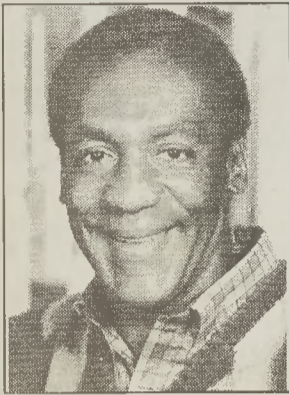


Black History MONTH

H.S. dropout Cosby got college degrees

Back in the 1950s, Cosby dropped out of high school and joined the Navy. Years later, he went to college on a football scholarship. Not exactly the most auspicious beginning for a man who would later become one of the nation's richest entertainers.



Cosby

After college, Cosby started performing stand-up routines ("Fat Albert" and "Weird Harold"), which were a nightclub draw in the '60s. Within a couple of years, he was co-starring with Robert Culp in the adventure series I Spy (1965-68); his performance earned him three of his five Emmys. Cosby's stature at that time was a breakthrough for blacks, and he continued to press the frontier with television and

comedy successes (his albums were frequent Grammy honorees). During the '80s, the endearing comedian had the nation's top-rated TV series,

and he was Madison Avenue's favorite pitchman. His series of humorous books about the vicissitudes of just plain living, starting with Fatherhood, were stunningly successful best-sellers. Nevertheless, his recent television launches haven't gotten past lift-off, and big-screen success has always been elusive. Leonard Part 6, which he also produced, was a big-screen bomb.

In the '70s, Cosby returned to school to get his doctorate in education, and has remained involved in the cause, frequently donating large sums to educational institutions. He made a gift of \$20 million to Spelman College in Atlanta in 1989. In 1996, Cosby made a bid to recapture his former TV glory with the television series, Cosby, which teams him in comedy once again with Phylicia Rashad, who played his wife on the wildly popular and long-running '80s series The Cosby Show.

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Winfrey tops in TV

Continued from 15A

thanks to Daley's fat-free food and Greene's strenuous daily workouts. In 1995, a newly svelte Winfrey competed in the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C. — and finished with an admirable time.

Her TV audience had witnessed the transformation first-hand, and, when Daley and Greene each published Winfrey-related books, viewers made them immediate best-sellers. For the record, Winfrey's ideal weight is 150 pounds.

Winfrey shares her good fortune — to the tune of millions of dollars — with several charities. The largest financial recipients are educational institutions — including her alma mater, Tennessee State University — and her own Family for Better Lives foundation. She is a children's

rights activist, and she stood beside President Clinton when he signed into law a 1994 bill that Winfrey had proposed to Congress.

The bill's goal was to create a national database of convicted child abusers. Spare time is spent with longtime companion Stedman Graham, a public relations executive to whom Winfrey has been engaged since 1992, and her beloved cocker spaniel, Solomon. The couple (and dog) reside primarily in a penthouse condominium overlooking Lake Michigan, and they take vacations at Winfrey's 160-acre spread in Rolling Prairie, Ind., or at her 85-acre ranch near Telluride, Colorado.

When not exercising or creating her show, Winfrey turns her attention to producing dramatic films and television programming.

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at you in all
your womanly
glory Even the
earth is
named
after your
kind Mother Earth they call her Just
look at you struttin' your stuff past
many, failed attempts at keeping
you somewhere they call "down"

Just look at you sailing
past the clouds dancing
with the winds, so free
ou...wee so far above what
they call a mountain Just
look at you planted with
the seeds of life—giving life—
to life All humankind must
celebrate you You and the magic
that sprouts within you to
become them Just look at you
the way you naturally can be
may be amazing for naturally,
you are woman and you are
strong You've stood through
raging storms with only the
rain to mask your tears
Just look at you in every
flavor, size, style, type,
and model From the
differently abled to
the able to be different
From the buy all
means to the by
no means to the
in between Just
look at you—
Woman You
are some kind
of woman!

Just look
at you!

We salute each and every African-American woman during Black History Month and throughout the year. **SEARS**

Poem by H. Simmons. ©1997 Sears, Roebuck and Co.