

Students discuss interracial dating

Lee's 'Jungle Fever' sparks honest talk about relationships

By Sean Green
Senior Reporter

A film about interracial dating sparked discussion of the pros and cons of such relationships Monday night at the UNL Culture Center. After a showing of "Jungle Fever," about 40 UNL students discussed interracial dating and marriage, including some students who related their own experiences. After one white woman who declined to be identified talked about her relationship with a black man, another student said, "Your relation-

ship is going to be subjected to a lot of hell in this society." "Sometimes I would just like to hear some positive reinforcement," the student said.

The film and discussion marked the beginning of Black Homecoming Week activities and the celebration of Black History Month.

"Jungle Fever," written, produced and directed by Spike Lee, centers on two characters, a married, black man and a single, white woman.

The two have an affair, but their relationship is quickly complicated by the disapproval of their families, their own attitudes about each other's race and the question of infidelity.

The film, set in New York City, addresses the interracial issue and other issues often faced by African-

Americans, in a straightforward manner.

Students talked about the different issues brought up by the characters that related to interracial marriage and dating.

In one scene, the wife of the man having an affair talks about her anger at her husband, both for breaking their marriage vows and going to a white woman.

During the discussion, some students said they agreed with the wife's point of view. Other students said they were upset when they saw a black man dating a white woman, instead of a black woman.

Black Homecoming Week activities will continue today with a panel discussion from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the Culture Center.

Travel on officials' calendars

By Michelle McGowan
Staff Reporter

UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier and Michael Mulnix, executive director of public relations, will travel throughout the spring semester to build support for the university.

Spanier said he and Mulnix would spend two days a week traveling "to visit and become better acquainted with Nebraska, its leaders, and with what the people we serve are thinking."

In addition to Nebraska, their travels will cover cities such as Denver, Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Los Angeles.

Mulnix said he and Spanier planned to visit UNL alumni organizations, chambers of commerce, Rotary clubs and community colleges.

They will visit community leaders, as well as potential donors, he said, to raise funds for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Mulnix said he would talk mainly to legislators and media representatives, while Spanier would have a broader focus.

The chancellor will spend most of his time speaking to different service clubs and attending some Founders' Day dinners sponsored by alumni

organizations, Mulnix said.

Although the two will concentrate on fund raising, their main purpose "is to establish a rapport with the people," Mulnix said.

But before Spanier and Mulnix begin their travels, they will meet with officials on East Campus, the High School and College Relations department and other departments to pinpoint potential donors.

While keeping a vigorous schedule on the road, Spanier said he would continue "to work and focus on issues such as UNL's budget, faculty workload, our commitment to instructional improvement and to serve Nebraska through various programs."

RHA escort program successfully revamps

By Michelle McGowan
Staff Reporter

The UNL Campus Escort Program, which got off to a shaky start more than a year ago, has been reorganized and is back on its feet, the new RHA president said.

Mike Lewis said that after being revamped, the program was up and running.

When the program began, it was "never fully organized, and partially successful at best," Lewis said. "One person was in charge all week, and it is an awfully big responsibility to take on by yourself."

The escort service was created by Matt McKeever, speaker of the Residence Hall Association senate last year.

The new coordinator is Dennis Hyman, a senior economics and political science major. Instead of just one manager, Hyman said, the rejuvenated program has four managers and about 40 to 50 escorts.

"We need at least six people a night, and it runs in two shifts," he said.

Escorts range from students living in the residence halls to sorority members.

Escorts carry walkie-talkies,

given to them by the UNL Police Department. Because the program was created for women, each shift consists of a dispatcher and two escorts — either two females or one male and one female.

"Other escort programs have found this to be most effective," Lewis said, because there are both men and women escorting the student.

Escorts display badges to identify themselves, and they use other "core rules" to run a safe escort program, Lewis said.

Escorts are not allowed to exchange phone numbers with students they are escorting, they are not allowed physical contact with the student and they are only allowed to walk students as far as their doors.

"By doing this, we are trying to avoid a potential rapist," Lewis said.

Lewis and Hyman both said the escort program had been successful. During the past two weeks, they said, eleven students have used the escort service.

"This has become a better organization, all in all," Lewis said. "We've learned from our mistakes."

The escort service runs Monday through Thursday, 8:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. To get in touch with the service, call the RHA office.



NEWS BRIEFS

Videoconference to feature author

Alex Haley, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of "Roots" and "The Autobiography of Malcolm X," will be among a host of African-Americans to participate in a videoconference Wednesday on the condition and progress of Black Americans.

Part of the annual "Beyond the Dream" program, the videoconference will be broadcast live via satellite from Black Entertainment Television in Washington, D.C.

The videoconference will be shown in the Nebraska Union. The room will be posted on the union schedule of events.

Women and aging subject of course

Women may reflect on the issues of their own aging in a six-week session of classes titled, "Women & Aging: Celebrating Ourselves," beginning today from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Gathering Place, 1448 E St.

Issues to be explored include facing the fear of aging, support networks, role models and wellness.

Cost for the course is \$30.

POLICE REPORT

Beginning midnight Saturday

- 2:55 p.m. — Tail-light broken and vehicle dented, parking lot at 17th and Vine streets, \$200.
- 2:57 p.m. — Bicycle damaged, Hamilton Hall, \$50.
- 4:52 p.m. — Wallet stolen, City Campus, \$35.
- 6:30 p.m. — Person injured, Bob Devaney Sports Center.
- 6:45 p.m. — Vehicle damaged, Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity, 425 University Terrace, \$100.

Beginning midnight Sunday

- 1:35 a.m. — Fraternity fight, 16th and S streets.
- 3:15 a.m. — Two males transported to Detoxification Center, 721 K street.
- 1:35 p.m. — Bicycle tire taken, Abel Residence Hall bike rack, \$100.



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