

# ASSAULT AT WEST POINT PREMIERS ON SHOWTIME



SHOWTIME celebrates Black History Month in February of 1994 with the premiere of the original film ASSAULT AT WEST POINT. (l to r) Sam Waterston, Seth Gilliam and Samuel L. Jackson star in this powerful drama about one of the first African-Americans admitted to West Point.

ASSAULT AT WEST POINT, an original feature film premiering February 27th at 8 p.m. exclusively on SHOWTIME is an integral part of SHOWTIME's commemoration of Black History Month.

The film stars Samuel L. Jackson, Sam Waterston and newcomer Seth Gilliam. ASSAULT AT WEST POINT is the true story of Johnson Whittaker, one of the first black cadets admitted to West Point.

The program will repeat on the following dates:

- March 2 - 10:35 p.m.
- March 8 - 11 a.m. - 7:15 p.m.
- March 12 - 4:35 p.m.
- March 17 - 9:55 a.m. - 6:15 p.m.
- March 20 - 11:55 a.m.

In addition, SHOWTIME's celebration of Black History Month will feature the following:

\* A DREAM IN AVIATION: THE STORY OF BESSIE COLEMAN - A 30-minute film from Leslie Harris ("Just Another Girl On The IRT") on the nation's first African-American female pilot, Bessie Coleman.

\* THE PHOTOGRAPHER - From Spike Lee protégé Erik Knight, this short film chronicles a few days in the life of an obsessive, vagrant collector of photographs.

\* THE LAST BREEZE OF SUMMER - A 30-minute film that tells the story of a young black girl selected to attend a white high school in Texas in 1957.

\* OREOS WITH ATTITUDE

- When a white yuppie couple adopts an African-American child and an African-American couple adopts a white child their attitudes about race and themselves become clear. This humorous look at race is from director Larry Carty.

\* AMERICAN HEROES AND LEGENDS and WE ALL HAVE TALES series - A special children's festival of animated tales featuring African-American subject matter.

\* A film festival of movies by young African-American filmmakers featuring Spike Lee's SHE'S GOT TO HAVE IT, Carl Franklin's ONE FALSE MOVE, Bill Duke's DEEP COVER and Doug McHenry and George Jackson's HOUSE PARTY II.

## PUBLIC TELEVISION COMMEMORATES AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE

### Black History Month Features Broad Line-up

February is Black History Month, a time when past and present accomplishments of African-American men and women are acknowledged in a national month-long observance.

### "LLFLYAWAY" EPISODES "TOY SOLDIERS" and THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS"

Forrest accepts Reverend Henry's invitation to meet with the black citizens who are demanding equal rights. Francie learns an important lesson about compassion after deserting John

Morgan in the woods. In "The Kindness of Strangers," Forrest helps a black man whom he is prosecuting for murder. Lilly feels powerfully attracted to a traveling musician. Zollicofer Weed (Brad Sullivan) returns to fight for his former teaching position. Monday, February 14, 1994,

8:00 p.m. ET (double episode).

### "NOT BURIED" and "A DANGEROUS COMFORT"

Forrest and Christina are pitted against each other in a murder trial. Slocum's father threatens Paul's friendship with Zollicofer (Brad Sullivan). John Morgan loses a friend he never knew he had. In "A Dangerous Comfort," Forrest and Christina help Tucker Andersen (Scott Paulin) overcome his alcohol addiction. Nathan helps John Morgan defeat the school bully. Clarence Chrsleston (Dorian Harewood) helps Lilly rediscover love. Monday, February 21, 1994, 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. ET (double episode).

10:00-11:00 p.m. ET.

### "BILL MOYERS' JOURNAL "Poet Laureate Rita Dove"

A Pulitzer Prize-winning poet (Thomas and Beulah 1986) before the age of 35, Dove, now 40, and the youngest Poet Laureate, talks with Bill Moyers about her life, her poetry, and her plans to take her poetry to the people. Dove is the second woman and first African-American in the post since the title "Poet Laureate" was added in 1985 to the title "Consultant in Poetry." Friday,

February 18, 1994, 9:00-10:00 p.m. ET.

### Encore Presentation GREAT PERFORMANCES:

"Jammin': Jelly Roll Morton on Broadway" is a biographical profile of the legendary composer whose music made him the toast of the Roaring Twenties. Gregory Hines headlines this intimate performance documentary about Jelly Roll Morton and the hit Broadway show he inspired. Monday, February 21, 1994, 10:00-11:00 p.m. ET.

## THE CCSN OBSERVES AFRICAN-AMERICAN MONTH WITH MUSICAL



DR. MAURICE McGEHEE

A tribute to Dr. Maurice "Deedie" McGehee, retired educator and director of leading church choirs in Los Angeles and in African American communities in other parts of the country will highlight African American History Month at The Community College of Southern Nevada.

The program will consist of music, dance, and gospel choir music conducted by McGehee and will be staged at the college's Cheyenne campus on Saturday, February 19, as part of a four day dedication of new Phase IV facilities recently completed at the campus.

The program will be staged in the Nicholas J. Horn Auditorium, a 500 seat facility that is part of the new Performing Arts Center. Other new Phase IV additions include a new Student

Lounge and a Health and Fitness center. The festivities kick off with a dedication ceremony on Thursday evening, an art exhibit and performance of the musical, "Chicago," on Friday evening, the 21st Annual African-American History Month Program, a tribute to McGehee on Saturday evening and the 5th Annual Joe Williams Scholarship Fund Concert on Sunday evening. All events are co-sponsored by the college and the Associated Students of The Community College of Southern Nevada.

"The African American History program will present music and dance as the common thread that connects the events in our history from the joyous sounds and dance in an African village to the somber sounds of slaves after a grueling days work," said Lonnie Wright, chair of the African American History Month Committee. "We will use all of this as a backdrop to honor Dr. McGehee and his contributions to music over his long career as gospel choir master and educator."

Dr. McGehee, now 78, retired in 1982, as principal of the Crenshaw Dorsey Community Center Adult School in Los Angeles after 41 years of service.



JOE WILLIAMS

He was choir director of the famed "Wings Over Jordan" gospel group, the Cathedral Choir of the Independent Church of Christ, and was a director of the Watts Summer Festival in central Los Angeles.

He was an associate of Martin Luther King, Jr., and established an award in the name of Coretta Scott King which was given to the outstanding mother of each graduation class at the Los Angeles Manual Arts Adult School. His accomplishments include work with author Arthur Haley on the musical score of the morion picture "Roots."

The African American History program begins with an art exhibit in the lobby of the new auditorium beginning at 6 p.m., the musical production at 7:00 p.m., followed by the reception. Admission is free.

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS

"A QUESTION OF COLOR" confronts the issue of "color consciousness" in the black community. The program examines the devastating effect of a caste system based on how closely skin color, hair texture, and facial features conform to a European ideal. Director Kathe Sandler interviewed African-American women of all shades about their experiences with the "color question" - ranging from teenagers to a 96-year-old great-great grandmother. Tuesday, February 15, 1994, 10:00-11:00 p.m. ET.

"AGAINST THE ODDS: THE ARTISTS OF THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE" is the little-known story of a group of black visual artists who created extraordinary works of art during the 1920's and 1930's. The program features more than a hundred original paintings, and sculptures by the artists of the era, rare footage, and first-person accounts by three surviving artists. Joe Morton narrates. Wednesday, February 16, 1994,



A photo of newly freed slaves (top) is featured in A QUESTION OF COLOR, Kathe Sandler's (bottom) documentary about "color consciousness" in the African-American community.

Top photo: Courtesy of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Bottom: Dwight Carter