

Newspaper in Education Presents

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# kidz

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## Are You Into Outer Space?

### kidzbiz

## Chelsea Races to the Top!

Chelsea Dailey has high expectations and an inner drive to succeed. A sophomore at the new Braden River High School, she's already making a name for herself as President of the Technology Student's Association (TSA), President of the Sophomore Advisory Board, and a member of FBLA, Key Club, the Student Government Association, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She's at the top of her class, grade-wise. She recently auditioned for a spot on Manatee Educational TV's *Bell-to-Bell* program, an upcoming student-anchored show—and was one of four students selected to host the program.

"I want to be the next Katie Couric," Chelsea said with a confident smile. She plans to compete in six upcoming TSA events, each one relating to the technology of communication writing, speaking, desktop publishing, and filmmaking. So here's this attractive student with top grades and a professional look—and what's her favorite hobby? NASCAR! For her 16th birthday, she asked for Daytona 500 tickets. And she just got her driver's license—so look out, Dale Earnhardt, Jr. This star student is racing to the top!

By Leslie Rowe

### School biz

## Gil's Hands-On, Minds-On Enthusiasm

When you walk into Gil Burlew's Technology Education classroom, the visuals immediately grab your attention. Rockets and planes suspend from the ceiling. Automated robots, lasers, machines, and computers fill the room. If class is in session, students are engaged; intent on their projects. And it's no accident! Gil's "hands-on, minds-on" approach to teaching technology—correction; make that his approach to teaching about *life*—revolves around his intense views on how to motivate students for lifelong learning.

"When I walk in here, I see excitement!" said Gil recently. "I'm so fired up about what we're going to do in here! But I want my students to understand that having a positive mental attitude about life will help them overcome adversities and pave their way to success. I'm preparing leaders in here for a giant world of opportunity."

The man's enthusiasm is so contagious; you can't help but catch it. His excitement is about to burst—and students catch it, too. One of his many passions is the Technology Student Association. As the TSA advisor, he's intent on the potential impact success can have as he leads students toward victory in upcoming competitions. "It takes a dream to build a team," he quipped. "It's a leadership expedition—but no matter what happens, they're already winners!" And one parting comment Gil made sums it up—except you had to hear his enthusiasm to really understand the understatement. "I'm SO PROUD to be a teacher in Manatee County!!!"

### The Technology Student Association

#### Learning to Live in a Technical World

The Technology Student Association (TSA) is a national organization devoted to middle and high school students with a dedicated interest in technology. Assisting TSA's 200,000 plus student members is a strong support system of educators, alumni, parents, and business leaders who believe in the importance of a technologically literate society. Just as mathematics and science are considered necessary basic skills, technology education is now promoted as not "beyond the basics," but rather as "one of the basics."

TSA student members have the chance to participate in leadership training as well as compete at local, state, regional, and national competitions in over 30 areas of technology. They may also participate in chapter fund-raising activities and community service projects. Through TSA, students build skills and memories that last a lifetime.

Source: [www.tsaweb.org](http://www.tsaweb.org)

By Leslie Rowe

## The Sky's The Limit!

Imagine heading far beyond the vast boundary of our Solar System, into the deepest reaches of outer space. You would journey past the moon, relatively close at only 240,000 miles away. Passing Mars and Jupiter, you'd come upon Saturn, a whopping 900 million miles away. The final planet that you'd pass in our Solar System would be Pluto, at the incredible distance of 3.7 billion miles.

Eventually you might pass meteor showers and nebulas. A nebula is a large cloud of gas and dust which is often very beautiful; sometimes stars are born within a nebula. To see some really cool nebula photos, try visiting <http://hubble.nasa.gov/index.php> or visit your library. One of the most famous photos is the Horsehead nebula. It is incredibly enormous, towering at close to 4 light-years in height. The Horsehead nebula is 1,200 light-years away.

To give you a better perspective, consider that a light-year is actually a measure of distance, not time. It is the distance that a beam of light will travel in one year. The speed of light is a staggering 186,000 miles per second. At this speed, a light-year (how far light will travel in one year) comes out to approximately 6-trillion miles. For instance, light from our sun, (which is 93 million miles away) travels at this speed and actually takes eight minutes to arrive here at the earth. Traveling at the speed of light, you could travel to the moon and back in the time it takes to snap your fingers twice.

The most distant object which is possible to see with the naked eye is also our closest galactic neighbor—The Andromeda Galaxy. At 2.2 million light-years away, it is observable to a trained eye from earth, although with the help of a telescope it's much more easily seen.

Don't have a telescope? Fortunately, a team of scientists at NASA created a space telescope called The Hubble. This school-bus sized telescope is actually in orbit around the earth and has taken some incredible pictures of distant objects. We also have the Voyager space probes which travel at the speed of 39,000 m.p.h. These probes have actually ventured far beyond the reaches of human travel, allowing us to glimpse things that no eyes have seen before.



Are you into outer space? You may not travel to the Andromeda Galaxy, but you could be the next person to design and create a new telescope or probe. Engineers use computer aided drawing (CAD) to help them design almost everything, even the components of the Hubble and the Voyager. Several schools in Manatee County offer CAD and other engineering and technology classes. Find out which classes your school offers, and start your future into outer space!

By Julie Gillies

## explore it

### 3-2-1 Blastoff! Make a Mini-Rocket

Want to blast off your own rocket? This experiment demonstrates thrust, which is how a real rocket launches. These easy-to-make mini-rockets are a lot of fun!

\*\*Adult supervision is recommended.

#### What you'll need:

- Empty film canisters with lids (Fuji film canisters usually work better than Kodak canisters)
- Alka Seltzer tablets (you can use a generic brand)
- Water

- (Optional)
- Paper
  - Tape
  - Markers
  - Scissors

**Directions:** Work quickly once you get to the second step!

1. Place about one teaspoon of water into the film canister.
2. Add half of an Alka Seltzer tablet into the container.
3. Quickly place the cap on tightly, turn upside down (if you make an optional cone, place it cone side up) and step back!
4. Within 30-60 seconds, you'll hear a loud POP and watch your rocket launch!

**Optional:** You can create a cone for your rocket with folded paper which you tape into place. Cut out a small circle of paper, and then cut away a pie-shaped piece. Wrap the remaining "pie" into a cone and tape it to your rocket. The *bottom* of the film canister will be the top of your rocket, so that's where the cone will go. You can also cut out mini-fins and tape them to the side of the canister.

Invite your friends over and hold a rocket competition. Try altering the experiment, adding hot water instead of cold. You could even add Pepsi instead of water, and you can try adding an entire Alka Seltzer to change the results. May the best astronaut win!

## Discover the Future

There are many careers in the field of space exploration.

- Astronaut
- Engineer
- CAD expert
- Physicist
- Mathematician
- Scientist
- Pilot
- Aircraft technician



For more career information see your school counselor and get information on-line at:  
<http://www.khake.com/page42.html>  
 OR  
<http://www.princetonol.com/groups/iad/lessons/middle/careers.htm>

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- Johnson Middle Magnet
- Lee Middle Magnet



- Lincoln Middle Magnet
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- Rowlett Elementary Magnet
- Tillman Elementary Magnet
- Wakeland Elementary Magnet

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