

Above, former undisputed heavyweight champion Mike Tyson celebrates Muhammad Ali's 57th birthday at a party for the former heavyweight champion. (Adjacent) Tyson rushes Botha. The next punch, a crushing right hand to the bridge of Botha's nose, ended the fight. (See page 20 for more fight action.)

Champs chomp

Sentinel-Voice photos by Jonathan Olsen Front Row Photos



King remembered at church services throughout South

ATLANTA (AP) — From the pulpit where Martin Luther King Jr. once preached, South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu on Monday gave thanks to King and all American civil rights leaders he credited with paving the way for the end of apartheid in his country.



CORETTA KING

"We drew enormous courage from your history. That you emerged from the furnace of affliction, the furnace of injustice, the furnace of oppression of slavery, emerged as strong as you have been," he told a packed Ebenezer Baptist Church. "You helped us, 10,000 miles away."

People across the country celebrated Martin Luther King Day on Monday with speeches, sermons and volunteerism. Last Friday would have been King's 70th birthday. He died April 4, 1968, from an assassin's bullet.

Tutu, who teaches at Atlanta's Emory University, observed that America still needs to heal a racial split dividing the country because of lingering wounds from slavery and the Civil War.

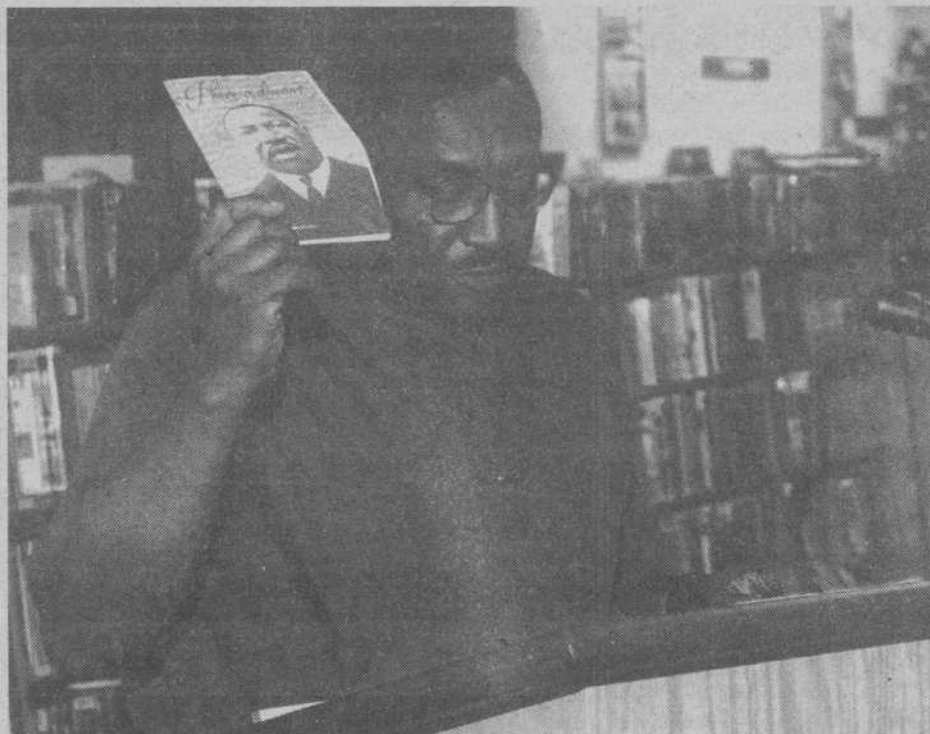
"God has a dream like Martin Luther King Jr.," said Tutu. "That this community, the wonderful people in this land, will come to realize to say, 'Hey we are really members of one family.' ... Then, just maybe, this great country will be able to say truly, 'Free at last, thank God almighty we're free at last.'"

During the service, King's widow, Coretta Scott King, presented the 1999 Martin Luther King Jr. Non-Violent Peace Prize to John Hume, who last year shared the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to bring peace to Northern Ireland.



DESMOND TUTU

(See King, Page 5)



The Rev. Lionel Starkes holds up a photo of Martin Luther King Jr. during a Monday forum designed to highlight the need for increased HIV and AIDS awareness. The forum, which included panelists and music, was held Friday at Borders on 2190 N. Rainbow Blvd. (See related King stories and pictures on pages 4, 5 and 15.)

LV Sentinel-Voice photo by John Broussard

King celebration used to trumpet AIDS awareness

By John T. Stephens III
Special to Sentinel-Voice

Just as Martin Luther King Jr. was a "drum major for justice," the famed civil rights champion, were he alive today, would likely trumpet a call for increased AIDS awareness and prevention among blacks.

That was the message of a weekend forum at Borders on 2190 N. Rainbow Blvd.

"Martin Luther King Jr. was a drum major for justice and he could also be a drum major for AIDS," said the Rev. Lionel Starkes of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. He counsels AIDS victims. "We need

everyone in this battle to win it."

The Monday forum included music from Rejoice!, a handbell ensemble from the Presbyterian Church, as well as the Nellis Air Force Gospel Choir and a panel discussing AIDS prevention and health care and increasing awareness about the immunecrippling virus.

Randy Webster, director of the AFB gospel choir, said King symbolizes tolerance and respect.

"AIDS sufferers are isolated from society due to a lack of knowledge about the disease and ignorance," he said.

"He (MLK Jr.) believed that everyone should have equal rights no matter what handicaps, disease, race or color," Latasha Norwood said.

Since 1985, there have been 3,007 AIDS recorded cases, according to the Clark County Health District. That number is expected rise. Up to 30 people a week test for the AIDS virus each week at the health district.

Though African-Americans comprise seven percent of the state's population, they account for 22 percent of AIDS cases.

(See Awareness, Page 9)