

# Police Veteran to Head for UNC

By **WALTER HERZ**  
Staff Writer

One of the highest-ranking members of the Chapel Hill Police Department has decided to turn in his police badge and come to work for the University's Department of Public Safety.

Capt. Barry Thompson, a 28-year veteran of Chapel Hill police and seven-year commander of its criminal investigations division, plans to retire from the department Tuesday.

"After doing police work for almost 30 years, the stress starts to get to you a little bit," Thompson said. "And I have more than enough years on the force to retire and look at other job opportunities."

One of those job opportunities was the vacant position of security manager for the public safety department, for which Thompson, 48, applied and was accepted. He plans to start his new job Wednesday.

As UNC's security manager, Thompson will be in charge of both full-time and part-time security personnel.

Thompson's co-workers at the department said they were sad to see the captain go.

Marvin Clark, one of eight lieutenants in the criminal investigations division and one of Thompson's closest friends, praised his managerial skills.

"He's very open, very professional and an effective manager," Clark said. "He knows the task at hand and what resources are necessary to accomplish it."

Chapel Hill Police Chief Ralph Pendergraph said the department would feel Thompson's departure deeply.

"Anytime you lose an experienced person like Barry, you can't replace them right away," Pendergraph said. "It's a job for which you really need somebody who has a good investigative background."

Pendergraph said a replacement for

Thompson would probably not be chosen until December, after a promotional assessment of the lieutenants in the criminal investigations division was completed.

Clark said he and the seven other lieutenants in the division were all interested in the position left vacant by Thompson's departure.

"I will be applying for the position, like all the other lieutenants," Clark said. "I don't think anyone will not apply."

Thompson said he was confident the division would continue to function well without him at the helm.

"I think they probably won't even miss me," Thompson said.

Pendergraph said Thompson's departure was the latest in a series of recent retirements and resignations throughout the department.

"We've had seven or eight vacancies in the last year," Pendergraph said. "These things usually come in bunches. We're sort of struggling."

However, Chapel Hill police's loss will be the public safety department's gain, Maj. Jeff McCracken said.

"(Thompson) is a 30-year veteran police officer," McCracken said. "He has a wealth of knowledge in crime prevention and community policing."

McCracken said Thompson's position of security manager would put him in exclusive charge of UNC's security officers.

"Before, we had the same person handling security and parking enforcement," McCracken said.

A recent reorganization of the department, however, split up the two duties and created the position which Thompson is about to fill, McCracken said.

"Now we will be able to pay more attention to security details and just do a better overall job with security."

The City Editor can be reached at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

# Fraternities Prepare To Go Dry in Fall 2000

By **WILL FOUSHEE**  
Staff Writer

Students looking for a fraternity party next fall might find more cans of Sprite than beer bottles on several front lawns.

Four of the University's Greek fraternities are preparing for a national mandate that calls for their premises to be alcohol-free by fall 2000.

Phi Delta Theta, Phi Gamma Delta, Delta Sigma Phi and Phi Kappa Sigma are the fraternity houses that are going "dry."

The call to become alcohol-free stems from alcohol-related injuries and rising insurance costs that have plagued fraternities across the country in recent years.

Binder said the changes were being enforced by a partnership between the alumni members of each fraternity and its national organization. "The one word the alumni and student members have been using is 'inevitable,' but they are willing to help out," Binder said.

Senior Wes Elden, a member of Phi Gamma Delta, said his fraternity was learning to accept the new change.

"This will not dampen the mood of the house," Elden said. "The house as a whole knows this is a change for the good that will bring us a huge benefit."

Sigma Nu, originally slated to become alcohol-free next year, said it would not change its policy until its national chapter tells it to go dry.

Sigma Nu President Erik Mikysa said that although his house was scheduled to go dry in fall 2000, a change in national policy in August 1998 meant Sigma Nu will still be "wet" this fall.

According to guidelines released from Sigma Nu's Grand Chapter, "a Sigma Nu chapter house must go alcohol-free in the year 2000 only if 75 percent of the other fraternity houses on campus have gone alcohol-free."

An earlier mandate from the national organization had ordered that all chapters turn dry by 2000.

One fraternity, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, has been alcohol-free since at UNC last fall. Director of Greek Affairs Ron Binder said the alcohol-free policy was working well there. "In the case of SAE, a violation of alcohol on the property is also a violation of University policy. This policy has worked perfectly."

Binder said the houses that were going dry next year had been preparing for more than two years. "There hasn't been any drop in membership among these houses."

The University Editor can be reached at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).



Director of Greek Affairs **Ron Binder** said the "dry" policy had worked well at Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

## Campus Calendar

Today

10 p.m. to 2 p.m. - **UNC Sport Clubs** will sponsor a Sport Club Membership Drive in the Pit. There will be representatives from more than 40 student-run sport clubs. In case of rain, the drive will be held in the Great Hall in the Student Union.

3 p.m. - The **Marxists of the Spartacus Youth Club** invites those interested to find out more information about the group at a meeting at the

Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center in the Student Union.

6 p.m. - **Pi Alpha Delta Pre-law Fraternity** will have an information session downstairs in the Student Union. If you are interested in the field of law, please join us.

7 p.m. - The **Carolina Photography Association** will hold its first meeting of the year in 103 Bingham Hall. Anyone interested in photography is welcome to attend.

7 p.m. - The **Public Policy Analysis Majors Union** will hold its first fall

meeting for returning and prospective majors in 103 Hanes Hall. Officers of the Majors Union, faculty and the student services manager will be there to tell you about the program and answer questions.

Items on the agenda include the internship program, information on graduate school application process and funding and other concerns to public policy majors. Refreshments will be served.

7 p.m. - **Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority Inc.** will hold an informal

interest meeting in 212 Peabody Hall.

7:30 p.m. - The **Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies** will debate "The U.S. Should Intervene if China Takes Aggressive Action Against Taiwan," on the third floor of New West.

Tuesday

5 p.m. - The **Student Environmental Action Coalition** will hold its first general meeting in Union 210.

For more information, call Margie Wakelin at 933-2172.

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