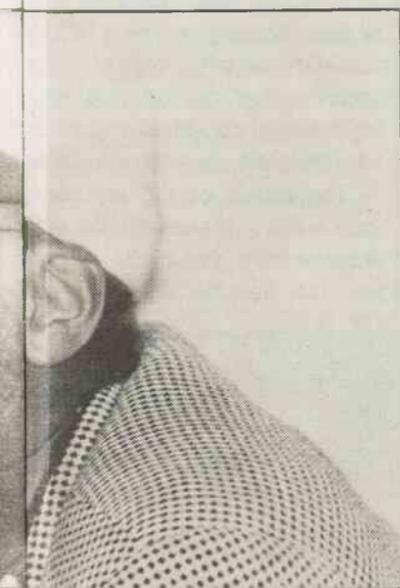


mmaker Spike Lee

but the black schools couldn't get the financial aid that the white schools could. I never thought that education was inferior at black schools.

Is it true that Michael Jordan was supposed to accompany you to Chapel Hill?



g press conference

No. I talked to Michael yesterday. He was unable to come, but I said that he is in full support of the students also. He wanted to clear up that he would make a financial contribution to the building but he stated that he would finance the building totally by himself. He said that.

Could you respond to the editor in the DTH that says that your coming here tonight is just a waste of student funds?

My visit is not coming out of my pocket. I'm just here because I'm concerned. So they don't have to worry about funds being used.

How do you feel about the Black Awareness Council and what they're doing on campus?

LEE: I think it's great and I think it should spread all across the country. This being the election year, I don't think any of us can afford to just sit back and just watch stuff go by. I think everybody has to become politicized. I think we're going to see a throwback to the radical days of the students across the country during the 1960's when the students were at the forefront of change. They were out in the streets battling with cops everyday—battling cops and tear gas. Students were at the forefront to stop the war in Vietnam. Without the students, that movement would have never been as powerful.

INK: What are your views on a multicultural center?

LEE: You need a black student center. They want to build a multicultural center, let them do that afterwards, after we get ours. They're just locked in this ignorant thinking that if you have a black cultural center, it's going to promote separatism. I think it would be great if the white college student at

UNC stands up and says this is not going to be the case because then the administration would have no outs. It would be great if we had the white student population's support too. It won't make it a black and white issue anymore which is the way that they want it to be.

INK: What do you think you will have contributed to the students after speaking tonight?

LEE: The biggest thing I could contribute coming here is to try to get some more national press here. I mean, I didn't hear about it until I read the article last week. This has to become a national story. Once it becomes a national story young black people will see us and they are going to apply what you're doing here to their own particular situations wherever they go to school, and this is going to start a move-

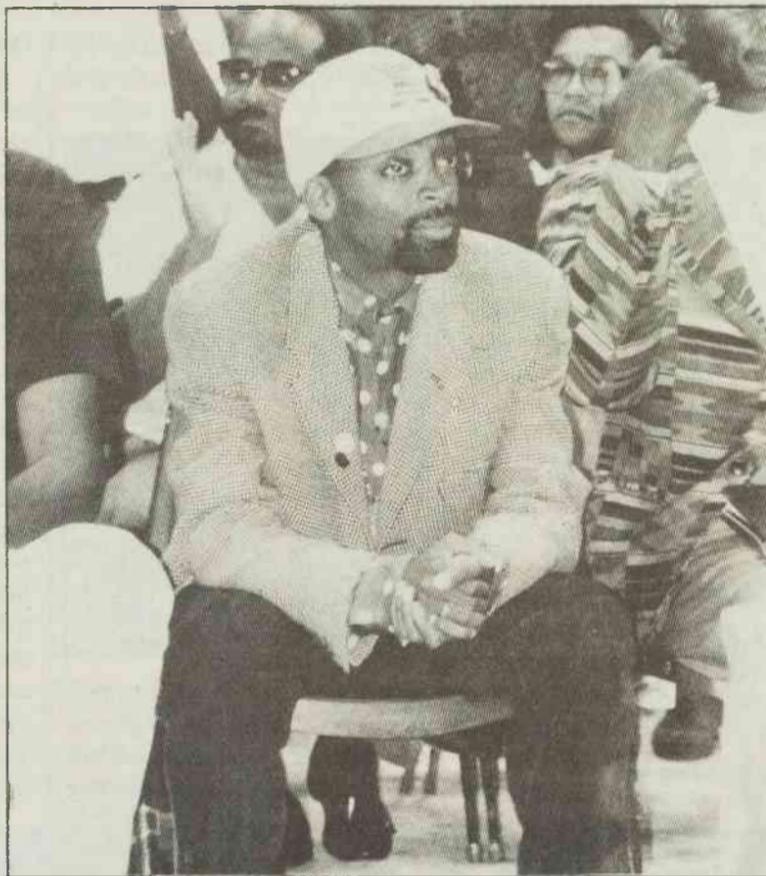
ment across the country. That's why I'm here—to get the press here. This story is not confined within the small-town landscape of Chapel Hill. This is a national issue; this has effects far beyond UNC-Chapel Hill. You know that this is not the only school in America that is having the same problem, and if all of the black students see that connection, they may say they could use your tactics at their school. Particularly, black college athletes have to find out about this. Let's say, for instance that Tim and the guys sit out and say 'We're not going to play!' The coach says fine. Then the black athletes at the schools that are the opponents of UNC say, 'We're not going to play. We're not sitting out the whole season, but we're not going to play against North Carolina in support of the black students there.' That shit has ramifications like a mug!

INK: Do you believe that there is a big difference between the South and the North, which is where you're from?

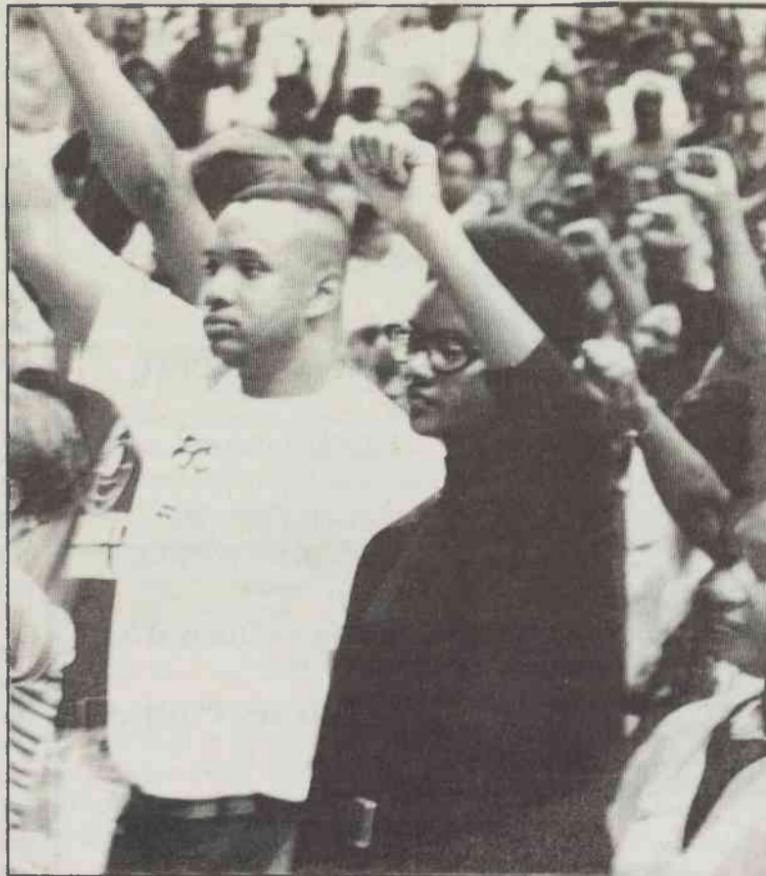
LEE: Down South they let you know from the get-go while up North they'll be more slick about it; but in the longrun, you're still a nigger. Basically it comes down to that.

INK: What are some points that you would like to emphasize to students tonight at the rally?

LEE: Well tonight I hope that people don't expect me to talk an hour because I'm really down here to learn. I want to really hear what the students have to say, especially with the mic in the audience. I'm going to say a couple of words, but I'm here to show my support. I'm not down here as far as any leadership because your leaders here got it started already and you got it under control. I just hope that when things get tight, people can face being expelled. You got to be strong. You got to keep it up.



Lee quietly observes goings on at the rally



Fists in air, rally attendants display Black Power