

# May the Legacy Continue

Very few, if any, days pass that we do not feel the effects of the tireless efforts and patient workings of Martin Luther King, Jr.

If after boarding a bus, we choose to sit in a front seat, we have this choice because of his perseverance and determination to have a choice.

If we take a sip from a water fountain free of a "For Colored" sign on it, we have this freedom because of his refusal to be discriminated against.

If we walk out our front doors free of the fear of being lynched, we have this security because of his efforts to teach the world about humanitarianism and justice, and because he taught us to stand up in the face of violence believing that "we

will all see the promised land".

Just 25 years ago this campus was void of the copper, caramel, and mahogany-colored skins that grace this campus today, bringing with them - diversity, a new culture, and a new and different outlook on life.

But this outlook on life often gets watered down as we become too comfortable at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In our quest to make the grade so that we can make the money, the selfless efforts of King become little more than a memory, rather than an example proving that the fight for equality can only be won through undaunted effort and continued action.

Yet many black students never

become comfortable at UNC. But they accept the discomfort, and remain in a state of passivity until it is time to graduate and go out into the real world to collect their personal earnings.

King knew that such an attitude would never get him to the promised land. He went to the wheel of the ship and steered us to a sense of pride and individualism.

While many of us would have waned under the imprisonment, bombings and death threats, King kept striving for his dream.

In our efforts to celebrate the life of this man, we often make him greater than life. But King was human, just as we are. He knew fear, resentment, just as many

blacks, as well as whites do. So to believe that we are incapable of his humanity, strength and patience, is untrue.

So this issue of *The Ink* is dedicated to the black leaders of UNC, who go to the front, not always looking for recognition, but for justice.

On January 19, while the nation celebrates the birth of King, we can all be King for a day. We can all go to the hull of the ship and guide it to calmer waters — to a better world. We can all make a commitment to try to make the dream come true.

This issue is also dedicated to the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. May the legacy continue.

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## Black Ink



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The **Black Ink** is published by students of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill every two weeks during the regular academic year, excluding holidays and examination periods.

The **Black Ink** is the Official Newspaper of the Black Student Movement and is designed to cover events of the group and other issues of interest to readers of **Black Ink**.

Comments and editorials written in the "Perspective" section reflect views of the writers and are not necessarily shared by the **Black Ink** Staff.

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## Two Steps Ahead

We must look back through history to determine the real significance of January 15. Martin Luther King's birthday is not just a day to stay out of class or home from work. In fact, North Carolina does not officially recognize the holiday which means everything is supposed to be "business as usual". But, as

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the aspiring leaders of tomorrow, we, the black youth, must remember the trials and tribulations our forefathers endured to secure our civil rights. Have we forgotten the sit-in's at the Woolworth lunch counter in Greensboro or the bus boycott in Montgomery? We are a strong people with a proud heritage that should be stressed every day of our lives.

The past is gone and the future lies ahead. Although Dr. King has passed away and the movement no longer carries the force it did when thousands marched from Selma to Montgomery it is by no means, dead. We must revitalize the cause to insure that our children won't have to go through back doors or receive a lower quality education. The eighties are not a time for regression but for progression. We have seen increased Klan activity, a

black candidate for the presidency, and an increasing number of black mayors around the country. One step back means two steps forward.

This week we must come out in force to show our appreciation for the "father" of the Civil Rights Movement. We can no longer sit back on the accomplishments of our ancestors.

We must start making history today by voicing our opinions, standing up for what we believe in and acquiring as much knowledge as possible. With an education we can overcome any obstacle that stands in the way of our dream.

*Taundra S. Woodard*  
News Editor

## SIXTH ANNUAL



## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

January 15 - January 20  
1987