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So when it comes to any aspect of buying, owning or maintaining a home, call First Interstate. We're here to show you how.

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HIS OPINION
by Ulysses Tucker, Jr.

Is There A Cure For Jungle Fever?

Without a doubt, "jungle fever" has to be the most overused buzz words or description used this summer of an interracial relationship. Regardless of the economic, social, or professional strata one might exist on, the topic of mixed marriages or relationships is bound to make its way into discussion. It's not uncommon to hear constructive/destructive conversations about the issue in church, at work, in gyms, or while getting a haircut at Waves on Sandy Blvd. Guess who is dating a black man or a white woman? This seems to be a common question or concern by those opposed to such unions.

The questions HIS OPINION is asking are who cares, since it's an individual choice and why question another's wife/mate selection if they are pleased/happy? The Whispers, a popular soul/pop recording group once made a song entitled "Love Is Where You Find It." But is that possible in such a race conscious society like America? You can thank the talented filmmaker Spike Lee and entertainer Stevie Wonder for the new dialogue addressing interracial relationships and the social/political realities associated with such unions or choices. Stevie wrote/produced the soundtrack for "Jungle Fever" and Spike produced the movie.

Interracial relationships are nothing new to the big screen as most saw in "Mandingo," "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?," and "Mama, There's a Man In Your Bed," to name a few. Spike did a wonderful job producing the movie, "Jungle Fever," but HIS OPINION wonders if his perspective (or attitude) would have been different if he had grown up in Portland as opposed to Brooklyn? Spike's position was indicative of those culturally isolated individuals in America, lacking multi-ethnic experiences or information about other groups.

In many areas of the country, a black child can progress through a school system without having a white teacher or student in his/her class. The same situation is true in reverse with white students never having black instructors or classmates. Both races exist in worlds of their own. Not to mention the barriers created by racism, economics, class, and discrimination. It's easy to see Spike's mindset going into the project.

"...An intense affectionate concern for another person. 2. An intense sexual desire for another person. 3. A beloved endearment. 4. A strong fondness or enthusiasm for something..."

-Love, defined by Webster's

Now, let's talk about Portland for a moment, to establish the difference in attitudes compared to the south and back east. Many blacks in those areas never consider mates outside of their race because, there are so many to choose from within the black community. Fraternities like Kappa Alpha Psi and sororities such as Alpha Kappa Alpha are extremely active socially, as are many other black professional/social organizations.

There is, unlike Portland, a very visible and established black community. Whites, for the most part, are the minority in large urban cities like Chicago, Washington, D.C., and Baltimore. It's highly unlikely that a black child will grow up in Portland without having attended class with white children. The lack of insight or information about each other can only reinforce stereotypes, racist opinions, or negative attitudes towards the other.

Residents of Portland are used to interracial marriages/relationships, if not tolerant, because it is the whitest city in America. (84.6% of the population is white.) So should blacks limit their dating options? It's a shock to most new Oregon residents, especially those relocat-

ing from geographical locations where relationships of this nature are rare.

So, should a black man or woman date someone within their race because it's the "politically correct" thing to do or should they date (or marry) someone because he or she is attracted to the person and they have values, goals, dreams, or convictions that match each others?

In Webster's definition of love, there is no mention of race, creed, or color. It only talks about affection and feelings for another human being. What seems to be a non-issue for most inter-

racial families or couples united together is a bigger issue with those not in favor of such relationships. Again, why worry about who someone else decides to love?

The important elements in any relationship should be honesty, respect and true love, not race. It is wrong to enter into a relationship with dishonest intentions or with the purpose of consciously exploiting, using, or abusing another human being. Treating people properly is far more important than the issue of race. With the low population of minorities in the state of Oregon, both blacks and whites had better accept the fact that interracial love is here to stay despite the history, politics, and attitudes on the issue.

The national average for interracial marriages last year was 15%, but Oregon's average crushed that figure with a whopping 39%. "Jungle fever" is here to stay. So, is there a cure for "jungle fever" as described by the movie? You can look as close as your attitude about the issue for the answer. Whether it's within your race or not, find love and happiness where you can...

NEXT WEEK: CAN MEN REALLY CHANGE?

Geneva's Shear Perfection



BY BILLY DON MOORE

When you think of the word success, and look it up in the dictionary, don't be surprised if the definition says "one who achieves the most out of life in accomplishing one's goal." Don't be shocked when it says, "see Paul Knauls Sr. for additional information." Paul Knauls breeds success like Claybourne stables breeds thoroughbred race horses.

Paul and his wife Geneva are the most recognizable couple to come out of the North inner Northeast neighborhood, dating back to the days of Geneva's Lounge. I know of no other businessman who came close to Paul's level of success in running a nightclub.

The level of class displayed at Geneva's went unparalleled. Those were the good old days at Geneva's where friends met. There you would find the ambassador, Paul Knauls, and his infectious smile greeting you with a table for two, and the first lady of Portland, Geneva, dressed to kill, exchanging light banter with all the patrons. A family-owned and operated business, Paul Knaul's Jr. worked there, his sister Robin Carter and all the other kids. When Geneva's finally closed, it was like a part of you died. Paul just got tired of the night club business.

Now they're back with an old business at a new location. Geneva, Paul's lovely wife of 20 plus years, has been

grooming some of Portland's finest businessmen for years. She was one of the first women barbers the city ever had; you could say she paved the way for women barbers. After 29 years at the same location, they decided it was time to move on. They purchased the old Winchell's donut shop on Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd and remodeled it completely. The shop is complete with every hair and nail service needed; a full service salon with its own art gallery featuring Afro-American lifestyles through the years. The color scheme is cayenne and sand which is a clay pink that is continued onto a smooth brick floor.

The shampoo room is done in mint green with flowers adorning every inch of vacant space. Paul did all or most of the remodeling himself and if he wanted to go into that business he would do well.

Paul and Geneva agreed that they both wanted to do something positive for the community; and even though this business venture cost a great deal, they kept all the prices the same to make your grooming affordable.

They have a total staff of about six stylists. John Phillips, Linda Scott, Marion Frison, Shari Preston and even Mr. Cash who got Geneva started. What you have is a full service salon. Geneva's Shear Perfection is located at 5601 N. E. Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd. You can see the shears in the window as you drive by. When you decide to pamper yourself, Geneva's Shear Perfection is the place to do it, from a shoe shine to haircut, to the latest in curls, let Geneva's bring out the perfection in you.

Whitney M. Young, Jr. Education and Cultural Center Reopens In New Location

The Urban League of Portland's Whitney M. Young, Jr. Education and Cultural Center will reopen September 16 at a new location at 10 N. Russell Street. The Center offers free homework/tutorial assistance and educational resources to students in grades 6 through sophomore in college and to other residents of North and Northeast Portland. The Center was previously located at 4919 N.E. Ninth Street.

Students and their parents or guardians are encouraged to enroll during early registration at the Center from 3 - 8 p.m. between September 9 - 12. Students in grades 6 - 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian on their first visit. Parents also are encouraged to register for a new parent enrichment program which will explore ways parents can become involved in their children's education.

"We have extended enrollment this year to younger students in order to help kids learn good study habits

early," said Herman Lessard, Jr., Urban League vice president for programs. "At the same time we are inviting college freshmen and sophomores, parents and people in the community to come in and use our educational resources."

The Center is open from 3 - 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday. The League plans to expand hours this fall.

The remodelled Whitney M. Young, Jr. Education and Cultural Center will feature study space for 70 students, a reference library and tutorial assistance. Center programs include a student newsletter, guest speakers, films and special activities. With the move to the Urban League of Portland building, visitors will have easier access to other League programs, such as youth and employment services.

The remodeling project was supported by a grant from the Collins Foundation of Portland, which also funded the purchase of audio visual equipment

and a van which will provide transportation for students.

Another new feature is a multicultural library of 1000 reference books on the varied cultures that make up America. The library was donated by the Henry Lea Hillman, Jr. Foundation of Pittsburgh, PA.

The Center is seeking volunteers with educational experience to serve as tutorial assistants. Interested individuals should contact the Urban League of Portland.

An open house at the new Center is planned for Friday, September 27 from 4 to 7 p.m.

During the 1990/91 school year, the Center served more than 250 students. The facility is named for Whitney M. Young, Jr., who was executive director of the National Urban League from 1961-71.

For more information, contact the Urban League of Portland at 280-2600.

1992 Young Miss of America Also Budding Journalist

BY NIKESHA HUNTER

When I was crowned 1992 Young Miss of America Pre-Teen National Queen, all the fun began. I started out by sending press releases to all the newspapers and television stations in Portland. One of the newspapers that called me back was the Portland Observer. The Portland Observer is the oldest minority press in Oregon, and its readers are from the ages of 5-95. So it sounded like a great opportunity for me.

When they called me for an interview I got really excited. My interview went so well they offered me the chance to do some personal appearances and get some experiences in journalism. I was very pleased. Now I have had the opportunity to go to grand openings, learn about the interworkings of a newspaper, being a secretary and meeting many new and interesting people such as Gary Ann Garnett. Gary Ann is the Portland Observer's Business Manager and she's very nice. I also met Joyce Washington. She is the Portland Observer's Operations Manager and she's great. And last but certainly not least, I met Tony Washington. Tony is the Entertainment Editor at the Portland Observer. He has graciously helped me in making my personal appearances and teaching me the newspaper business. He has offered me a job at the Portland Observer after my year of reign. I think that will be really fun and exciting! I can't wait!

I promise I will represent Portland to the best of my ability and live by the Young Miss of America concept. "That all young people should learn early that they will be judged throughout life on their ability to think, their willingness to help others, and their ability to use their talent to the fullest." And I will

try to help everyone I can to do their best and believe in themselves in all they do. So a big thanks to the Portland Observer!!

P.S. If anyone is interested in this, please call or write: Young Miss of America, P.O. Box 2732, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-2732 (916) 971-0977.

Jamie's Place

invites the public to a birthday celebration for Clara Peoples & Mildred Tillman

Friday, August 30
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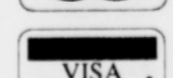
Food (including cake) will be provided for your enjoyment.

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