

# King family claiming 'Dream' rights to speech

ATLANTA (AP) — Martin Luther King Jr. would not have wanted his "I Have a Dream" speech used for commercial purposes without his approval, even though reporters got copies before it was delivered, a King family lawyer told a federal appeals court Tuesday.

The family is asking the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to rule that the famous speech is private property and that CBS News should have to pay for

infringing on King's copyright by including footage from the speech in a documentary.

"He wouldn't have authorized this. He wouldn't have given away his most valuable work," said attorney Joseph Beck of Atlanta.

A federal district judge ruled last year that the speech belongs to the public and CBS did not violate copyright law. The King family appealed to the 11th Circuit.

Nine minutes of the 16-minute speech, delivered at the Lincoln Memorial during an Aug. 28, 1963, civil rights

rally, were used in "The 20th Century with Mike Wallace," a documentary the network sold on videotape.

"CBS thought it was doing nothing wrong," said CBS lawyer Floyd Abrams. "In fact, CBS thought it was genuinely serving the public in doing a documentary on the civil rights movement and the march on Washington."

The King estate filed suit in 1996, seeking to stop CBS from using the footage in the documentary. According to the estate, King registered the speech with the U.S. Copyright Office shortly after

the event.

CBS said the estate has no right to claim ownership of the footage, taken by CBS.

Last July, U.S. District Judge William O'Kelley ruled that King forfeited any copyright interest when he distributed advance copies without copyright notice, placed no restrictions on what use could be made of the speech and generally encouraged distribution.

First amendment experts say a ruling for the King estate could have serious implications for the use of public statements by

individuals in news events.

"It's difficult to conceive of a more public speech. This is a speech given during the historic march on Washington.

It has played a pivotal role in the history of the civil rights movement and it is the single speech that Dr. King is most remembered for," said Ken Paulson, executive director of the First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University.

"If this kind of public speech can be treated as private property, then virtually anything can."

## Waller gets the gold

Catisha Marsh  
Sentinel-Voice

Mike Waller, board chair of the Committed 100 Men, recently received an award for his civic contributions through the Las Vegas-based organization.

J.C. Penney and the United Way presented Waller with the Golden Rule Award at an awards luncheon on April 23. The award recognizes exceptional devotion, commitment and dedication of outstanding members of community non-profit organizations. The Committed 100 Men is a mentoring organization that helps young black boys make the transition into manhood. A member of the organization nominated Waller, who is African-American. Waller described the Golden Rule Award as "the grammy or oscar of volunteerism."

"I was excited," he said about receiving the award. "I was even ecstatic because ... I didn't see any other ethnic group besides white going across the stage. I was the only black (person) to get the honor."

Seventeen honorable mentions went out, but Waller was one of five finalists who actually received an award. As a finalist, he also won a \$1,000 contribution towards the Committed 100 Men and he will be competing at the national level for a \$10,000 donation.

## Lewis

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how really athletic they are."

"We have been associated with Carl for a number of years and are thrilled that he is here to talk to the kids about the excitement of track," Leith said.

"Nike, in turn, wanted to do events to reach out to kids ... It was perfect," Lewis said.

"This is a great big plus for the city as well as track & field," said Dan Campbell, vice-president of Las Vegas Track & Field. "The sport is almost dying. ... He's (Carl Lewis) keeping it alive."

Yolanda Johnson, one of

400 athletes in attendance, had a case of the nerves "because of all the people. I have to run against." The 12-year-old J.D. Smith pupil did fine.

Each participating school received a Running Starter Kit from NikeTown, which includes finish line tape, batons and a stopwatch. Each student received a certificate of achievement.

"Parents, teachers, coaches, or just anybody — be careful what you say to kids," Lewis said.

"Always say things to motivate them and never bring them down."

## Anti-discrimination bill to go to senate floor

Sandra Douglass  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

The Senate Commerce and Labor Committee passed Assembly Bill 311 which outlaws employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. The bill was passed after David Parks, the only openly gay member of the Legislature, argued that the bill protects everyone, not just gays.

### SENATE TO CONSIDER SCHOOL DISCIPLINE BILL

Assembly Bill 14 would expand the 1997 law that created the "habitual discipline problem" label.

Bill sponsor and special education teacher Chris Guinchigliani said the law has not been exercised enough because only 38 of 200,000 students in Las Vegas have been labeled habitual troublemakers.

Students suspended five times, caught threatening another student or a teacher or kicked out of school for starting two or more fights get the label.

The bill also calls for a behavioral contract between the student, parent and an administrator.

### ASSEMBLY PASSES HIV TEST REQUIREMENT

Assembly Bill 483 passed unanimously out of the Assembly last week. This bill would allow firefighters, police officers, prison guards, emergency medical technicians and "any other person who is employed by an agency of criminal justice" to petition a court to force anyone who voluntarily or involuntarily exposed these workers to blood, feces or urine to be immediately tested for HIV or Hepatitis B.

### ANTI-HAZING BILL PASSES BOTH HOUSES

Senate Bill 297 makes hazing on high school, college and university campuses illegal. The bill is being forwarded to the Gov. Kenny Guinn.

The definition of hazing in the original bill was amended to not include mental stress or sleep deprivation.

Hazing is now defined as an activity in which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical health of another person for the purpose of initiation into or affiliation with a student organization, academic association, or athletic team at a high school, college or university in this state.

### BILLS IN LIMBO

Many bills are being held for various reasons in the Legislature. Some need the blessing of the Ways and Means committee which decides how the state's money is spent. Others are held on general file, which means they passed out of the committee, but the entire Senate or Assembly has yet to vote on them. Bills could have also passed out of committee and the respective house, but need to be heard and voted on in the other house.

The following are interesting bills or resolutions.

**Assembly Joint Resolution No. 6:** Proposed to grant ex-felons who have served their due time the right to vote.

The disenfranchisement laws targeting ex-felons in many states were rooted in racism. Nevada is currently one of fourteen states that still bars ex-felons from voting.

**Assembly Bill 581:** Would grant tax-free week on school supplies in August.

Many states have introduced or passed similar legislation regarding "back to school tax break days."

**Senate Bill 4:** Creates the division of minority health within the Department of Human Resources. If passed, this division will be a central source of information for minority health concerns, in addition to advocating on behalf of minority groups for improved of health care services.

**Assembly Bill 368:** Would require the audit of any school district's building program with 150,000 pupils enrolled to determine whether money is being properly spent and if funds will be available to replace and reconstruct older schools. The Clark County School district has more 209,000 students.

**Assembly Bill 401:** Gives \$500,000 to Nevada Partners to support programs that prepare under-employed and unemployed persons to enter the workforce.

It would also support Nevada Partners' effort to offer free job training programs that develop consciousness on the benefits of sustained employment.

Those interested in supporting these bills and resolutions can call the legislative answering service at 384-2225, or e-mail your senator or assemblyperson by visiting the legislative Web site at [www.leg.state.nv.us](http://www.leg.state.nv.us)

## Caribbean

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who've been together for 30 years, are the headliners. The festival will also feature Stan Rankin and Meshak, local groups Bonafide and Flex Style, the Wind Jammer Steel Band, and Bunkosquad Ska Band, among other acts. Caribbean food, arts and crafts will be available as well.

The charge is \$12 for tickets in advance and \$15 at the door. For tickets to or for more information on the Fourth Annual Caribbean Music Festival, call 386-7022 or 636-6790.

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