

(GAY AWARENESS, from page 1)

lectures, one on "Racism in the Gay Community" by John Stanley of Raleigh's Black and White Men Together and the other on "Gay and Lesbian Health Issues" by a volunteer with the N.C. Lesbian and Gay Health Project. We applaud everyone who trugged through the torrential rain that night to attend these lectures.

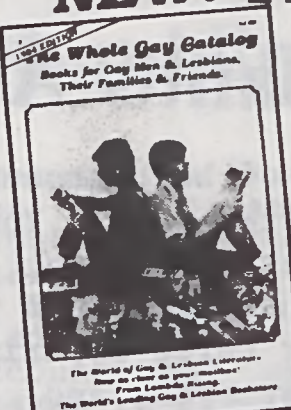
How many students can fit into a closet? Well, 43 gays and straights crammed into a Union room designed for 25 to view the videotape "Pink Triangles" on Thursday. "Pink Triangles" deals with straight attitudes on homosexuality, homosexuality in the straight world, and the history of gay oppression, especially during the Nazi era. Homosexuals in concentration camps were labelled for extermination with pink triangles, from which the film derives its name, and were frequently treated as criminals by the liberating armies of the Allies.

Tracy Osment, a sympathetic straight viewer, said she was "shocked" by the film. "I never realized that gay people were so targeted during World War II," she said.

Rev. June Norris of St. John's Metropolitan Community Church in Raleigh lectured on "Gays and Religion" Thursday evening. She reviewed and explained the eight Biblical passages that deal with homosexuality from Leviticus to Romans and then discussed her enjoyment of her own special work within the local and national lesbian and gay community. A lively discussion following the lecture.

For some, the highlight of the week was the annual "blue jeans day" on Friday. Gays and straights alike were asked to wear their blue jeans as an outward sign of support of gay people. Robert Pharr, a freshman and chairperson of CGA, explained in a spirited letter to the Daily Tar Heel that blue jeans day is a time for gays and lesbians to "say the hell with the world; I am who I am," and a time for straight people "to experience some of the anxieties that gay people face every day" about

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public perceptions and judgments of them.

The Daily Tar Heel also covered the Week with an article on Ms. Sawyer's lecture and with a positive "blue jeans day" editorial. The paper provided more coverage of this year's Week than ever before.

Gay Awareness Week came to a festive end at a dance on Friday night. The event was organized as a CGA fundraiser and voter registration drive, and registered voters were admitted at a reduced price. Registrar Joe Herzenberg was present to register new voters. About 60 people danced to Mike's medley of Cindy Lauper, Grace Jones, Huey Lewis, and other favorites.

The CGA wishes to thank everyone who participated in GAW-1984: the lecturers, the workshop leaders, people who provided food and drink for each event, Joe Herzenberg for his week-long voter registration drive, the volunteers brave enough to paint the cube and work at the CGA table in the Pit, and everyone who wore blue jeans on Friday. The week was a definite success, and next year all of us --lesbian, gay and straight--can look forward to a better CGA, an even better Gay Awareness Week, and a community that is more sensitive to the issues of homosexuality, intolerance, and racism.

-Robert



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