

View of Riot Prompts Couple to Write Children's Books

By Sonja Barisic
Associated Press Writer
CINCINNATI (AP) — Bill "Dallas" Lewis experienced last year's riots in Los Angeles and knew he'd no longer be satisfied with his job as a marketing consultant.

"I thought, what am I doing to help change the world and make it a better place? I am making money, but that doesn't help," said Lewis. He was on a business trip in Los Angeles and ended up passing out groceries after the riots erupted when four police officers were acquitted of charges in the beating of black motorist Rodney King.

So he quit his job and dove into a dream — writing children's books he hopes will inspire youths to pursue their own dreams by learning to love reading.

"If you have a dream and read about it, you can make it come true," Lewis, 37, said. "Hopefully, we can plant a seed when someone's in kindergarten or first grade." Lewis and his wife, Lisa, formed a publishing company to work out of their Cincinnati home. They published "The Last Book," the first book in a planned four-book series, in October and have sold about 3,000 copies.

Lewis writes the stories and uses a computer to illustrate them with computer game-like graphics.

Ms. Lewis, 27, who is studying for a doctorate in clinical psychology at the University of Cincinnati, reviews the work and suggests changes.

The Lewises, who are black, are interested in breaking racial stereotypes. The hero of "The Last Book" is a black boy named Silly Billy.

"We wanted to introduce a non-stereotypical, non-gold-chain-wearing, non-in prison, non-basketball-playing kid who's smart,

have to go to school. He gradually realizes the value of books: sports teams can't play games without rule books; stores can't sell items without price books; doctors can't heal patients without medical books.

Silly Billy convinces the space girl to return the books by helping her get a library card so she has access to all the books she wants.

The book is finding an audience among teachers and librarians around the country, said Lewis, who reads to children at schools in the Cincinnati area and other cities and uses his computer to show them how he created the book.

Even though he's now just making enough to cover the bills, Lewis said he doesn't regret leaving behind the world of business. Everyone should be this happy with work, Lewis said. "It's all about getting some chutzpah and doing what you want to do." "The Last Book" may become another way for Lewis to do some good in Los Angeles.

A committee that's helping rebuild riot-ravaged areas is interested in translating the book into Spanish for distribution in low-income neighborhoods, Lewis said.

At first, Silly Billy is glad the books are gone because he doesn't

Helms Goes After Civil Rights Legislation Again

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., on last Thursday filed five bills and a resolution covering a variety of topics, including civil rights, abortion and school prayer.

Thursday was the first day that senators could introduce legislation in the 103rd Congress.

One of Helms' bills would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by declaring it unlawful to discriminate in job hiring.

"The current act has been read by the Supreme Court to allow race-based preferential hiring," explained Robert Wilkie, a Helms aide.

The civil rights legislation contained the same language as amendments Helms filed in 1991, which were defeated.

Helms filed a 26-page bill that included a variety of measure aimed at controlling the spread of AIDS. The bill consisted of various AIDS-related measures that Helms has filed in recent sessions.

Wilkie said the bill deals with measures from immigration reform to prosecution of people who knowingly sell AIDS-tainted blood to blood banks.

It also seeks to protect health care workers exposed to patients who have AIDS, and vice versa. And it would allow doctors to test prospective patients for the disease at their discretion.

Three of Helms' bills concerned abortion. They would declare it unlawful to perform an abortion based solely on the gender of the fetus, amend the Public Service Act to permit family planning projects to offer adoption services in addition to other family planning services and prohibit the use of federal funding for subsidizing abortions.

Helms also filed a resolution proposing a constitutional amendment to restore the right of voluntary prayer in public schools. The measure includes school functions, such as graduations and sports events.

Meanwhile, Helms also gave a speech Thursday on the Senate floor about the need to change the direction of the country.

He lamented about pornography, drugs and morality.

"... If America is to survive, there must be an American reawakening," he said. "We cannot continue down this destructive path or we will duplicate the fall of Rome and all other beaten civilizations in history. Before it is too late, we must have the courage and the decency to stand up for life, the family and all other principles that made this nation great in the first place."

The test of a vocation is the love of the drudgery it involves.

—Logan Pearsall Smith

For Clinton, An Early Lesson In Ways of Washington

By John King
AP Political Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton's day-long open house provided a powerful, gracious symbol on his first full day in office. He was a "tenant," he told a stream of admiring guests; this was their house.

A day earlier, in his first official act, Clinton signed administration ethics guidelines he said were part of his commitment to government reform.

Those early moves fit squarely into Clinton's campaign ethic, which he summed up this way in his Democratic convention speech in July: "We have seen the folks in Washington turn the American ethic on its head. For too long, those who play by the rules and keep the faith have gotten the shaft, and those who cut corners and cut deals have been rewarded." Today — closer to midnight than dawn — Clinton acknowledged the force of his campaign commitment and gave up the nomination of one of his most visible and promising Cabinet appointments.

"With sadness," he said he accepted the withdrawal of Zoe Baird from her nomination as attorney general.

That empty seat at Clinton's first Cabinet meeting today is the symbol of the new president's first setback.

Clinton would have liked to salvage Baird's nomination, but in the end Democratic allies said it was just not reasonable to put forth an attorney general whose confirmation hearings started with her apology for breaking a law.

On Thursday, Baird and the White House urged one last time that senators who cast confirmation votes look at the 40-year-old lawyer's entire career, which includes stints in the Carter White House and Justice Departments as well as an impressive rise up the corporate legal ladder.

"In the context of my whole record" is how Baird put it in asking the Senate Judiciary Committee and others to judge her not solely on a 1990 decision she says she regrets deeply.

Baird spent a full day trying to put it all behind her. That it turned dark outside and she still hadn't was evidence enough that she never would.

"She did knowingly violate the law and with her potential assumption to enforce the nation's laws, it seems to me that she has lost the credibility and trust that she would need to serve well in that position," Republican Sen. Nancy Kassebaum said.

There was a larger question as well: the apparent conflict between Clinton's campaign commitments to the "people who do the work, pay the taxes, raise the kids and play by the rules" and the highest ethical standards with his choice for attorney general of a woman who had broken a law.

In a middle-of-the-night letter to

Baird, Clinton had nothing but sympathy for her dilemma and acknowledged the exceptionally high standard that must be met by the nation's top law enforcement official.

"I believe that the concerns raised about your child care situation were unique to the position of attorney general," Clinton said.

For all their desire to help the new president off to a good start, it was impossible for Senate Democrats to ignore the avalanche of public distaste for Baird. She didn't just cut corners, she broke a law it would be her job to enforce.

That left Clinton communications director George Stephanopoulos at somewhat of a loss when asked how the Baird nomination squared with Clinton's campaign rhetoric about playing by the rules.

"Well, he continues to believe she'll make an excellent attorney general," he said, repeating an ear-

lier line but avoiding the tougher question.

While this was going on, White House, Baird was answering more questions about the matter on Capitol Hill, where aides phoned calls from the public running overwhelpingly at the nomination.

That explained the growing Democrats who said they had no choice but to oppose Baird. Baird was known privately, most by the group was one of Clinton's chest campaign supporters, John Breaux of Louisiana, a lesson for Clinton on his first day in office.

"You could just feel it tumbling a top aide to a Democratic Majority Committee member. "We one misjudged this one from one, thinking that an apology would make it go away. I back home would stand for

Ron Dellums

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about Dellums' control of the panel.

"We don't have any enemies anymore," said Rowland.

In his meetings with military officials, Dellums often jokes that he had a chance to keep him under tight rein when he served in the Marine Corps. The stint was brief — 1954 to 1956 — but the young Dellums was opposed to racism he will never forget.

After receiving a high score on an exam for officer candidates' school, Dellums showed up for the interview with military officials. For some reason, however, his form listed him as "caucasian" not "negro." When the officials saw Dellums they sent him away, saying it would be inappropriate for him to enter the school.

Later, when Dellums applied for sea duty and showed up to talk to officials, they determined that the black Marine had one arm longer than the other. He was rejected.

Dellums' academic record includes degrees from San Francisco State College in 1960 and the University of California at Berkeley in 1962. He worked as a social worker before his election to the Berkeley City Council in 1967 and Congress in 1970.

Marshall

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Marshall was born July 2, 1908, in Baltimore, the son of William and Mrs. Norma Marshall. He grew up in comfortable but not affluent circumstances. His father was a headwaiter in private clubs. His mother was a schoolteacher.

He graduated at the top of his law school class in 1933 at Howard University after his mother sold her engagement ring to help pay his tuition.

He could not attend the University of Maryland's law school in his hometown. It was for whites only.

Marshall is survived by his wife, Mrs. Cecilia Marshall, and two sons, John William Marshall and Thurgood Marshall, Jr.

NCCU

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Teaching degree in English from Smith College, Northampton, Mass., and received her Juris Doctor degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

Before moving to Durham, Ms. Powell was a faculty member of the Cleveland State University School of Law. She has also been a Legal Services attorney for the poor in Cleveland and in North Carolina. She has taught seventh grade and worked as a community college English teacher.

Ms. Powell is a member of the Advisory Board of the American Dance Festival, a board member of the North Carolina Theater Project and the Senior Citizen Coalition, and a member of the Boards of Visitors of Bennett College and the NCCU School of Law. She is a former board member of Carolina Wren Press, the Durham Arts Council and the North Carolina State Arts Council.

She is a member of the vestry of St. Titus Episcopal Church.

The only fence against the world is a thorough knowledge of it.

—John Locke

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CITY OF MEDICINE

WHEN: Monday, February 1, 1993

WHERE: City Council Chambers, City Hall

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

The Durham City Council will hold a "needs" public hearing on February 1, 1993 to obtain views and proposals from citizens, to identify and establish priorities on Community Development and housing needs. The City will be seeking input from the community on how to spend its 1993-94 Community development Block funds, which is expected to be approximately \$1.8 million.

Edgemont Area II and Southwest Central Durham are the neighborhoods targeted to receive funds for housing rehabilitation and acquisition and clearance activities. These areas are in need of funding to carry out planned activities.

For additional information regarding the public hearing, contact Gerri Thomas, Durham City/County Planning Department at 560-4137.

City of Durham North Carolina City Council Public Hearing

Help Wanted

CRISIS COUNSELOR — Town of Chapel Hill. Augment Police services. Work centers around crime victims, domestic violence, drug/alcohol problems, psychotic behavior, and arrests. In occasionally responding with Police to potentially dangerous situations. Temporary, thru June 1993. Weekdays mostly; every 4 weeks, work 10 pm plus on-call nights and weekend; required 30 min response for emergencies. Minimum requirements: BA/BS in social-work field, 2 yrs related work (ie crisis counseling, intervention, social work, etc.); or equiv. Prefer related masters degree. Start \$13,430/mo. February 8: Personnel-C, 306 N. Columbia St., 27516, 968-2700.

SAFETY AND WELLNESS COORDINATOR - Town of Chapel Hill. Includes: managing Town-wide employee safety program; develop and maintain safety, health, and wellness programs for all employees and individuals, with intensive fitness programs for fire; conduct assessments; teach and lead classes, especially structured exercise, conditioning, proper exertion/lifting/etc; cool other activities to encourage safety, fitness, health. Need community and leadership skills. Minimum requirements: related college degree (Physical Education, Health Education, Nutrition, Safety Management) or equivalent. Master's degree in health education or exercise physiology, certification in exercise physiology by American College of Sports Medicine preferred. Start \$25,338-\$30,000; excellent benefits. Apply by February 18: Personnel-W, Chapel Hill Town Hall, N. Columbia St., 27516. (968-2700) EOE.

PARKING SERVICES SUPERVISOR I - Town of Chapel Hill. In supervisory work scheduling, training, and overseeing the work of Lot Attendants; also maintenance and repair of mechanical equipment and facilities such as parking meters, gate arms, booths, etc.; in variety of related duties. Work Tuesdays-Fridays 2:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m.; midnight, and Saturday daytime. Requires any equivalent to 3 years experience working with the public, including supervisory experience in maintenance of financial records; and skills in mechanical maintenance and repair and in basic facility maintenance and repair. Start \$18,000; excellent benefits. Apply by February 10: Personnel-P, 306 N. Columbia St., 27516, 968-2700. EOE.