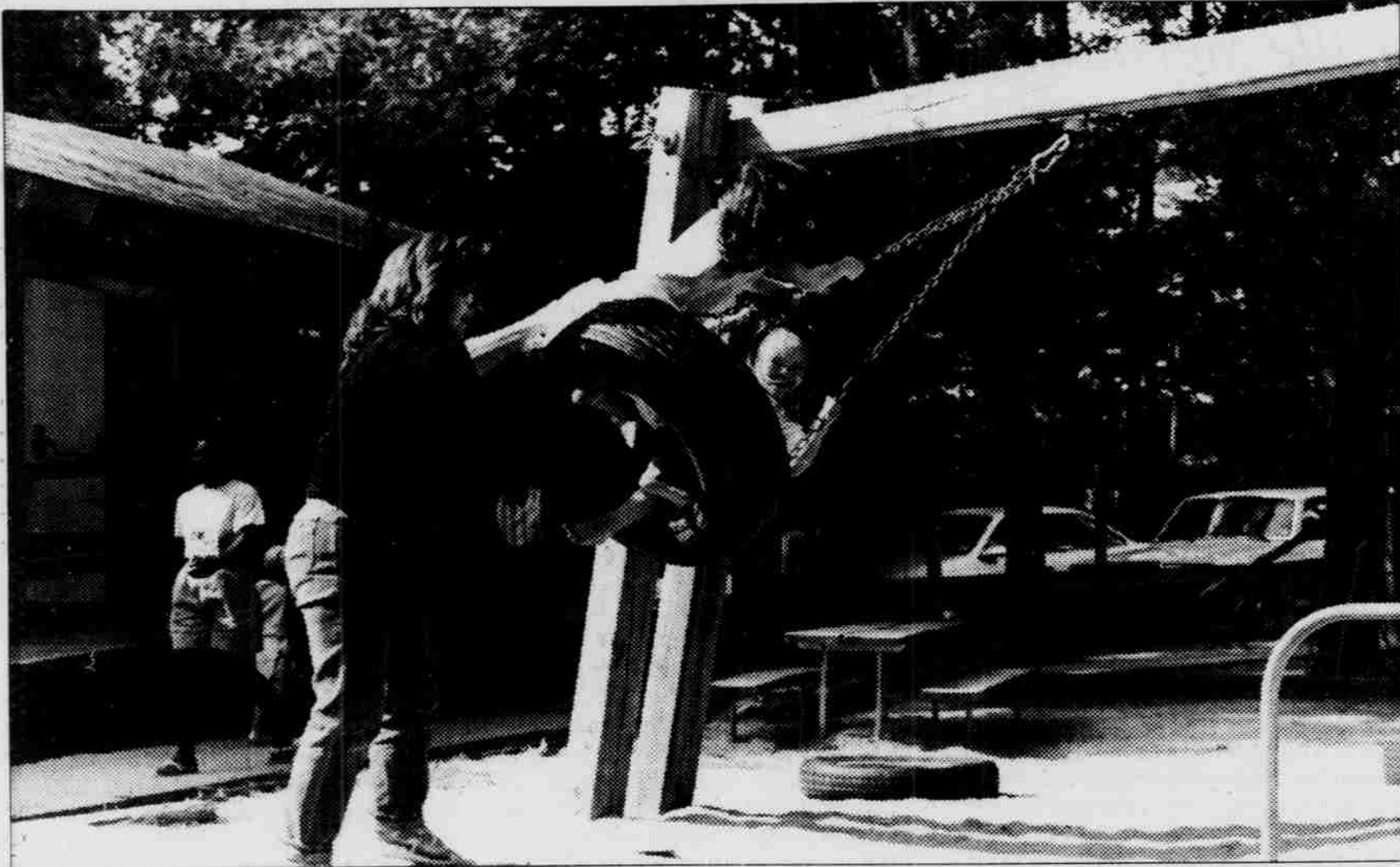


STATE

New bill deregulates seasonal day care, causes concern



Marge Skeuse, a counselor at Victory Village Day Care, spent Tuesday with two children on a swing

By **ANDRE HAUSER**
Staff Writer

Children in some North Carolina day camps will not have as much state protection this summer as they have had in recent years, according to a local child care advocate.

Last year the N.C. General Assembly ratified a bill that deregulates many recreational summer day camps, said Nancy T. Park, publisher of Children's Services News, the newsletter of Child Care Networks in Carrboro.

The bill is a response to the over-regulation of the state's seasonal day camps in 1988, but with decreased regulation there is a greater possibility of mismanagement in summer programs, she said.

The bill was introduced to the General Assembly by Anne Barnes, D-Orange (and Chatham). She said seasonal recreational programs were included in a bill strengthening regulation standards in 1988 due to an oversight, and the bill she introduced last session was meant to correct that.

"(The bill) clarified that the regular day care regulations were not meant to be applied to short-term seasonal recreational programs," Barnes said. "It was an oversight that we did not do that

to begin with."

Park said she was worried that this is too much deregulation, however. "It is legitimate that there was a reaction to the over-regulation of day-care, but complete deregulation is not it."

The new bill deregulated programs that operate for four hours or less daily between May and September. Under the 1988 legislation, all day care facilities operating more than four hours a day for three weeks or longer each year were subject to the same standards used in regulating full-time day care programs by the N.C. Day Care Commission.

All day care and day camp programs were required to have an air-conditioned building, specific numbers of restrooms, a kitchen and a bulletin board for posting the regulations, said Jody Jameson, recreation program coordinator for Carrboro Parks and Recreation.

The commission adopted these regulations because very little time was allowed for the development of a set of sensible standards in 1988, Park said. This caused problems because many of the regulations for full-time facilities do not apply well to summer programs, she said.

Under the new bill, the only state regulation concerning summer day camps is that they must be inspected by

the state Board of Health if they serve food, said Talitha Wright, a member of the Child Day Care Section of the N.C. Department of Human Resources.

Chris Erickson, camp coordinator for Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation, said the department plans to keep some of the changes that were made in the last two years in spite of the deregulation. Regulations under the 1988 law concerned the minimum square feet per child, snacks, transportation, swimming, the percentage of outdoor versus indoor activities, minimum counselor-to-child ratios and other issues.

Carrboro Parks and Recreation has a shelter, but no air-conditioned building to use for its summer day camp programs. As a result, the camps will only be from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., Jameson said.

"There's all these little snags in the day care regulations," she said. "I hate to say we try to get around them, but we do try to have a (day camp) program."

Because many summer day camps are deregulated, it is important for parents to make sure the summer program their children are in is a good one, Park said. "In North Carolina, the parent is the primary advocate for quality child care," she said.

Film industry digs roots into Carolina soil

By **CHIP SUDDERTH**
Staff Writer

Thanks to the efforts of the North Carolina Film Office, in ten years the Tar Heel state has developed a motion picture industry second only to those of California and New York, said Henson P. Barnes, President Pro Tempore of the North Carolina Senate.

"Before this office started in 1980," said William Arnold, director of the North Carolina Film Office, "you could count on one hand the number of films shot in North Carolina, including the silent era."

Since then, however, almost 150 movies have been filmed here, as well as thousands of commercials, television episodes, and video productions. Over the last decade, the industry has brought \$1.9 billion into North Carolina.

"That's quite a return on an investment," Arnold said. His office has spent approximately \$1 million over the same

period.

Arnold said the Film Office was created "to encourage and stimulate as much production activity in this state as possible, and to offer our assistance wherever we can."

To this end, the office prints an annual directory for film producers listing all the resources available in North Carolina, from studios and production houses to caterers and crew people. The directory is distributed to all inquiring companies.

Arnold, Gov. Jim Martin, and other state officials also travel to Los Angeles at least once every year, a move calculated to impress producers with North Carolina's sincerity in seeking filmmakers.

One of those impressed was producer David Chan. His company, Golden Harvest, decided Wilmington was the best place to shoot the low-

budget action movie that ultimately became the highest-grossing independently released film ever: *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*. The previous record-holder, *Dirty Dancing*, was also filmed in North Carolina. Chan said the excellent facilities in Wilmington, combined with easy access to New York and non-union labor, made North Carolina much less expensive than New York City or Los Angeles.

However, North Carolina had some disadvantages, Chan said.

"My cast and crew from New York found the climate rather uncomfortable. The soundstages were air-conditioned, but it was much hotter outside."

Flight schedules were another inconvenience, Chan said. "Direct flights from L.A. to Wilmington, and more accessible transportation in general, would be a help," he said.

But despite these problems, Chan

said he would probably return to North Carolina if the much-discussed sequel to *Turtles* is given the go-ahead.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles was one of 14 features and several smaller projects generated in 1989, garnering a total of \$314.3 million, Sen. Barnes said.

"In addition to the income generated, the projects created 7,540 industry-related jobs," he said.

This year also looks good, he said. Films starring Julia Roberts, Michael Caine, Jim Belushi and Michelle Pfeiffer are all in the works here. The state now has the highest rate of industry growth in the nation.

North Carolina faces mumps outbreak

From Associated Press reports

RALEIGH — North Carolina is experiencing its worst outbreak of mumps since 1976.

Since Jan. 1, 110 cases of the disease have been reported to the state health department, said A. Wayne Raynor, state immunization director.

The state generally averages 25 to 35 cases a year, Raynor said, but in 1976, more than 300 cases were reported.

Most of the cases this year have been in Beaufort and Pasquotank counties among junior- and senior-high-school students who had been vaccinated against the virus.

"Vaccines aren't perfect," Raynor said. "It's always conceivable to have an outbreak in a well-vaccinated population."

Between 5 and 10 percent of all vaccines don't work. In these cases, people don't develop antibodies to the virus, so they are susceptible when exposed to it.

Mumps is a highly contagious viral disease that causes swelling of the glands, particularly the salivary glands at the angles of the jaw. It can also affect other glands, including the testicles,

ovaries and pancreas. Other symptoms are watery eyes, malaise and cold symptoms.

Symptoms generally last 10 days to three weeks, Raynor said.

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Marco Polo

Our Italian and Chinese Chefs are arguing... Can you help?

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However, our Chinese Chef Simon Chan thinks his General Tao's Chicken looks, tastes & smells just as good!

Chef Giovanni interrupts to add that his Gamberi Creole, which is created with fresh clams, shrimp, prosciutto, sauteed with onion, green peppers and mushrooms over a bed of rice, is delicious as well as the best value in town at only \$10.95!

Chef Chan disagrees! He favors the Seafood Basket which has lobster meat, large shrimp, scallops & king crab meat. This dish is served with crispy vegetables in a unique potato basket and Chef Chan insists it is the freshest seafood dish ever created!

Whose dish is best is debatable, but the fact that these are the best Italian & Chinese Chefs in town is certain!

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