Pregs Govender in the spotlight

PREGS Govender, human rights and gender activist, is in the spotlight in this week's edition of 21 Icons: South Africa on SABC3 at 8.27 pm tomorrow night.

Widely respected as an individual deeply committed to the development of SA as a fair and humane democracy, Govender's 30-year career has been devoted to women's emancipation and equality, and to the human rights of the poor in our society.

"I think that the ability of each of us is enriched by one another and the best collective comes when you have strength in each person who belongs to that group. It's the idea of human dignity and the belief that humanity is inherent," she says.

An apartheid activist since 1974, she taught English in Durban before joining the trade-union movement in the eighties.

At the inception of South Africa's democracy in 1994, she served as an African National Congress member in the National Assembly. In November 2008, she was appointed as SAHRC commissioner.

Govender is also the author of Love and Courage: A story of insubordination, which traces her origins from the poverty she experienced at the hands of apartheid, to her role as a mother, wife, outspoken activist against HIV/Aids and a determined advocate of women's rights.

The novel gives the reader insight into the instances in her life that helped shape the person she has become.

Also worth watching this weekend is Busting the Berlin Wall on National Geographic Channel (DStv channel 181) at 7.10 pm and 8.05 pm tomorrow.

For 28 years, the Berlin Wall split a city in two and divided a nation with two million tons of concrete, 700 000 tons of steel, attack dogs, tank traps, death strips and trip wires.

While its dangers kept most GDR citizens at bay, others were spurred on to



Pregs Govender.
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overcome it, by digging under it, hiding in car boots, flying over it in a hot-air balloon and even surfing around it.

This documentary examines the most daring escapes, and interviews former border guards, politicians, spies and escapees.

For the little ones, there is Mickey Mouse Clubhouse: A Goofy Fairy Tale on Disney Junior (DStv channel 309) at 10.30 am today.

It's bedtime at Mickey's Clubhouse and everyone's ready to share their favourite bedtime stories. Unfortunately, Goofy's new magic trick makes all the stories disappear from the books in the clubhouse. Can they fix it?

And on Disney XD (DStv channel 304) is Phineas and Verb: The Night of the Living Pharmacist at 9.50 am today.

In this double-episode special, just when Isabella finally gets up the courage to tell Phineas how she truly feels, chaos erupts. The latest "inator" of Dr Doofenshmirtz accidentally turns all the people of Danville into contagious Doof-zombies. As Perry and the kids each try to save their loved ones and their home town, they realise that it's only when you're losing everything you find out what's really important to you. — Arts Editor.

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