

BITTS) AND PRECES

'Trumpets' salute black heroes; back to the Ponderosa

African-American achievement was Awards dinner, held Feb. 16 at the CNN Center in Atlanta. Honoring 27 African-American men and women in a variety of professional fields, the awards' name was taken from Martin Luther King Jr.'s phrase "trumpet of conscience." The honorces included musician Quincy Jones, former heavyweight boxing champ Evander Holyfield and the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

Cokie Roberts, a political reporter for both ABC news and National Public Radio, has made her mark in the male preserve known as This Week With David Brinkley. The Sunday morning news and commentary program was criticized last summer for its failure to install a woman among the series' regu-lar roundtable panelists. Roberts, a frequent Brinkley puest, received her permanent commission to the panel in late January from ABC news chief Roone Atledge.

Meanwhile, back on the ranch... NBC is reportedly negotiating the acquisition of the series Bonanza:



Legends of the Ponderosa for a network run beginning next fall. The action hour, set at the turn of the century, con-cerns the adventures of the grandsons of Ben Cartwright and will star Hen John-son, Richard Roundtree and Michael Landon Jr., as the son of Little Joe.

Quincy Jones

Our Town, uptown. Where I Live, an AllC comedy premiering Friday, March 5, owes a debt to Thornton Wilder's Our Town, according to Where I Live producers Michael Jacobs and Erich

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Van Lowe. The play, which follows the lives of two families in a turn-of-thecentury New England town, is a chestnul of the American theater,

"We both wanted to do a kind of Our Town feeling in Harlem," says Van Lowe.

"But instead of Hal Holbrook with a hat and pipe telling you about Grovers Corners," adds Jacobs, "we had thought equally that it would be very interesting if we had a young black man take us through Harlem."



Saturday on PBS, American Masters profiles an Important artist in Paul Simon: Born at the Right Time.