



staff photo by Irene Mees

Heaton Hall changes color

Heaton Hall gets a face lift as Pam Grant, a physical plant apprentice painter, paints the side of the building.

The Texas A&M physical plant employs over 20 full-time painters to rejuvenate buildings on campus such as Heaton.

Summer flights anticipated

Braniff plans revamping

United Press International
GRAPEVINE — Braniff International has filed a reorganization plan that expresses hope of resuming flights this summer, but former employees are disappointed the bankrupt airline apparently has no enthusiasm for a bailout offer from the Hyatt Corp.

Braniff met Monday's deadline for submitting its plans to federal bankruptcy Judge John Flowers after its board of directors unanimously agreed to try for, at the minimum, a fixed base aviation and fuel service operation at Dallas Love Field and Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport.

The board also gave Braniff management until May 16 to develop and propose a viable line operation using 31 Boeing 727 airplanes to be leased to Braniff by those secured creditors who, in effect, hold title to the aircraft.

Braniff president Howard

Putnam, during a news conference at Braniff headquarters at DFW airport, said while the offer by the Chicago-based Hyatt hotel chain to lend funds to resume operations still had not been rejected, there were potential problems with it.

Management believes it would take a minimum of \$60 million to resume operations with a minimum of 30 planes by July 1. A delay until Sept. 1 would raise the amount needed to \$70 million, Putnam said.

Putnam said although Hyatt did contemplate an expenditure of \$60 million, some of the aspects of how the \$60 million would be turned over to Braniff had not been delivered to the company for its consideration.

"We're still interested in the proposals of Hyatt or anyone else who will meet that \$60 million figure," said Putnam, who expressed dismay that the Hyatt offer had ever become public

and raised the hopes of creditors and former employees.

One of those former employees, retired pilot Jack Morton, said he was greatly disappointed that Braniff management did not seem to be jumping at the Hyatt offer.

"My feeling is that I've been very disappointed that they haven't jumped for joy because Hyatt Corp. came forward and said we'll help get Braniff back in the air again," said Morton, who with retired pilot Glenn Schupp first approached Hyatt about the bailout.

"Hyatt not only has the funds but they have tremendous expertise in marketing," he said.

"It's so much better than they have ever been offered."

Marvin Schlinke, president of the Teamsters Union local that represents some 2,000 former Braniff employees, also expressed support for the Hyatt proposal.

"We're very much in favor of the Hyatt offer," he said. "Hyatt's ready to put money into it."

Putnam said the airline's main goal was still to avoid outright liquidation.

"The worst thing that could happen would be to go into a liquidation where we would lose everything," he said.

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