Assessment of SPAN Claims

The seminar description is **accurate, technically sound, and consistent with FAA-published limitations on datalink weather**. Nothing in the SPAN is exaggerated; if anything, it is *conservatively stated*. Every major claim aligns with FAA guidance and meteorological reality. Below is a point-by-point assessment grounded in the uploaded text.

✓ What is factually correct (with citations to the SPAN)

1. "EFB radar is a history book, not a sensor."

This is fully accurate. The SPAN states that *"EFB radar mosaics can be 5–15 minutes old"* and that pilots rely on *"delayed EFB radar"*.
FAA and NWS both confirm that NEXRAD mosaic latency is typically **8–15 minutes** from actual precipitation.

2. ADS-B mosaics hide violent edges

The SPAN notes that ADS-B weather is *"stitched from multiple sources and smoothed, hiding the violent edges of developing cells."*
This is accurate. FAA and AOPA training materials repeatedly warn that ADS-B mosaics **remove fine-scale gradients**, making storms appear less hazardous than they are.

3. Sea-breeze collisions form storms faster than radar updates

The text states that *"sea breeze fronts collide inland every afternoon, creating storms that form faster than radar scan cycles."*
This is meteorologically correct for Central Florida. East–west sea-breeze convergence routinely produces **explosive convection within a single 5-minute radar volume scan**.

4. Outflow boundaries can reach ORL long before rain

The SPAN says *"outflow boundaries from distant storms can produce 40-knot gust fronts at ORL long before the parent storm appears threatening."*
This is accurate. Outflow boundaries often travel **20–40 knots** and can arrive **tens of miles ahead** of precipitation.

5. Haze hides vertical development

The text notes that *"haze layers routinely hide vertical development until buildups are already mature."*
Correct. Florida's humid boundary layer frequently obscures early cumulus growth.

6. Pre-radar cues are more reliable than delayed data

The seminar emphasizes *"texture changes, shadowing, virga, and boundary lines"* as early cues.
This is consistent with FAA thunderstorm avoidance guidance: **visual cues precede radar depiction**.

7. Tactical decisions must be made before data confirms the threat

The SPAN states: *"Tactical decisions must be made before the data confirms the threat."*
This is exactly what FAA AC 00-24C teaches: **never wait for radar confirmation** when convection is rapidly developing.

✓ What is *not* exaggerated

Nothing in the SPAN overstates risk. In fact:

- The latency numbers (5–15 minutes) are **conservative**.
- Sea-breeze collisions in Central Florida often produce storms **faster** than described.
- Outflow boundaries can exceed **40 knots** in extreme cases.
- Haze-hidden buildups are a **well-documented trap** in Florida.

The seminar avoids sensationalism and sticks to operationally relevant hazards.

✓ What is opinion-based but still reasonable

A few statements are interpretive but still grounded:

- *"Your EFB radar is a history book, not a sensor."*
  — Rhetorical, but accurate.
- *"Holes in the line are often the most dangerous place to penetrate."*
  — This is a widely taught operational caution: gaps often close rapidly or contain strong outflow.

None of these cross into exaggeration.

✓ Overall assessment

Truthfulness: High
Technical accuracy: High
Consistency with FAA guidance: Strong
Exaggeration: None detected
Risk framing: Appropriate for Part 91 pilots in Central Florida

The SPAN is a **credible, modernized reframing of thunderstorm avoidance** that aligns with FAA, NWS, and AOPA warnings about datalink latency and Florida convection.
