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## **Former MLB Great Encourages Charlotte Area Youth to Remember Dr. King's Dream**

*Essay Contest Discusses Dr. King and President Elect Obama*

(Charlotte, N.C.) – The children of the Gaston County's Boys and Girls Club were not alive to hear the well-known speech by Dr. King over 45 years ago, but thanks to the help of former Major League Baseball All-Star and Charlotte resident Tony Womack; they have a new appreciation for this memorable speech. As part of the remembrance of MLK Day on January 19, 2009, Womack created an essay contest for the children at Gaston County area Boy's & Girl's Clubs. Their assignment was to discuss the relationship between Dr. King's dream and the election of Barack Obama. More than 46 children responded with their thoughts.

"After reading these essays, I can assure you that there is nothing more inspirational than the voice of our youth," said Womack. "As our country marks this historical moment, it's important that our future understand this milestone in American history, and I feel like these essay winners had a clear appreciation for this event."

Essays were judged on their overall comprehension, conciseness and creativity. The winners include Jennifer Joiner, age 13; from the Joe R Hudson Club of the Salvation Army, Dresden Lowery, age 12, and Madison Lynette Walker, age 10, from the West Gastonia Boys & Girls Club. Each winner will receive a set of four floor seats to a Charlotte Bobcats game, courtesy of Tony Womack. For more information about Tony's essay contest, his speaking engagements or other charitable outreach efforts please visit [www.90feet.com](http://www.90feet.com) or call (919) – 388-5886.

### **About Tony Womack**

Anyone who has watched Tony Womack race down a baseline on a bunt single, speed from first to third on a base hit or steal a base knows that he was one of the fastest players to have ever played Major League baseball. During a span of 13 years, Tony graced the field as one of the League's best leadoff men and base runners. During his career, the former All-Star won the prestigious Lou Brock Award for leading the National League in steals for three straight years from 1997-1999. Womack is most notably known for his amazing double off of Yankee's pitching great Mariano Rivera in the bottom of the ninth inning of Game 7 of the 2001 World Series, a hit that helped the Arizona Diamondbacks win the Series. Happily retired, Womack now spends his time as a motivational speaker and supporting various philanthropic efforts. For more about Tony Womack, including career highlights and speaking engagements, visit [www.90feet.com](http://www.90feet.com) or call (919)-388-5886.

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