

contributors



Who says a single sister can't find love? Not true, especially when you have ESSENCE staffers **JEN DOMAN, ZULAIKA JUMARALLI, LYNYA FLOYD** and **SHELLY JONES JENNINGS** on the case. "30 Dates in 30 Days" (page 193) takes five women on a series of dates for the first online

interactive reality show debuting on essence.com. "This project has more interactive components than ever before, with Webisodes, voting on whom the girls date and where they go, scribble boards, blogs and much more," says Jennings. Want to play cupid? Go to essence.com all month, pick their dates, and watch what happens.



Sometimes even when you watch what you eat, you still can't shed those extra 15 pounds. In "8 Simple Reasons You're Gaining Weight—and How to Stop" (page 150), writer **CLAIRE SULMERS** breaks it down. "Losing weight is really about changing your lifestyle," she explains. "I hope this story will add a whole new dimension to how women view what they eat." A writer for *Real Simple* magazine, Sulmers has a style blog, "The Fashion Bomb," in which she gives readers the 411 on the latest trends. Her work has also appeared in *Newsweek* and *Upscale*.

In "The Power of One" (page 202), **JOHNNIE L. ROBERTS**, a senior writer for *Newsweek*, talks to radio pioneer Cathy Hughes about building a broadcasting empire and the future of her various enterprises. "Of all the people I've covered, Cathy is one of those compelling personalities who just resonates," says Roberts, who interviewed Hughes at work, at home and even before and after a



commencement speech at Morgan State University. He describes her as "a dynamic, warm, smart down-home sister." A journalist for 30 years, Roberts writes mainly about the media and entertainment industries. He has appeared as a media analyst on PBS's *Charlie Rose* and on CNN, MSNBC and CNBC.