

*The Office of Greek Affairs
proudly congratulates
the 44 Fall 1999
Gamma Sigma Alpha National
Greek Academic Honor Society initiates*

Rebecca S. Baxter	Delta Zeta sorority
Erin Berigan	Alpha Chi Omega sorority
Rita Billingsley	Zeta Tau Alpha sorority
Brooke Kathleen Bussen	Kappa Delta sorority
Carol Elizabeth Chalk	Zeta Tau Alpha sorority
Michelle Lynn Chiavetta	Delta Zeta sorority
Meredith Joyner Copeland	Chi Omega sorority
Mary Caroline Cosby	Phi Mu sorority
Marissa Lynn Downs	Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority
Katherine Barkley Ducker	Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority
Elizabeth Lee Dyer	Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority
Tracy Elizabeth Engel	Alpha Chi Omega sorority
Carrie Alise Estes	Zeta Tau Alpha sorority
Kristin Freas	Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority
Elizabeth Galleher	Kappa Delta sorority
Jamie Elizabeth Harper	Phi Mu sorority
Amanda Suzanne Haynes	Alpha Chi Omega sorority
Emily Horton	Zeta Tau Alpha sorority
Robyn Ann Johnson	Phi Mu sorority
Jerri Anne Kallam	Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.
Anna Paige Kroncke	Alpha Chi Omega sorority
Emily Lynne Land	Kappa Delta sorority
Anne Marie Lenhart	Kappa Delta sorority
Jonathan Reed Liggett	Sigma Chi fraternity
Jaime Luton	Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.
Julie Reid Marks	Kappa Delta sorority
Elizabeth Ann Michel	Alpha Chi Omega sorority
Lan-Anh Ngoc Nguyen	alpha Kappa Delta Phi sorority
Laura Franklin Palmer	Zeta Tau Alpha
Mrudula Patel	Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.
Melissa Susan Putman	Zeta Tau Alpha
Molly Marie Putman	Zeta Tau Alpha
Lauren Eve Reid	Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority
Torrey Elizabeth Rieser	Zeta Tau Alpha
Joseph Clay Ruggieri	Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity
Anne Catherine Schaap	Zeta Tau Alpha sorority
Allison Jaye Schwartz	Chi Omega sorority
Michael D. Shuman	Sigma Nu fraternity
Natalie Kay Waldner	Phi Mu sorority
Andrea Elizabeth Westerfield	Kappa Delta sorority
Stacey Weston	Phi Mu sorority
Laura Jane Wriggelsworth	Alpha Chi Omega sorority
Thomas Carlton Younger III	Zeta Psi fraternity
Lindsey Michelle Zuckerman	Zeta Tau Alpha sorority

*Gamma Sigma Alpha initiates have
junior or senior status and at least a
3.500 cumulative GPA*

Greek GPA: 3.017
Non-Greek GPA: 2.981

All Fall 1999 New Members will be initiated by Monday, November 15, 1999

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County Touts Y2K Readiness

By AMANDA COOK
Staff Writer

As 1999 draws to a close, officials say they are ready for the year 2000 bug and hope to ring in the new year with very few problems.

Officials and residents in Chapel Hill, Carrboro and Orange County have been preparing for Y2K for at least a year and said they were confident that the new year would not cause any significant problems.

Some of the changes made included the routine updating of several computer systems.

The critical systems in Orange County, which include emergency services, were the first to be addressed, said Pam Jones, director of purchasing and central services for the county. These systems were made Y2K compliant before summer began, she said.

"We have been assessing Y2K exposures for way over a year," Jones said. "We have looked at mission critical services like the 911 service, the sheriff's department, at the jail in terms of its integrity and life saving programs at social services."

Other non-critical systems like desktop computers and the county's telephone system have been updated more recently to meet Y2K compliance, Jones said.

"(The systems) have been tested to the extent they can be tested; some (testing) was a natural process of getting rid of old systems," she said.

Jones said some of the software replacement process was a routine process that would have occurred even if Y2K was not a concern.

Based on analysis, assessment and testing that has been done, the county could not identify any points of vulner-

ability in its systems.

There were contingency plans in place as back-up in case a problem should arise, she said.

The Carrboro Board of A l d e r m e n

received and accepted a report from Town Manager Robert Morgan that stated the town was Y2K compliant, with separate provisions being made for the financial system, said David Durham, information and communication specialist for the town.

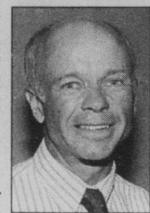
"The computer systems were inventoried and tested by Micro Medic and alterations were made, if needed," Durham said.

As for systems where the computer is embedded within, such as in televisions and videocassette recorders, Carrboro received a letter from each manufacturing company that contained a certification of compliance for the product, Durham said.

"We have documentation and we hope everything will go as planned," he said. "We have no real way to test those things."

The existing financial system, which will still be in use in January, has also been made Y2K compliant, said Bing Roenigk, assistant town manager of Carrboro. A new financial system is also being installed, she said.

"The new system was not purchased because of Y2K," Roenigk said. "It was primarily bought to get more opera-



Chapel Hill Town Council member Joe Capowski said all the town's computers were Y2K compatible.

tional flexibility than we currently have."

Precautions are being taken in Carrboro, even with Y2K compliance, Durham said. For instance, the fire department is putting together an emergency plan for officials to be on hand New Year's Eve.

"We really were very lucky. We didn't have much to upgrade," he said. "But we probably will have people on hand at Town Hall to make sure there aren't any problems."

Chapel Hill's technology committee, consisting of town staff and residents, has been investigating the computers and financial systems for the past year, Chapel Hill Town Council member Joe Capowski said.

"Almost everything that's not Y2K compliant has been updated to make it so," he said. "What hasn't been updated yet will be in the month of November."

What has not yet been updated is mostly software in non-critical, older systems, he said.

The only potential problems in January are the fare boxes on the buses, he said.

"Some systems are critical, like police departments, life support systems ... and ones that deal with public safety like the 911 system are in good shape," Capowski said.

Testing was also performed in Chapel Hill on Sept. 9, he said.

Capowski said he was not aware of any failures and could not foresee any major problems occurring on Jan. 1, 2000.

"My guess is that for the town of Chapel Hill the Y2K thing will be much ado about very little."

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

Study Says Schools Unprepared

Local public school officials and UNC computer experts say the year 2000 bug will have little effect on them.

By ALEX KAPLUN
Staff Writer

Despite a recent survey stating that the United States' public schools are unprepared for the year 2000 computer bug, local officials say they have the situation under control.

A survey released Oct. 27 by the U.S. Department of Education stated 36 percent of public elementary and secondary schools and 39 percent of colleges were not ready for Y2K.

But 96 percent of all the schools surveyed reported they would be Y2K compliant when Jan. 1 rolled around.

Y2K is related to a problem potentially causing many computers to malfunction when the year changes to 2000 because of a programming design flaw.

Jim Bradshaw, spokesman for the U.S. Department of Education, said he was concerned many vital school systems could malfunction on Jan. 1.

In a worst-case scenario, he said student and financial records could be corrupted. Many security, cafeteria and

heating systems could fail as well, Bradshaw said. He said many schools were unprepared because they felt there were more important issues to deal with than the Y2K problem.

"There are so many things involved in running a university," he said. "This issue is sometimes not top priority."

Bradshaw said he hoped most schools would be ready by Jan. 1 as they reported in the survey, but some schools would probably come up a little short.

"Realistically, there could be more schools that say they will be ready, but don't quite make it to the finish line when Jan. 1 rolls around," he said.

But Chapel Hill-Carrboro Public Schools

Management Information Services Director Doug Noell said local schools were nearly ready for Y2K. "We're from 70 percent to 80 percent ready," Noell said.

Noell said all the equipment was ready but had not been completely tested. He said everything would likely be completed by Jan. 1.

Noell said there was no way to know

definitely how well the district was prepared for Y2K until after the new year.

Noell said the decision to extend Winter Break would only come after Jan. 1 when the systems were re-evaluated. The final decision belonged to the superintendent, he said.

"Even though you're as ready as you can be, there could be things that go wrong that you had no way to prepare for," Noell said.

Academic Technology & Networks director for computing policy Jeanne Smythe said UNC was also ready for Y2K.

"The University here is in very good shape," Smythe said.

Smythe said the University had been aware of the

Y2K problem for years and had fixed all the problems that could potentially arise on Jan. 1.

Smythe said ATN had also extended its service to individual academic departments to make sure their computers were Y2K-compliant.

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

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