

Task force calls for FAA changes

By **STEPHANIE VON ISENBURG**
Staff Writer

In light of recent accidents involving aging jets, an aviation task force has told the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) it must improve existing jets by enforcing a nationwide modification program and by replacing outdated aircraft.

The task force, created by the Air Transport Association (ATA), recommended FAA enforcement of intensified maintenance and inspection programs of Boeing airplanes, and especially of the planes' skin, skeleton and rivets.

The report also calls for mandatory repairs suggested in Boeing service bulletins sent to the airlines. Boeing requested inspections of the planes, but airlines have not been required to follow the suggestions.

The report, first in a series of three, focuses on Boeing planes because they make up 70 percent of the world's fleet, said Leslie Rowland, spokeswoman for the ATA.

The next two reports will focus on

McDonnell-Douglas and foreign manufacturers, and the reports should be released in the next two months, she said.

The task force conducting the study consists of members of the ATA, aviation regulatory agencies, NASA, airplane manufacturers and mechanics from the United States, Asia and Europe.

The FAA requested a study by the ATA on the problem of aging jets after the accident of an Aloha Airlines jet in April 1988.

The report would require airlines to fix problems that will lead to cracks as the plane gets older, said Fred Faarar, a spokesman for the FAA.

There is no set time for the modifications, Rowland said. The frequency of the inspections depends on the number of cycles (take-offs and landings) an airplane has had.

Many of the ATA suggestions are already in place, she said.

American Airlines has started to make 71 of the repairs recommended

by Boeing and has completed 41 of them, said Jim Brown, corporate spokesman for American Airlines in Dallas.

American also has a five-stage Structure Life Improvement Program for repairing and maintaining aircraft at the cost of \$2 million per plane, he said.

The cost of the projected repairs is \$600,000 a plane and \$800 million overall.

"We have started doing the regulatory work that's necessary to turn those recommendations into mandates," Faarar said.

The recommendations are to improve airline safety, but there is no danger to passengers before they are instituted, Rowland said.

"We've got the safest aviation system in the world, and we want to make it better," she said. "We can go one step further in preventing accidents."

"There are 16,000 airplane flights daily in this country. We don't want airplanes coming apart," he said.

The airlines need standardized maintenance practices which would allow information to flow smoothly between airlines, Brown said.

"We support (the ATA proposal) even though it would cost us a lot of money," said Joe Hopkins, media relations manager for United Airlines in Chicago.

Both airlines will follow the recommendations set by the proposal but insist that their safety records are high.

Last week's accident involving United's flight 811 from Honolulu caused the first loss of life in 10 years of service (4 million flights) for United, said Hopkins.

"It's extremely rare, nevertheless we take it very seriously," he said.

There is no link between the airplane accidents which have occurred since the Aloha jet accident last year, Faarar said. The Aloha plane was the only known accident caused by the aging of the plane's sealing process.

N.C. Central hazing incident results in hospitalization of 2

From staff reports

DURHAM — Two N.C. Central University students were hospitalized after a hazing incident involving the Tau Psi chapter of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity last week.

Sophomore class president Paul Woodson was admitted to Durham County General Hospital complaining of dizziness and low blood pressure. Payne Lucas was taken to the student infirmary for treatment of a nose injury.

Officials at N.C. Central refused to elaborate on the pledge activities.

The fraternity involved was suspended from campus pending an on-campus investigation.

Condom machines installed

BOONE — In January, Appalachian State University became the state's first campus to install condom dispensers in residence halls in an effort to prevent the spread of AIDS.

Gary Greene, ASU student body president, will present the new program today to the Council of Presidents in hopes of implementing the plan throughout the 16 schools in the UNC system. The council's members are the student body presidents from the schools in the system.

"We have had one case (of AIDS) on this campus, and it is estimated that three of every 1,000 people in the UNC system may be carriers. If the averages hold, we may have 30 carriers on this campus who don't know they have it," Greene said.

"We want to send the resolution to UNC-system President C.D. Spangler so all the other 15 campuses can consider it," Greene said.

The machines are in 18 residence halls on the ASU campus and in common areas. About 30 percent of the profits will be used for campus AIDS education and sexual abstinence programs. The other 70 percent goes to the supplier, Barnett, Inc., of Charlotte.

Protestors appeal suspension

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Pennsylvania State University was the site of CIA protests last semester similar to those at UNC.

Three students who were suspended for taking part in protests against CIA recruitment on campus formally announced their appeal last week in an unauthorized press conference.

University officials refused to comment on the issue.

Heir jeopardizes Duke funds

DURHAM — The adoption of a 35-year-old woman by Duke tobacco heiress Doris Duke has trustees at Duke University worried that they could lose millions of dollars in endowments now that Miss Duke has a descendant.

Miss Duke's assets are worth about \$2.5 billion. Several million dollars are tied up in the Doris Duke Trust, which was established

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by Miss Duke's father in 1924. Under the trust, a two-thirds share of the holdings would go to the Duke Endowment, but only if Miss Duke dies with no "lineal descendants."

Duke follows UNC pizza plan

DURHAM — Duke University's student government is considering a proposal to allow students to charge pizzas on their meal cards, much like the system at UNC.

The plan, which was submitted by a student advisory group last February, could be in place by the end of this semester.

After local pizza businesses submit bids, officials in the Duke Dining Service estimate the program will be functioning within 60 days.

Athletes say OK to drug testing

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Members of fall and winter sports teams from Plymouth State College have voluntarily agreed to submit to random drug tests in an effort to prove their sports program is clean.

Results of the tests will not be made public and athletes will be encouraged to seek help if they test positive. No punitive measures are planned.

Burger King restaurants underwrote the cost of testing the athletes, estimated at \$2,500.

"We've decided to take a preventive, pro-active posture by providing programming, awareness and education," said athletic director Steve Bamford. "By having this testing, we can show that we run our athletics program clean."

Students present abuse program

CINCINNATI, Ohio — The University of Cincinnati has developed a student-run program to help students who are caught in abusive dating relationships.

Recent statistics show that as many as 20 percent of college students have experienced violence in dating relationships, but only half of those students actually end those abusive relationships.

Twenty students of both sexes have been trained to present a 70-minute program called "Loving Too Much: Relationships That Hurt." A second group of students will soon begin the training program, which consists of two-hour sessions for 10 weeks.

The presenters start the program with a questionnaire and move on to explore common characteristics of abusive relationships, such as dependency on a partner. Next, they explain how factors such as low self esteem, rigid sex-role expectations and a family history of violence can contribute to abusive tendencies.

Rising day-care costs limit parents' options

By **LYNN GOSWICK**
Staff Writer

Many day-care authorities in the area agree parents in Chapel Hill and Carrboro are finding it difficult to find affordable quality day-care services as child care costs continue to rise.

Kate Sanford, director of the Chapel Hill Co-operative Pre-School, said it is becoming increasingly difficult for parents in Chapel Hill to find adequate day care for their children.

Day Care Services Association director Susan Russell said affordability, quality and availability are three major problems concerning day care in Chapel Hill.

A study by the U.S. Department of Labor said that no more than 10 percent of a family's income should be spent on day care, Russell said. In Chapel Hill, a single mother working as a secretary and earning \$15,000 a year must spend approximately 22 percent of her income on day care for her child.

If a family pays \$3,276 a year for infant day care, which is the average cost for Chapel Hill and Carrboro, they would have to earn \$30,000 annually, Russell said.

In Chapel Hill, parents with two small children must make \$60,000 a year to afford proper day care, and although there are tax breaks to bring

down the costs, \$60,000 is still a large income for a family, she said.

Because good day-care centers have low staff-to-child ratios, there is a need for well-trained, experienced teachers, she said. Day care is expensive in this area because the community wants better quality care, but qualified teachers are unavailable.

The problem of finding qualified teachers is that day-care salaries are low, and quality teachers are not attracted to the profession, she said.

Sarah Mansfield, Early Childhood Programs director at Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center, said the decline in professionalism at some day-care centers is tied to the

lack of benefits and low salaries.

Nancy Park, administrative director of Child Care Services, said to attract good teachers, costs to the parents must go up.

Despite the high costs, Park said, parents from Orange County are filling local day-care centers and home day cares and leaving other children on long waiting lists.

Chapel Hill Day Care Center director Nancy Taylor said the center has a waiting list of 200 children.

The first five years of a child's life are very important in development, she said. Giving a child quality care during those first years will give him a head start in life.

Carrboro programs to focus on downtown

By **LAURA TAYLOR**
Staff Writer

Carrboro recreation officials hope to encourage downtown revitalization and development through a series of locally sponsored programs to begin in late spring.

Richard Kinney, director of Carr-

boro Parks and Recreation Department, said town officials want to encourage a downtown development movement.

The town will promote some downtown programs, but the commission hopes local businesses will assist in the effort by sponsoring specific activities.

"They are not promotional programs per se," Kinney said. "But they are geared for the downtown area."

"The commission is working on the revitalization plan right in keeping with the parks and recreation department," said Doris Murrell, chairwoman of the Carrboro Recreation and

Parks Commission.

The commission is considering several proposals for presentation to the board of aldermen, Murrell said.

The proposals are designed to develop activities in downtown that will appeal to the whole community and attract people to Carrboro, Murrell said.

One program would sponsor a street fair creating a "carnival-type" atmosphere in downtown Carrboro for children and adults, she said.

The street carnival would be called the Orobrac Fair and emphasize fun, games and entertainment for the community, Murrell said. Orobrac

is Carrboro spelled backwards.

Another proposal suggests programs about folk musician, Libba Cotton, who is thought to have been born in Carrboro and is considered by many to be a pioneer in American folk music, Murrell said.

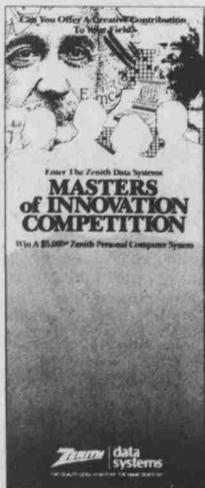
A promotional guide listing Carrboro holiday events as tourist attractions has also been suggested, she said.

Kinney said commissioners are reviewing eight programs, but the board of aldermen will give final approval.

"We don't intend to request budget for all of them," Kinney said.

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