

WITH DEEPEST APPRECIATION — 2024-25 ANNUAL RECAP FOR GAME AEROSPACE

FROM: MSU DENVER AVIATION & AEROSPACE SCIENCE

DATE: JUNE 2025



A Year of Impact, Powered by the GB1

On behalf of our entire team, students, and community, we want to express our profound gratitude for your generosity and partnership. The gamebird GB1 has become the heart of our Aerobatics program—empowering our students, building national visibility, and strengthening MSU Denver’s legacy as a leader in collegiate aviation. None of this would be possible without your belief in our mission.



Program and Outreach Highlights

- **Aerobatic Team Success:**

Our students, flying the GB1, earned multiple top finishes in four collegiate competitions, with several more to come in 2025. The aircraft’s reliability and performance have elevated training, skill development, and team morale beyond our highest hopes.



-  **2024 Collegiate National Aerobatic Champions**

Metropolitan State University of Denver’s Aerobatics Team claimed their **fifth national title in eight years**, triumphing at the 2024 Collegiate National Aerobatic Championship—outpacing the University of North Dakota and Air Force Academy.

- Our pilots—**Tien Luu**, **Braeden Giltinan**, and **Alex Trautmann**—secured 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in the individual collegiate standings, with a tie for third for Trautmann. Luu earned an individual score of 86.33%, affirming our team’s dominance.

- **Mastery in Motion**

Tien Luu describes the skill set this way: "We are taught to 'always stay ahead of the aircraft'... a complex dance between preparation, execution and awareness. But when everything clicks, it really is one of the most satisfying experiences ever.

Signature Events & Outreach:

- **Morgan Adams Airshow:** Reached 1,000+ attendees, featuring live GB1 demonstrations.
- **Community Engagement:** GB1 has starred at regional airshows, supported Centennial Airport's 5K, and enabled special VIP/donor flights, putting Game Aerospace's innovation on center stage.
- **Oshkosh AirVenture (upcoming):** Our GB1 will be displayed at one of the world's premier aviation events, reaching nearly 800,000 aviation enthusiasts—a major platform for visibility and recruitment.



GB1 by the Numbers: Financial Recap

Fixed Annual Costs

- Insurance: \$15,000
- Operations/Compliance: \$5,000
- Annual Inspection: \$3,000–\$5,000
- **Total Fixed:** \$23,000–\$25,000

Operational Costs

- Total Flight Hours (YTD 2025): **260 engine hours.**
- Hourly Operating Cost: **\$300/hour**
- **Total Operational Cost (to date):** \$78,000



Who Benefits:

- **Student-Paid Training:** 190 hrs. (\$57,000) – direct pilot education.
- **Department/Outreach Flights:** 70 hrs. (\$21,000) – vital for outreach, airshows, and donor stewardship.

Annualized Need (for program sustainability):

- **\$103,000** per year covers all insurance, inspection, operational fees, and essential outreach/visibility flights.

The Human Impact

- **Student Growth:** The GB1 has created opportunities for over 20 student pilots this year alone, with countless others participating in maintenance, ground operations, and outreach.
- **Community Touchpoints:** Our combined outreach efforts have engaged thousands—potential students, donors, aviation families, and partners—all inspired by the capabilities and story of the GB1.
- **A Legacy of Excellence:** Our success on the competition circuit and at national events is directly tied to the reliability, safety, and innovation that Game Aerospace delivers.



EXPANDING HORIZONS: COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PARTNERSHIP & GB1 ACROSS DENVER

Our collaboration with Colorado Department of Transportation, (CDOT) Aeronautics has soared this year—literally—through coordinated marketing and shared appearances featuring the gamebird GB1. In aerial photos capturing the aircraft flying over the Denver metro area and key transportation corridors, MSU Denver and CDOT have leveraged the GB1 as a visual centerpiece in statewide recruitment and public awareness campaigns.



- **Research & Community Engagement:**
Our students and faculty collaborated with CDOT professionals on safety presentations, drone integration workshops, and special flight operations.
- **Joint Outreach & Education:**
MSU Denver and CDOT partnered on school visits, youth aviation days, and regional airshow demonstrations—using the GB1 as a central ambassador for “what’s possible” in Colorado aviation.

GB1 Over Denver: Aerial Highlights

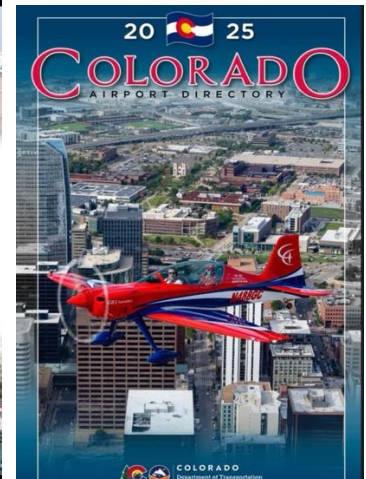
One of the most iconic images from this year: the Gamebird GB1 soaring over the Denver skyline, with the Rockies in the background. These aerial shots have become signature visuals for MSU Denver and CDOT, featured in statewide campaigns, recruiting materials, and media stories.

- Aerial Photography & Video:**
 Stunning shots of the GB1 in flight above key Denver landmarks—from downtown to Centennial Airport—help tell the story of innovation, access, and teamwork.
- Marketing & Branding Impact:**
 This year, coordinated efforts between MSU Denver’s Marketing Department and CDOT resulted in our most visible outreach yet. The GB1 was featured on billboards, in digital campaigns, and at high-profile events, linking Game Aerospace’s brand to Colorado’s aviation future.



High-Impact Visibility: Oshkosh, Directory Cover & Alumni Celebration

- Oshkosh AirVenture Shared Booth**
 At the world’s premier airshow, MSU Denver and CDOT will share booth prominently featuring the GB1—drawing thousands of visitors and sparking conversation. Its standout presence elevated both the programs and Colorado’s profile in aviation—and had Game Aerospace at the center of attention.
- Airport Directory Cover & Feature Story**
 The GB1 graced the cover of the Colorado Airport Directory, complete with a feature story reaching a statewide audience of aviation stakeholders and policymakers. This exposure highlights Game Aerospace’s craftsmanship and ongoing advocacy.



Raffle Flight Experience | May 1, 2025

Hosted by: MSU Denver Aerobatics Team – Dagmar Kress, Tien Nguyen and Kiha Sutta

This experience was made possible through MSU Denver’s Annual Giving Campaign raffle, with all operating costs covered by university funds. Faculty and staff contributed their time and expertise at no cost, reflecting our deep commitment to student engagement and aviation excellence.



Experience Highlights:

- Comprehensive safety briefing and introduction to the GB1 aircraft
- Hands-on pre-flight inspection led by faculty
- Precision aerobatic flight with Professor Dagmar Kress, featuring advanced maneuvers

Student Reflection:

“The Gamebird is one zippy plane and a ton of fun to fly. Dagmar is an extremely talented pilot and a great teacher. I felt both safe and educated—truly in good hands. A huge thanks to everyone for making it the best aviation experience of my life (so far).” -Narayan Birkley



Program Impact:

- Raffle and outreach flights create transformative opportunities for students, foster community connection, and showcase the exceptional capabilities of the GB1.

Looking Ahead—With Thanks

We cannot overstate the value of this partnership. The GB1 is more than just an aircraft; it is a catalyst for student dreams, program growth, and national recognition. We are deeply grateful for your continued support and are excited to build on this foundation for years to come.

If you would like a more detailed financial breakdown or have ideas for future collaborations, please let us know. Our doors are always open.

With sincere appreciation,

The MSU Denver Aerobatics Team & Aviation & Aerospace Science Department