

**'Black Stars In Orbit' Profiles Blacks' Achievements In Space**

In 1962, as the space race and the civil rights movement were growing, President John F. Kennedy sent a directive to NASA: It was time for a black astronaut. Air Force pilot Edward J. Dwight, Jr., was recruited, but four years later, after being passed over for final selection, Dwight charged NASA with discrimination and resigned.

Still, Dwight's pioneering efforts opened the door for

other blacks, and since then, many blacks have contributed to the U.S. space program. Their story is told in **BLACK STARS IN ORBIT**, a Black History Month special that airs Monday, February 12, 1990 at 10:00 p.m. At the heart of the film is a profile of Dr. Ronald E. McNair, a child of poverty who earned a doctorate degree from MIT and was among the astronauts who died in the **CHALLENGER** explosion. Other astronauts profiled in-

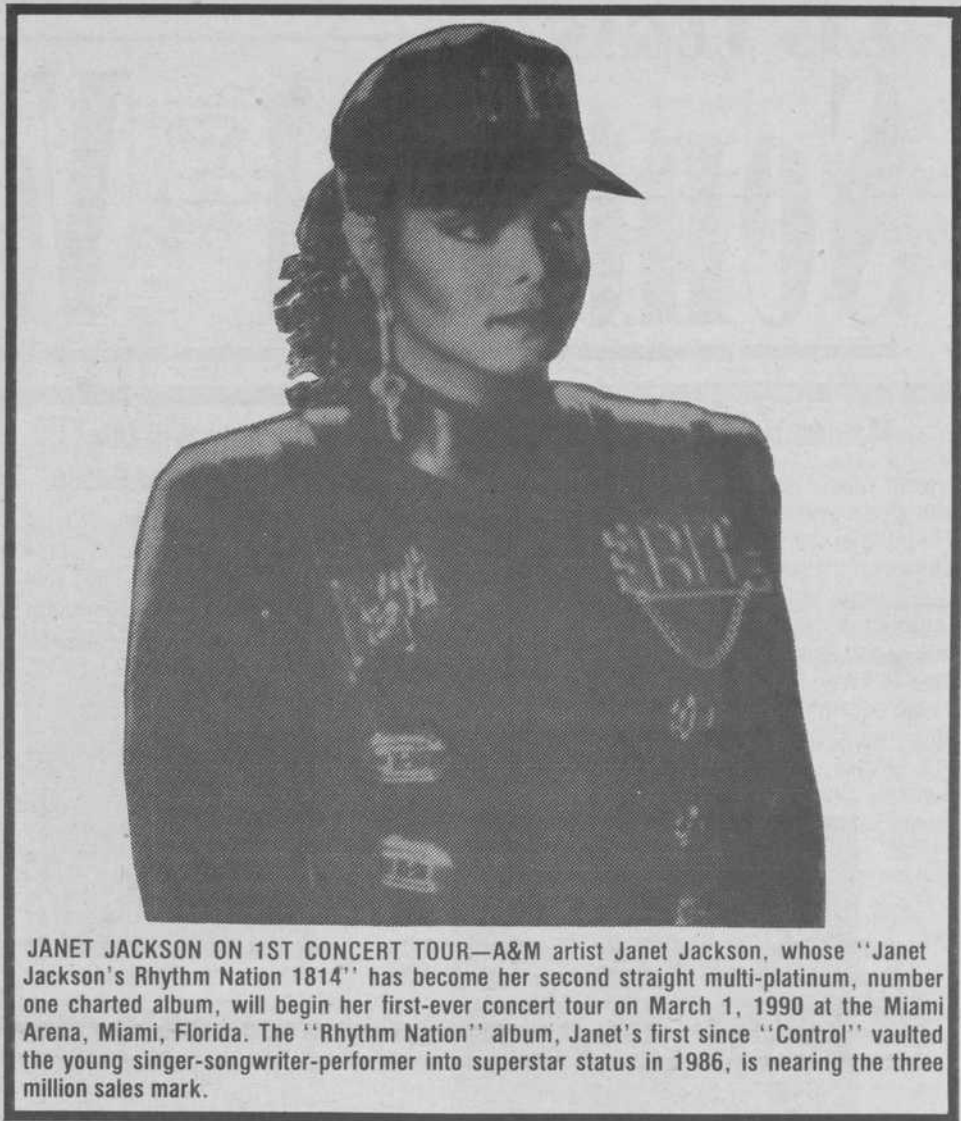
clude Colonel Guy S. Bluford, Jr., the first black American to travel into space; Colonel Frederick D. Gregory, who piloted the **CHALLENGER** during its 1985 journey and who also was the commander of the recent space shuttle **ORBITER DISCOVERY**; the late Major Robert H. Lawrence, Jr., America's first black astronaut designee; and two of NASA's newest stars, pilot Charles F. Bolden, Jr. and Mae C. Jemison, the first black woman astronaut.



Mae C. Jemison



Guion S. Bluford



**JANET JACKSON ON 1ST CONCERT TOUR**—A&M artist Janet Jackson, whose "Janet Jackson's Rhythm Nation 1814" has become her second straight multi-platinum, number one charted album, will begin her first-ever concert tour on March 1, 1990 at the Miami Arena, Miami, Florida. The "Rhythm Nation" album, Janet's first since "Control" vaulted the young singer-songwriter-performer into superstar status in 1986, is nearing the three million sales mark.



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Milton Brunson & Thompson Community Choir	Available To You
Beau Williams	Wonderful
Timothy Wright	Who's On the Lord's Side