

# Wright fly-in promises to give state, Triad wings

*This is the third installment in an occasional series that chronicles the Wright brothers' quest for flight and the plans that are under way to celebrate their historic achievement.*

BY DONALD W. PATTERSON  
Staff Writer

Greensboro will play a key role in the centennial celebration of the Wright brothers' first flight.

"We have a very special place for Greensboro and the major metro areas," says Bill Williams, director of the division of aviation for the N.C. Department of Transportation. "There will be a major aviation celebration throughout the state. It will literally be from Murphy to Manteo."

Called World Flight 2003, the fly-in event will be held June 1-14 that year and will attract pilots, flight enthusiasts, history buffs and tourists from across the country and the world.

"There will be a lot of airplanes," says Williams, who expects more than 1 million people to visit the state during the two-week period. He estimates that 100,000 to 150,000 will come to Greensboro for events at Piedmont



Please see **WRIGHT**, Page **A8**

☉ North Carolina lays claim to long list of aviation "firsts." D1