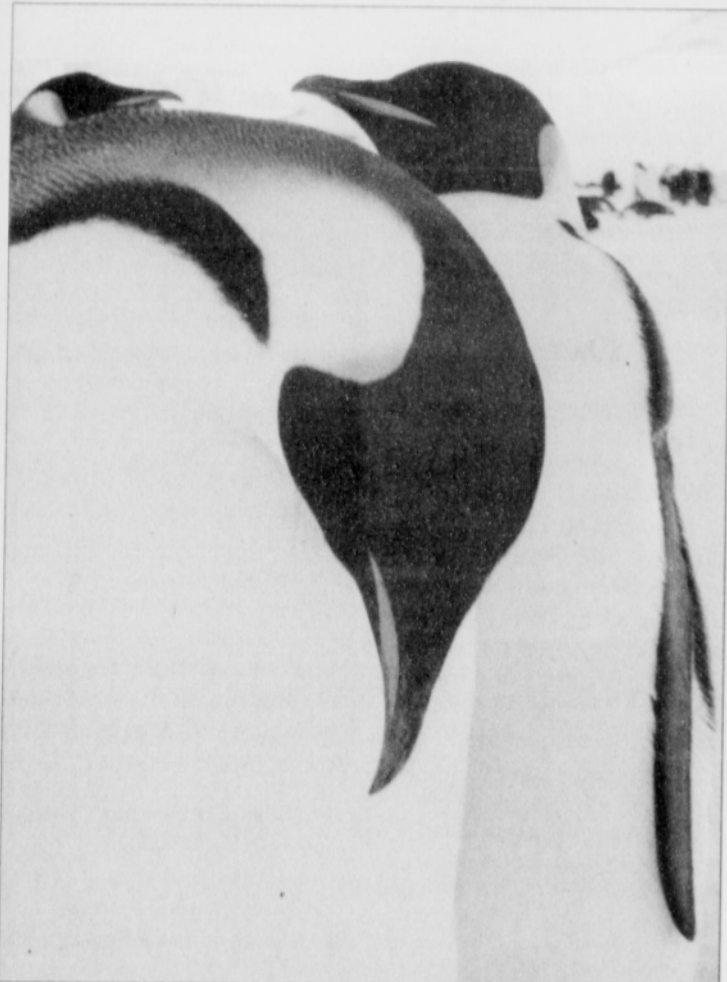


FOCUS

Love on the Ice



Actor Morgan Freeman tells the story of love in "March of the Penguins," Saturday on the Hallmark Channel.

Actor Morgan Freeman is the voice behind "March of the Penguins," a love story about survival and family in the harshest place on earth. The Academy Award winning documentary comes to television Saturday on the Hallmark Channel.

Freeman tells the story of the unique survival habits of Antarctica's Emperor Penguins as they trek across hundreds of miles of pack ice on an annual return to the place where each of them was born.

In their nine month-long journey, birds will mate, eggs will be laid, some will die, but thousands of chicks will also be born in one of the most heartwarming movies ever brought to television.

"March of the Penguins" is a Warner Independent Pictures, National Geographic, Bonne Pioche Film from director Luc Jacquet and producers Emanuel Priou, Christophe Lioud, Yves Darondeau. The movie is beautifully photographed by cinematographers Laurent Chalet and Jérôme Maison with music from Alex Wurman.



Jay-Z performs Saturday at Pier 54 in New York during a seven city tour to celebrate his return to the music world. (AP photo)

Jay-Z Celebrates Return

(AP) -- Call him the Michael Jordan of rap. Jay-Z, who declared that 2003's "The Black Album" would be his last, has come out retirement and with a new CD, "Kingdom Come."

In 2004, the rap icon (real name: Shawn Carter) became president and CEO of Def Jam Recordings. He became part owner of the New Jersey Nets that same year. Also on his resume: Not-So-Secret Boyfriend of Beyonce.

Despite naysayers' doubts, the 36-year-old Jay-Z thought he was retired from music-making: "I believed it, yeah. I believed it for two years."

But since his "retirement," he's gone on a world tour, performed on hit records with Beyonce and other entertainers, and had a profile higher than most working rappers. There were rumblings that he was working on a new album.

He told Entertainment Weekly that he began tinkering in the studio over the summer.

"Something, when you love it, is always tugging at you and itching, and I was putting it off and putting it off. I started fumbling around to see if it felt good," he said.

The result: "Kingdom Come." The disc is "more in the vein of 'The Black Album' than 'The Blueprint,'" he tells the magazine. "I've been experimenting with things, different types of music."

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Night of Smooth R&B, Hip Hop

Saturday will be a night of smooth R&B and some hip hop when local artists with amazing talents converge for Ladies Night Out at the Ash Street Saloon, 225 S.W. Ash.

Executive Branch Management invites you to enjoy the sounds of Sirens Echo, Arjay, Chris Ray and Cocoa Moe. Tickets are \$8 at the door with the 21 and over party starting at 9 p.m.



Sirens Echo will perform Saturday at the Ash Street Saloon.



PHOTO BY REBECCA J. BECKER
David Loftus and Melissa Whitney star in "Three Years" at the West End Theater, 1220 S.W. Taylor.

Turbulent Love Story

A man from a wealthy Moscow family falls desperately in love with a beautiful young woman who marries him to escape a dreary life in "Three Years," now playing at West End Theater, the former Old Movie House at 1200 S.W. Taylor.

Family conflicts both personal and political heighten the stage drama set during the collapse of the Russian Tsarist regime.

Performances are held on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. through Dec. 3. All seats are \$15 and available at the door or by calling the box office at 1-800-838-3006.

Comedian Erupts in Racial Rage

Michael Richards, the actor who played "Kramer" in the TV comedy "Seinfeld," stunned a comedy club audience, shouting racial epithets at people who heckled him during a stand-up routine.

The 57-year-old actor-comedian was performing at the Laugh Factory in West Hollywood Friday night when he launched into the verbal rampage, according to video posted on TMZ.com.

The tirade apparently began after two black audience members started shouting at him that he wasn't funny.

Richards retorted: "Shut up! Fifty years ago we'd have you upside down with a f----- fork up your a--."

He then paced across the stage taunting the men for interrupting his show, peppering his speech with racial slurs and profanities.

"You can talk, you can talk, you're brave now mother-----, Throw his a-- out. He's a n-----!" Richards shouts before repeating the racial epithet over and over again.

While there is some audible chuckling in the audience

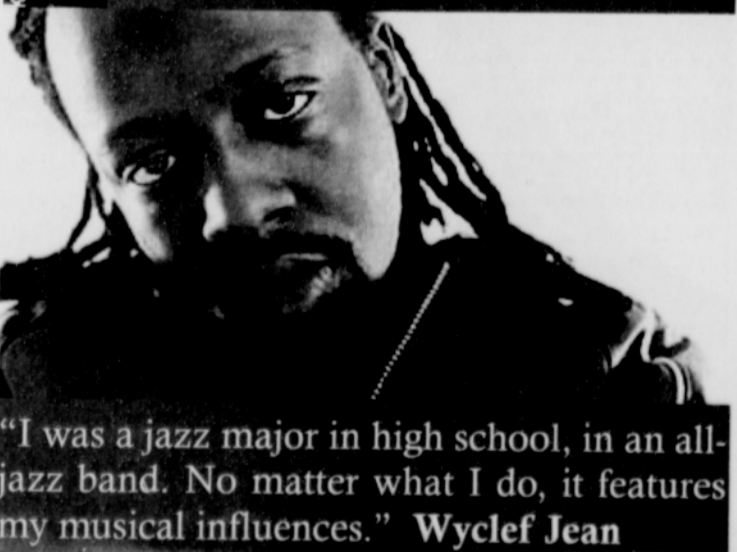


Michael Richards

throughout the outburst, someone can be heard gasping "Oh my God" and various people "Ooh" after Richard uses the n-word.

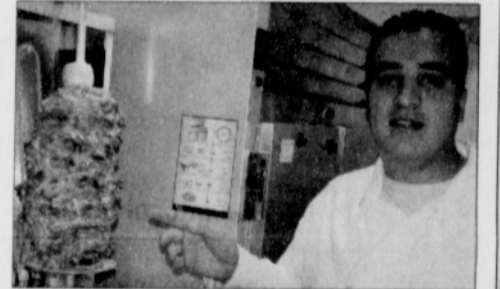
Richards refused to comment on-camera when reached by CNN, but the network reported that he said off-camera he felt sorry for what had happened and had made amends.

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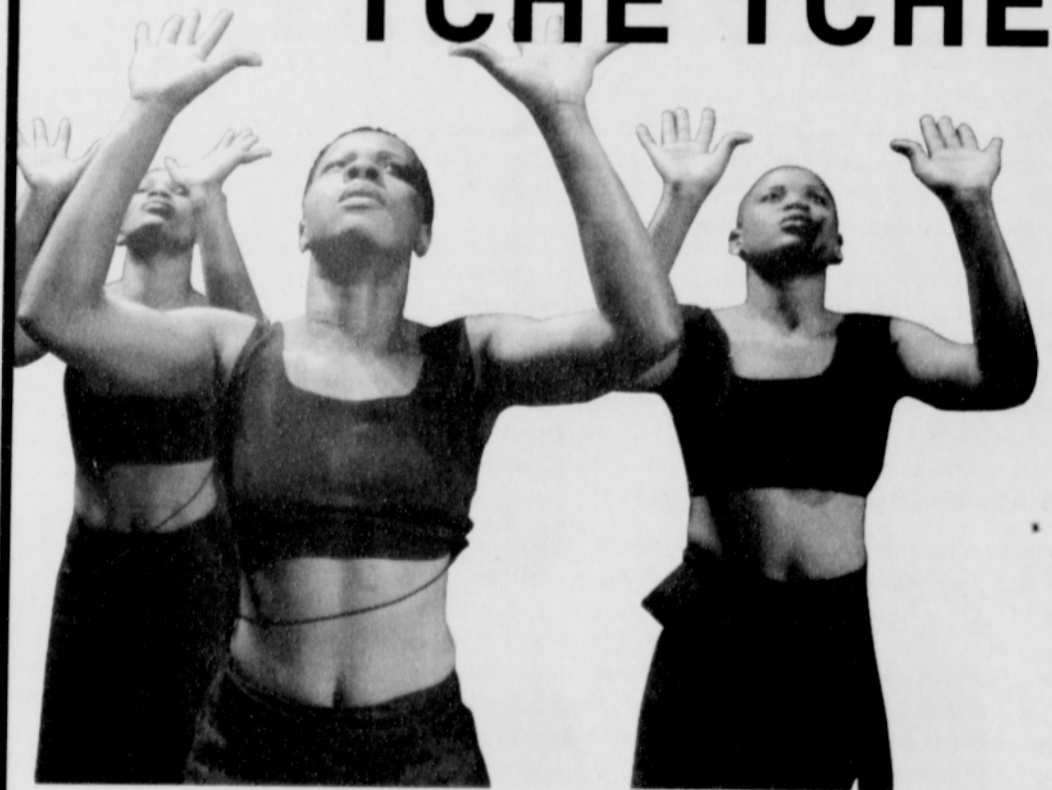
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