“That brain of mine is something more than merely mortal; as time will show” - Ada Lovelace

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FRANCESCA KEEL
Chief Copy Editor

Welcome to the spring semester! While the second half of the school year means that you’re almost done with the year, it can also be more challenging than the fall semester. What better way to combat stress than to bake a sweet treat?

For Issue 7 I am making my mom’s banana bread recipe. She makes this whenever we have bananas that have overripened, and it has become a staple in our house (even our dogs love it)! To me this banana bread tastes like slow mornings at home, sipping on coffee while watching the neighborhood pass by.

This recipe is the ultimate way to bring comfort to a challenging week. You can easily customize it by adding nuts, chocolate chips, or even a sprinkle of coarse sugar on top before baking. You can even adjust the sweetness of the batter by adding less sugar or more bananas. I highly recommend eating this banana bread warm with a generous slice of butter, alongside your favorite drink.



Jordan Stephens for Horizons

Ingredients:

Makes 2 loaves or 2 9-inch cakes.

- 2 Cups All Purpose Flour.
- 1 Cup Granulated Sugar.
- 1 Cup Brown Sugar.
- 2 Ripe Bananas.
- 2 Sticks (1 Cup) Softened Butter.
- 2 Eggs.
- 1 Cup Yogurt.
- 2 Tsp Baking Powder.
- 1 Tsp Baking Soda.
- 1/4 Tsp Salt.
- 1 Tsp Vanilla.
- 1 Rounded Tsp Cinnamon.

Begin by preheating the oven to 350 degrees and greasing your cake or loaf pans with butter and



Jordan Stephens for Horizons

a dusting of flour. If two loaves are too much for you to enjoy or split amongst friends, you can halve the recipe.

In a large mixing bowl, mash the bananas with a fork. The riper your bananas, the sweeter they will be. If yours are particularly sweet you can reduce the granulated sugar by 1/4 cup. Once mashed, whisk in the butter until the mixture is homogeneous. Beat in the sugars, vanilla and cinnamon until light and fluffy.

Mix in the eggs one at a time before adding the yogurt. Adding yogurt to the batter makes it soft and moist while keeping the bread light. I like to use plain or lightly sweetened yogurt, just keep in mind that yogurt with a lot of sugar or flavors can be tasted in the final product.

Gently whisk in the flour, salt, baking powder, and soda. This is the perfect time to fold in any add-ins like chopped nuts or chocolate. Mix until there are no streaks of flour in the batter, taking care not to overmix.

Split the banana bread evenly into your pans and bake until golden brown, approximately 20 to 25 minutes or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean. For an elevated look, you can slice a banana lengthwise and place it on top of the bread and sprinkle with coarse sugar before baking.

Let the bread cool slightly before serving with a generous pat of cold butter. Store the bread wrapped in plastic wrap at room temperature for up to a week. Enjoy!

Conversations with Counseling

Mastering Organization, Healthy Habits, and Daily Routines for a Productive Start



SPENCER MEYER
Mental Health Counselor

Ah, the start of a new semester. You've promised yourself this time you'll keep it together: no all-nighters fueled by ramen noodles and regret; no last-minute scrambling to find that syllabus you lost back in Week 2. If you're reading this while sipping an iced coffee the size of your head, fear not—we've got you covered with a humorous (but very real) survival guide to starting strong and staying sane this semester.

1. Organize Before the Chaos Begins

Let's face it: nothing says "I have my life together" like a crisp planner or color-coded calendar. Getting organized early can keep you from spiraling into a caffeine-fueled tornado later. And science agrees, students who plan ahead perform better (Britton & Tesser, 1991). Plus, you'll look ridiculously impressive when someone asks about the test next week, and you actually know about it.

Invest in a planner: Whether you're Team Paper Planner or a proud digital wizard, write down everything. Assignments, deadlines, coffee dates—yes, even that TikTok break you've scheduled at 3 PM. Google Calendar and Notion are popular tools.

Download Google Calendar:



Download Notion:



Break it down: Big projects are scary, but smaller steps? Totally doable. Think of it as eating an entire pizza—one slice at a time.

Clean your study space: You know that pile of papers, empty snack wrappers, and three rogue chargers on your desk? Fix that. Studies show a clean workspace equals a clean mind—or at least fewer existential crises while searching for your laptop charger.

Tech is your friend: Apps like Trello (a digital to-do list) and Evernote (for your notes) can help.

Download Trello:



Download Evernote:



2. Establish Healthy Eating Habits

We know what you're thinking: "Who has time to cook between classes, part-time jobs, and four hours spent debating whether or not you really need a new backpack?" But fueling your brain doesn't have to mean breaking the bank (or eating cereal three meals a day).

Meal prep = hero status: Spend a Sunday chopping, cooking, and prepping quick meals like overnight oats or pasta salads. Future You will thank you when hunger strikes and all you have to do is open the fridge.

Snack smart: Keep snacks like nuts, fruit, or yogurt handy—the energy boost is real, and you'll avoid becoming that student with an audible stomach growl in class.

Hydrate: Water is key. No, coffee doesn't count. Carry a reusable bottle and stay hydrated to keep your brain functioning. Science backs it: hydration boosts focus (Popkin et al., 2010). Drink your water before your coffee in the morning.

Coffee, but responsibly: Yes, Dutch is life—but too much can turn you into a jittery insomniac. Swap that third cup for green tea when you need a gentler caffeine boost.

3. Create a Consistent Daily Routine

Routines might sound boring, but when you're juggling essays, group projects, and Netflix marathons, structure is your best friend. Plus, it's scientifically proven to reduce stress (Hirshkowitz et al., 2015). Think of routines as a way to make time for both work and fun without feeling like your life is spiraling.

Sleep like a champion: Aim for 7-8 hours of sleep every night—and no, crashing at 3 AM and waking up at noon doesn't count. You'll feel more human and less zombie-like when the alarm goes off.

Study smart, not hard: Use the Pomodoro Technique: 25 minutes of focused work followed by 5 minutes of doing something mindless (hello, cat videos).

Download Focus To-Do (Pomodoro Timer):



Exercise your stress away: Whether it's a gym session, yoga, or a victory lap to the fridge, moving your body boosts your mood and energy levels.

Self-care matters: Schedule in time for things you love, whether it's painting, reading, or getting a burger with friends. Downtime is productive, too—trust me.

4. Build a Positive Mindset

College life is like riding a roller coaster—fun, fast, and occasionally terrifying. A positive mindset won't remove the bumps, but it'll make the ride smoother.

Set intentions: What's your goal this semester? Survive Stats class? Make it to class on time most days? Write it down and stick to it.

Avoid the procrastination trap:

The 2-minute rule is golden—if a task takes less than 2 minutes, just do it now. Future You doesn't need more on their plate.

Celebrate the wins: Did you finish your paper early? Turn in homework without frantically clicking "submit" at 11:59 PM? That's a win—celebrate it with a cookie or an episode of your favorite show.

Final Thoughts

A new semester is like a fresh notebook—full of potential, slightly intimidating, and begging not to be ruined by procrastination. By staying organized, eating like an adult (sometimes), and sticking to a routine, you can tackle whatever college throws your way. Balance is key, progress is progress and remember: you've got this!

Counseling Services is here to support and help with implementing these strategies. Email prcounsel@erau.edu to set up an appointment!

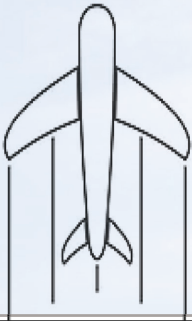
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Aviation Safety Watch:

Unveiling the Causes and Lessons from Air Incidents and Accidents

British Airways Flight 38



MATHEUS PAULI
Correspondent

On January 17, 2008, British Airways Flight 38, a scheduled flight from Beijing to London, ended in a crash-landing just short of Heathrow Airport's runway 27L. The Boeing 777-200ER (G-YMMM) was completing an 8,100-kilometer journey when both engines lost power during the final approach. Remarkably, all 152 people on board survived, though 47 sustained injuries, including one serious case. The incident, involving G-YMMM, marked the first hull loss for the 777 model.

After taking off from Beijing, Flight 38 flew over some of the coldest places on earth at great altitudes. Small amounts of water that were naturally present in the fuel froze into ice crystals, even though the flight crew kept a constant eye on the fuel's temperature to prevent freezing.

At an altitude of 720 feet and merely two miles from landing, the engines failed to respond to thrust commands. The autopilot disengaged at 150 feet, prompting the first officer to take manual control while the captain adjusted the flaps to minimize drag and extend the glide. The aircraft ultimately landed 270 meters short of the runway, resulting in the collapse of the nose gear upon impact. The right main gear penetrated the cabin and central fuel tank, which caused a significant fuel leak. Despite this, no fire ensued, and the crew's prompt actions facilitated a successful evacuation.

The investigation into British Airways Flight 38 was led by the Air Accidents Investigation Branch (AAIB) with help from Boeing, Rolls-Royce, and the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board. Early on, investigators ruled out common issues like mechanical failure, bird strikes, or contaminated fuel. The flight data and cockpit voice recorders confirmed what the pilots had described: the engines failed to respond to throttle commands during the final approach. After months of testing, the team discovered that ice crystals in the fuel system were to blame. It was a rare and unexpected problem that hadn't been account-



Admiral Cloudberg for Horizons



Federal Aviation Administration for Horizons



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Admiral Cloudberg for Horizons

showed how far aviation safety had come. This incident became a reminder of the unexpected challenges in aviation and the importance of always pushing for better safety measures.

If you have any comments or suggestions about this or future issues for this column at Horizons, please reach out to me at [paulim@my.erau.edu].

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