

NEWS

Black and White Greeks Confront Racism in IFC

by Denise Moultrie
Staff Writer

"The Interfraternity Council is racist," said George Perry, President of Phi Beta Sigma and Executive Assistant for Minority Relations for the IFC.

In an effort to confront this racism, the Black Greek Council is taking steps to open lines of communication between the two groups, Perry said. BGC representatives from the Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi and Phi Beta Sigma are meeting with interested members of white fraternities.

The racism doesn't stop with the IFC, but is a part of both fraternity systems, Perry said; some members of the BGC have racist beliefs also.

A change in the racist policies of the fraternity system will only come with change in attitudes, Perry said.

George Wilson, a BGC representative and member of Kappa Alpha Psi, said: "Since the groups are so institutionalized, there must be a change in attitude. An attitude change within such large groups will take time. This

type change is not made as easily as a change in legislation."

Perry said the purpose of the meetings is to educate fraternities about their racist beliefs by attacking those beliefs in question-and-answer sessions.

"To deal with racist attitudes between the Greek systems, we must define the differences between the two," he said. Wilson said one difference in the systems was their pledge process: "When the pledge or rush period starts for white fraternities, they extend bids to target groups. Black Greeks usually post standardized flyers inviting every interested man to our smokers."

Wilson pointed out that the large size of the white fraternities didn't allow for the tight-knit relationships shared in the Black fraternities.

BGC representatives met first with members of Chi Psi two weeks ago. Jonathan Williams, a member of Chi Psi, said, Perry was taking the right approach to the problem. The informal exchange made it easier to get

some of the problems out in the open, he added.

"The program is designed to help people confront the problem of racism face-to-face,"

Williams said. "Not only does it make people think about racism between fraternities as a problem, but make them want to do something about it."

"The meeting our fraternity had was positive," said George Grayson, member of Lambda Chi Alpha. "It was good being able to see the difference in structures and attitudes of fraternities," he said. "We generally discussed racism within the Greek system on campus and in our high schools, home towns.

"I think having these meetings is a wonderful idea. I hope that the other six or seven houses sign up for these forums."

Sibby Anderson, president of People Against Racism, said the program will be beneficial to both fraternity systems, because it has already made the groups aware of their racist attitudes. "Both groups have put forth a sincere effort to resolve questions concerning racism," she said.

Williams said: "Sometimes, if you integrate the bodies, the minds will follow. You can't just sit back and try

to think racism away. Physical steps must be taken to establish non-racist attitudes."

"There is a difference between desegregation and integration," he continued. "Desegregation means that an organization has Black members, but integration means that the organization has shed all racist attitudes."

Blacks don't pledge white fraternities because of social pressures, he said; "Those who do are going to come under a lot of criticism from other Blacks on campus. Crossing those boundaries is a big step and takes a lot of courage."

Perry said most of the fraternities in the IFC would not accept Black members. "The four Black fraternities are all Black, but all are integrated on a national level." Two white fraternities on campus have accepted Black members in the recent past — Chi Psi and Lambda Chi Alpha, he said.

Chi Psi has five Black members out of 70. Lambda Chi Alpha has none. Of 16 members last year, one was black.

Charles Pinnix of Omega Psi Phi said: "I've watched some Blacks who have pledged white fraternities. It seems that they are forgetting their 'Blackness.' They don't support Black functions and don't seem to respect

(continued on page 8)



Juggy's Hair Design

111 N. Merritt Mill Rd.
Chapel Hill, NC 942-3119

PRECISE TOUCH - UP

regular price \$40.00
discount price \$32.00
save \$8.00
(walk-ins only)

JAZZING OR CELLOPHANE HAIR COLOR

regular price \$30.00
discount price \$20.00
save \$10.00
(walk-ins only)

NO LYE RELAXERS

regular price \$40.00
discount price \$32.00
save \$8.00
(walk-ins only)

CUT

regular price \$10.00
discount price \$8.00
save \$2.00
(walk-ins only)

ULTRA SHEEN
OIL SHEEN
BUY ONE GET ONE
FREE
must bring coupon
discount good
Nov. 1-Nov. 6th



Must request discount hairdresser.
If it's your hair,
we care!

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

CAROLINA MINORITY LAW DAY

The UNC Law School, Black Law Students Association (BLSA) and the Student Bar Association (SBA) invite undergraduate minority students to participate in a Law School Information Day on November 9, 1984. The day-long conference will be held at the UNC Law School-Chapel Hill, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and is open to any minority person who is thinking about attending law school or uncertain about career plans. Interested persons should contact Richard A. Baddour, Assistant Dean, (919)962-5106.

BLACK SUPPORT GROUPS

The Student Development & Counseling Center and the Black Student Movement are sponsoring Black Support Groups, which will provide a mutually supportive setting in which students can address issues that concern them: alienation on a dominantly white campus, stress and academic competition, Black identity and academic success, and Black male-female relationships. In addition, the group and its leaders will offer more structured activities such as: time management, career development, and assertiveness training.

Contact Dr. David McNair or ValaRay Irvin at 962-2175 or Sherrod Banks of the BSM at 962-8345.

WORKSHOP FOR ALL STUDENTS

Learn how to prepare for your career objectives by identifying courses and other experiences necessary to fulfill your particular career plans.

Forums to be held in Hanes Hall:

Law Forum November 7
Health Science Job Fair November 13

JOIN BSM TODAY!!