

Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy: 'altruism'

Justin Chapura
NEWS EDITOR

A speech made by a S.C. human affairs official began the university's official observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day Friday, when Jesse Washington Jr. spoke to a crowd in the Law School auditorium about a simple concept: altruism.

"Martin King possessed some characteristics ... he understood and possessed the characteristic of a universal altruistic spirit, a genuine feeling of concern

for another," Washington said to sporadic applause and acknowledgment.

Washington, CEO and commissioner of the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission, works in a variety of fields including fair housing and employment, community relations and legal affairs.

Washington did not only praise the nonviolent, all-incorporating philosophy of the late civil rights leader, but challenged today's audience to aspire to the altruism he obviously felt was lacking in

contemporary society.

"We do well with feelings of altruism when they're functioning within our own group ... we must go beyond that. I've got to feel people different from me just like I feel about people who are like me. Martin understood that!"

"I ... believe that Martin would be very disturbed to know that in 2006 that we have not gotten that altruistic attitude. I believe he would challenge us on that," Washington said.

Washington then went

on to stress education as a means of continuing the challenge of lifting up blacks still marred by poverty and a lack of attention by public school systems.

He drew upon his experience dealing with employment discrimination cases to outline a paradox: "If I must ... say 'you (the employer) got the right to hire the best qualified person,' and on the other hand, the Constitution says we (the government) got the

MLK • 3



Nick Esares / THE GAMECOCK

South Carolina Human Affairs Commissioner Jesse Washington Jr. speaks Thursday at the Law School to begin USC's Martin Luther King Jr. holiday activities.

UNC professor: Supreme Court's future perilous

Speaker's visit sponsored by progressive campus group, focuses on shift of high court

Jess Davis
STAFF WRITER

A law professor from the University of North Carolina spoke to students Thursday night about the possible effects Samuel Alito's nomination to the Supreme Court will have on young Americans.

William Marshall spoke in the Gressette Room in Harper College about the future of the Supreme Court in general, and specifically how President George W. Bush's administration is shaping the Court.

The event was part of the nationwide launch of "Alito's America, Our Future," a national campaign by Campus Progress to "inform young people of the stakes for America if Judge Alito is confirmed to the Court and the importance of the Supreme Court to the daily lives of all Americans."

Campus Progress, part of the Center for American Progress, describes itself as "an effort to strengthen progressive voices on college and university campuses nationwide."

The campaign is targeting universities in "key states" — those whose

senators could vote against Alito's nomination, Keisha Senter of Campus Progress said.

Senter said that Campus Progress felt Alito was too far to the right on the political scale to effectively serve the country, especially since he would replace Sandra Day O'Connor, a moderate judge.

"It's not just about Alito, it's more about the direction of the Supreme Court," Marshall said. "This will affect the lives of every single person on this campus." Marshall said that most people don't pay attention to the Supreme Court, but they should.

"It will help them understand the Constitution and the government."

Students attending the event came for varied reasons. Some came because they disagree with Alito's stance on abortion rights, while others came simply to find out more about Alito and the Supreme Court.

Jennifer Burgess, a third-year political science student heard about the lecture in a class and decided to come listen.

"I've been watching

MARSHALL • 2



Nick Esares / THE GAMECOCK

UNC law professor William Marshall lectures Thursday in Harper College on Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito. Marshall spoke on the court's conservative shift.

USC & THE MIDDLE EAST



Special to THE GAMECOCK

Thomas Franks '03 poses for a photograph in Israel. Franks found a calling in doing television production for an outreach church's satellite TV show.

Mission: JERICHO

Recent alum finds purpose, TV work in Israel

Albany Gault
FOR THE GAMECOCK

A 2003 media arts graduate feels he has found his path in life — helping Palestinians in Jericho, Israel, through ministry.

Thomas Franks of Lexington County will leave the United States on Monday for the Israeli city for a second time to help the Living Bread International Church shoot a Christian satellite-television show. The show will begin airing in the U.S. and later in the Middle East.

Franks discovered the Living Bread International Church on his second visit to Israel this time last year. He traveled there as a member of his church, the Crossroads World Outreach Center of West Columbia.

Franks was interested to see what other churches were doing to help others. While in Israel, he found out about a ministry in Jericho that helps the needy by giving out food, clothes and Bibles in Arabic. Its name was the Living Bread International Church, and it needed help with video work. Franks said he felt he could contribute his knowledge and experience from college to the church.

The Living Bread International Church has helped more than 520 families through its ministry.

Franks said he feels it was a coincidence that he found out about the ministry in Jericho because it was exactly what he was looking for.

"It was an opportunity I had never expected," Franks said. "It was awesome. It was something I always dreamed of but thought would never happen." "Before I found out about the ministry, I was at a time in my life where I was searching for what I should be doing. We all want to be something that is fulfilling and that we feel is meaningful."

Franks took time and thought about helping in Jericho and, after talking about it with Crossroads, he decided to leave for Jericho for the first time in April 2005. During his six-month stay, he helped make a pilot for a television show for Christian satellite TV.

At USC, Franks was a part of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. While he was in the FCA, the group built water wells in Haiti and evangelized in New York.

FRANKS • 2

VEHICLE BREAK-INS RATTLE CAMPUS

Jackie Alexander
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The rash of auto break-ins continues as five cars in the Catawba Street parking lot and three cars in the Bates parking lot were broken in to Jan. 11, bringing the spring semester's break-in total to 15.

According to police reports, Officer M. Winnington discovered five vandalized cars in the Catawba Street parking lot during routine patrols. Only three victims were contacted.

The passenger's-side window of a 1990 Acura was broken after the criminal attempted to break the lock. A Pioneer Multi-CD player, estimated at \$150, was stolen.

The front passenger window was also broken on another victim's car and a JVC CD player, estimated at \$550, was removed from the vehicle.

The third victim's Panasonic CD player, estimated at \$300, removed from her vehicle.

At 8:30 a.m., three cars were vandalized in the Bates parking lot. The suspects attempted to pry the locks off two of the cars. One car lock was pried off, and the windows were broken on the two other vehicles.

The passenger side window of a 1995 Honda Civic was shattered and his Panasonic CD player, valued at \$150, was stolen.

The vandals pried off the lock of a 1998 Chevy S-10. Two subwoofers, a Panasonic CD player, a custom speaker box and a "Matrix" amplifier were stolen. The total estimated value is \$1,902.

A Pioneer stereo was also removed from a 1998 Jeep Grand Cherokee, valued at \$250.

These break-ins follow four vandalized cars in the Blossom Street Garage on Monday. All four vehicles had windows forcibly broken.

USCPD declined to

BREAK-IN • 3

VIEWPOINTS

Aaron Brazier brings to life the nightmare of holiday travel; Chase Stoudenmire learns about himself by spending time with others.

THE MIX

In the year 2005 From rock to ska and Elton John, Columbia's music scene packed a punch in the previous year.



Struggles

USC's men's hoops team faces Georgia after troubled pair of losses.

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