

# Airline considering reductions in Raleigh-Durham service

By Julie Nations  
Staff Writer

Out-of-state UNC students going home for the holidays could find something not so special in the air if American Airlines closes its hub at Raleigh-Durham International Airport.

Students face the possibility of losing several direct flights if the hub shuts down, said Smedes York, chairman of the Raleigh-Durham International Airport Authority.

"It would make (flying home) more difficult," he said. "For example, students going to Florida would have to go through Atlanta."

The airline, which has suffered major losses in the past few years, is considering options that might include closing one of its hubs. However, company representatives said the airline was considering many possibilities and had not ruled out any course of action.

Gov. Jim Hunt plans to meet this month with Robert Crandall, chairman and chief executive of American Airlines, to discuss the hub's future.

"I will be traveling to Texas this month with a small delegation of business and economic leaders to talk with Mr. Crandall," Hunt said in a statement released to the press. Adding, "We will do our best to work with American Airlines in every way we can."

Hunt's press secretary, Rachel Perry, said that although Hunt's former law firm had represented American Airlines in North Carolina, the connection had very little to do with the fact that he was going to Texas. "Part of his job as governor is to do all he can to boost the economy, whether it be attracting or retaining business," she said.

Tim Smith, spokesman for American Airlines, said that the governor's office had been in touch with the airline's corporate headquarters but that a date for the meeting had not been set. "Mr. Crandall has told them that they

are most welcome and would be happy to meet with them," Smith said.

York said he would accompany Hunt on his trip to promote the Raleigh hub.

"Right now, we are having a major promotion," York said. "We want to reinforce the strength of this area."

York said the trip also was intended to demonstrate North Carolina's support for the airline.

"There are possibly some cost-saving things we could suggest," he said.

York said that although airport authority officials believed American would not shut down the hub, they were considering looking at other alternatives. "We don't believe they'll close, but they may scale back," he said.

Smith said no decision on the hub had been made. A press statement issued by the company indicated that it had made no official decisions.

"Contrary to published reports, a speech given by American Airlines Chairman and President Robert L.

Crandall ... contained no announcements about layoffs, grounding of aircraft or other definitive actions," according to the statement.

American is reviewing all of its operations to determine what changes should be made, Smith said.

"American ... is determined to return the company to profitability by whatever means necessary at the earliest possible moment," the statement said.

Smith said one of the company's options was to cut back on the number of airplanes in operation. "We could park certain parts of our fleet, which would make our airline smaller."

Another route American might take would be to pull out of certain areas and let its commuter branch, American Eagle, take over those flights, he said.

"In 1992, we doubled our jet flights to business centers," Smith said. "We took those jets from smaller cities and gave them to Eagle."

Smith said that although these options were possibilities, the airline might not choose to implement any of these alternatives. "We have other problems at other hubs too," he said.

Smith said American had seven hubs nationwide. Adding that the Raleigh hub, along with those in Nashville, Tenn., and in San Jose, Calif., were the airline's smallest.

American's parent company, AMR Corp., reported a \$985 million loss for 1992. Smith said that the losses were substantially above the previous year's \$278 million mark and that the airline had suffered staggering financial losses in the past two to three years.

"None of our hubs have been very profitable," he said. "We have some profitable elements in our company, but they tend to be nonairline."

Smith said American Airlines was not the only airline facing financial difficulties. "The airline industry has suffered billions of dollars of losses in the

last two years," he said. "The losses in this industry in the past two years have completely wiped out all profits ever made in the industry since the Wright Brothers' flight."

To add to the changes taking place at RDU, another airline will be opening a new hub there this year.

York said that Northwest Airlines would be opening a Raleigh-Durham hub in April and that the airline would offer three flights a day to Detroit, Mich., as well as connections to the Far East.

"That's a very big plus for the area," he said.

Smith said American Airlines was not worried about the new competition.

"We think our service is superior in terms of service and departure schedule," he said. "We think we can compete just fine with them."

**Campus Y** from page 3

"The Y did a very good job of upholding the mission statement last year, and this year we will tackle issues as they come," she said. "We will focus on the housing issues, take an active role in the issue of (the recent racial incidents in) Morrison Residence Hall and the BCC, and any other injustice that arises."

## B-GLAD from page 1

GLAD project.

"B-GLAD has a lot of different missions to fulfill on this campus," he said. "They have to provide a comforting and supportive atmosphere for a constituency which everyone recognizes is overwhelmingly closeted. The rationale is that to be too militant would interfere with that necessary role."

In addition to Stiegler, four others have been working on the Marriott issue: Kathy Staley, B-GLAD co-chairwoman; Tasha Heeler, co-chairwoman of the Woman's Forum; Fred Wherry, co-chairman of Students for the Advancement of Race Relations; and Joan Petit, a sophomore from Elizabethtown.

Stiegler said he wasn't surprised that a group other than B-GLAD had confronted a gay and lesbian issue. "It's unfortunate that there isn't more faith in activism in B-GLAD," he said.

## Forum

"John's a very articulate spokesperson for why he doesn't believe integration can offer equal opportunity and access to society resources, and I'd like you to listen very clearly to what I heard him say," he said.

"I heard him say that whites are always going to see blacks as lowering the status of their neighborhood, that whites perhaps are so fundamentally racist that we shouldn't worry about trying to change that. We should just segregate ourselves and argue for equal opportunity in these segregated communities. Now does that make sense to you?" Galster asked.

"If whites are so fundamentally racist, they can't be changed and are always going to see blacks as inferior. Yet whites control a major investment lever in our society, so how can you believe a

## Powers from page 1

■ Dennis Curtis, Powers' former supervisor, committed sexual harassment against Powers by touching her leg and hugging her in an unsolicited, unwelcome manner;

■ Although Herb Paul, physical plant director, and Steve Stoddard, housing support superintendent for the physical plant, responded reasonably to Powers' complaints, their actions did not relieve UNC of liability for Curtis' actions.

Becton also ruled that there was no evidence that Powers' transfer to a Kenan Residence Hall plumbing assignment was retaliation for her sexual-harassment complaints. The judge stated that there was no evidence UNC forced Powers to resign in September 1991.

The State Personnel Commission — a panel appointed by the governor — will review Becton's decision and make the final decision in the Powers case.

## League

verbal sexual advances,

■ sexual bribery, which occurs when someone solicits sexual activity in exchange for a reward,

■ sexual coercion, which occurs when someone solicits sexual activity by threat of punishment and

■ sexual imposition, which includes forced, unwanted sexual activity, including rape.

Scott said 35 percent of women faculty members at the University had experienced some kind of sexual harassment, excluding gender harassment without sexual overtones.

"If you include gender harassment without sexual overtones, such as insulting, demeaning or sexist behavior, then the number almost doubles," she added.

Anderson-Thompkins cited Spring Break flyers around campus that pic-

ture scantily clad women as one example of the way women were set up as potential victims.

The University offers programs to help students and faculty deal with sexual harassment, she said.

Scott said that to combat sexual harassment, universities needed clearly defined policies that were well-publicized, educational programs to help people identify sexual harassment, user-friendly grievance procedures that facilitated reporting incidents and effective investigations and resolutions of complaints.

Scott said the long and involved review processes made it too difficult for victims to come forward with their complaints.

"Racial and sexual harassment contaminates the community, the work-

place and the classroom," Scott said. "The key to elimination is not reacting after the fact, but a proactive program that promotes prevention through education."

The panel, which discussed the minority housing issue before an audience of about 80, was moderated by UNC law professor John Boger.

At one point during the two-hour discussion, Calmore received criticism from a member of the audience. Andrew Dobelstein, a professor in the UNC School of Social Work, said he didn't "appreciate (Calmore's) pessimism on this issue."

But Calmore said he was in fact "very optimistic. "But the optimism I have," he said, "is in black people and their community capacities and their institutional capacities to survive in the absence of integration."

Calmore also added that the Kerner Commission's assertion in 1968 that moving minorities into the suburbs would lead to integration "has been refuted by history."

Calmore called Galster's approach "inherently tokenistic," and contended that integration only had surface value because whites generally moved out of a neighborhood as blacks moved in. "The contact hypothesis may work well on basketball teams, on football teams, in war, but not when you have externalities at play like 'what's going to happen to the value of my house if black people come in?'" Calmore said.

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