

'JUNGLE FEVER'

Spike Lee's film looks at interracial couples

By Timm Doolen

Director Spike Lee continues his analysis of racial attitudes in today's United States with his most recent entry, "Jungle Fever," a look at interracial couples and the problems surrounding those couples.

The movie takes its name from Lee's character whose best friend Flipper is having an affair with a white woman. "You got the jungle fever. The both of ya's."

Not only is she white, she's Italian - a temporary secretary in the architecture office Flipper (Wesley Snipes) works in. He's happily married with a child but easily gives into temptation when the opportunity presents itself.

When his wife finds out, he is kicked out of his house, forced to live with his parents until he and Angela (Anabella Scierra) move in with each other.

Soon after the affair is uncovered, family members on both sides show their strong disapproval of the situation. Angela's father beats her, and Flipper's friends and family show their disapproval in their own way.

After they begin living together they realize how hard it is to be an interracial couple in New York (whether in Harlem, where he is from, or Bensonhurst, where she is

from). At one point Flipper is play-fighting with his girlfriend and is almost arrested for attacking her.

Possibly the most interesting and enlightening part of the movie is right after the breakup when several black women, including the estranged wife, start talking about relationships and the decline of the "black male."

Also interesting are similar discussions among some young Italian men, one of which is Angela's old boyfriend, who, having lost his girlfriend to a black man asks a black girl out himself.

The one quality I appreciate in Spike Lee's movies is his depth of characters and his avoidance of typical Hollywood endings. Take the "hero" of the story (there are no true heroes in Lee's movies) - he has no problems with an interracial love affair but could not bear the thought of having a child with mixed strains of blood. Although he is supposed to be one of the least prejudiced people in the movie, he still has his own prejudices.

Lee even makes something of the differences between light-skinned and dark-skinned blacks, which he also touched on in his previous "School Daze."

The acting was generally good, especially by veteran actors Anthony Quinn, Ruby Dee

See JUNGLE FEVER/Page 4

Roberts portrays type-cast role in 'Dying Young'

By Julia E.S. Spencer

Julia Roberts, she of the wild mane and wide smile, has rocketed to stardom playing mostly unschooled, tough-but-vulnerable young women, from sexy waitress Daisy Araujo in "Mystic Pizza" to hopeful Hollywood hooker Vivian Ward in the phenomenally popular "Pretty Woman." In her latest film, "Dying Young," a three-hankie weeper, she portrays yet another variation on this character in the form of Hilary O'Neil, a street-smart working-class girl from Oakland, Ca., who is looking to escape from a life of failed relationships and meager resources.

Opposite her is the immensely talented stage and film actor Campbell Scott, (son of George C. Scott and Colleen Dewhurst), who was recently acclaimed for his portrayal of Willy in "Longtime Companion." Scott plays wealthy, privileged Victor Geddes, a reclusive, highly intelligent young man who is sick with leukemia, and looking for a live-in caretaker to nurse him while he goes through another course of chemotherapy.

Although not quite what his domineering father (David Selby) had in mind, he finds his nurse in Hilary, whom he hires more on the basis of her short skirt than her admittedly short qualifications. Hilary moves into her quarters, wary of men in general after an unpleasant break-up with her latest boyfriend, and unaware of exactly how taxing and grueling her job will be.

Surprised and horrified by Victor's violent reaction to the chemo, she tends him patiently while he vomits in his palatial bathroom, but isn't sure if she can stand



"Dying Young" stars Julia Roberts as Hilary O'Neil, an outgoing young woman hired to take care of Victor Geddes (Campbell Scott), a wealthy recluse suffering from leukemia.

to watch his pain and suffering. Ready to give up, she is convinced to stay when she realizes how much the lonely Victor needs friendship and understanding, not just nursing.

After a few weeks of treatment, with Hilary preparing special macrobiotic meals and Victor sharing his passion for classical music and the art of Klimt and Rossetti, he announces that his treatment is complete, and suggests that they take a vacation in the wine country north of San Francisco.

There, they rent an old Victorian house, and befriend Gordon (Vincent D'Onofrio), a local worker, and Estelle Whittier, (Colleen Dewhurst) a thrice-widowed winery owner. Hilary and Victor also discover that despite their many differences, they are falling in love.

Director Joel Schumacher (Flatliners) makes the most of the gorgeous Bay area and northern California locations in this film, and brilliantly uses light and color

to signify the gap between Hilary's world and Victor's. The smoky clubs and bars Hilary frequents are lit with red and blue neon lights, while Victor's austere apartment is a study in monochrome shades of black, white and silver.

The red-headed Hilary very literally brings color into Victor's life, and resembles the Titian-haired beauties of Klimt and Rossetti in the paintings he adores. Schumacher also has Victor

See DYING YOUNG/Page 4

JOCK ITCH AND RINGWORM STUDY

Individuals 12 years of age and older with "jock itch" or "ringworm" are being recruited for a research study of an antifungal medication. \$125.00 will be paid to volunteers who complete this study.

CALL VOLUNTEERS IN PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH®, INC. 776-1417

ATHLETE'S FOOT STUDY

Individuals 12 years of age and older with "athletes foot" are being recruited for a research study of an antifungal medication. \$150.00 will be paid to volunteers who complete this study.

CALL VOLUNTEERS IN PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH®, INC. 776-1417

DEPRESSION STUDY

Individuals are being recruited for a research study on depression. If you have been diagnosed with depression or would like to find out more about this study, call VIP Research. \$125.00 will be paid to qualified volunteers who enroll and complete this study.

CALL VOLUNTEERS IN PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH®, INC. 776-1417

We can help you find MONEY FOR COLLEGE

Every Student is Eligible for Financial Aid

- Comprehensive Database - over 200,000 listings represent over \$10 billion in private sector financial aid.
- Easy To Use - we match up students to awards based on information provided including career plans, family heritage, and academic interests.
- Unique Awards - our research department has located scholarships for golf caddies, left-handed students, cheerleaders, non-smokers, and more.
- Guarantee - we will find at least seven sources of private sector financial aid, or we will refund your money.

For more information and our FREE brochure, please complete and mail the coupon below.

Please send FREE scholarship information to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Year in School _____

Phone () _____

Mail To: Scholarship Locators
P.O. Box 881
Arlington, TX 76004-9913

0014

Enjoy Summer Sports! Don't let an injury hold you back!

CarePlus

MEDICAL CENTER

Provides

- Physical Exams to ensure your healthy start
- Prompt care for minor emergencies.
- Family health care & follow up

Quality Care Plus Convenience
Open till 8 p.m.
Seven days a week
1712 Southwest Parkway
696-0683

No Appointment needed • 10% Discount with A&M ID

DOUGLAS JEWELERS

Texas A&M University Watch by SEIKO

A Seiko Quartz timepiece officially licensed by the University. Featuring a richly detailed three-dimensional recreation of the University Seal on the 14kt. gold finished dials. Electronic quartz movement guaranteed accurate to within fifteen seconds per month. Full three year Seiko warranty.

All gold \$265.00
2-tone \$245.00
with leather strap \$200.00
pocket watch \$245.00
free engraving

Class of '75
1667-B Texas Ave.
Culpepper Plaza
693-0677

if you want to get in, you've got to STAND out.

LSAT **GRE** **College Survival Skills**

GMAT

From school selection to admissions, we're the answer to your questions about college and beyond.

THE **RONKIN** EDUCATIONAL GROUP
College Station
764-8303