

# Gay Awareness Week Attracts Many Participants

The third annual Gay Awareness Week was held at UNC-CH Oct. 29 - Nov. 4, with afternoon and evening workshops, films, and nightly socials. Workshops early in the week covered such topics as "Coming Out," "Health Issues for Women and Men," and "Religion and Gays." Topics later in the week included feminism and the gay movement, bisexuality, and Third World gays.

A workshop on gays and counseling listed counselors and counseling agencies in the Durham and Chapel Hill area that are either gay or sympathetic to gays. Also, a poetry workshop focused on writings by Frank O'Hara and of the participants.

Sixty people attended a workshop with USAF Captain Robert Coronado. The mostly male audience listened as Coronado described his recent conviction on a count of consensual sodomy and dismissal from the Air Force.

Stressing that his was an issue of civil rights, Coronado said, "What happened to me can happen to you . . . as long as the present laws are on the books. You must raise your consciousness. We must be guardians of a fair judicial system."

The largest social event of the week was a Saturday night dance held at the Newman Catholic Student Center with approximately 100 women and men in attendance.

During past Gay Awareness Weeks, the listing of the week's events painted on the campus "cube" was defaced. This year the only controversy raised by GAW was in response to Friday being informally declared gay pride day. "If you're gay wear blue jeans," proclaimed an ad in the Daily Tar Heel. The week following a different ad ran in the paper; Friday was declared Heterosexual Pride Day: "Wear your blue jeans and show that you're proud to be heterosexual."

## Third World Conference Raises Vital Issues

The Third World Lesbian/Gay Conference, a "coming together of Asians, American Indians, Latins and Blacks," was held at the Harambee House and Howard University in Washington, DC from Oct. 12 to 15. It was sponsored by the National Coalition of Black Gays, Inc. The date was planned to coincide with the National March so that there would be a visible presence of non-white marchers in a city that is heavily non-white.

The program began Thursday evening with a cultural presentation. It included Audre Lorde, a poet who was also a keynote speaker; Blackberri, a musician who is one of the singers on the newly-released men's record "Walls to Roses"; and a varied program including poetry, dance, classical music, some drag, and gospel.

The workshops started Friday morning. The schedule included: The Latin American Gay Liberation Movement, Gay American Indian Information, Third World History, a panel discussion "Examining Racism/Sexism/Ageism Among, By and Against Third World Lesbians and Gays".

Other workshops included: Cultural Perspectives of Cross-Dressers; Sexual and Social Revo-

lution: Focusing on Cuba; a panel on "Religious Issues"; Dynamics of the Prison System; Organizing the Lesbian/Gay Community; and People of Mixed Blood.

Four caucus sessions were organized: first by race/ethnic identity (Black, Latin, Asian, American Indian, Jewish, non-Third World); then by gender (male, female, trans persons); by region; and finally by ethnic/gender.

The conference was open to non-Third-World and non-gay people, although the final day, Monday, was open only to Third-World lesbians and gays, at which time various proposals were to be voted on. On Saturday evening, participation in the National March was discussed. It was decided to march from Harambee House through heavily black neighborhoods to join up with the march and to let white people march in that contingent.

Audre Lorde was the featured speaker. She said that as a child she moved to Washington, DC with her family and that they could not even buy a cup of coffee in a restaurant.

Other speakers also noted the hi

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