

#### Photos by Jaeson Pin

Actress Ruby Dee listens as Larry Leon Hamlin talks about the legacy of her late husband, Ossie Davis. The leg-endary actor was remembered Monday at the Opening Night Gala of the 2005 National Black Theatre Festival.

Below: Actor Mal-colm-Jamal Warner speaks at a news conference earlier this week. The actor is becoming a festi-val regular. He stars in his one-man show, "Love & Other Social Issues," at this year's NBTF.



# KABOOM!

## National Black Theatre Festival is off to a blast

#### CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

It is hard to determine who is having more fun this week at the 2005 National Black

Theatre Festival the celebrities or the fans who have from come all across the country to see them. Both groups have been chronicling seen their experiences a the festival with digital cameras and

camcorders. And even though many of the actors are working in plays

and musicals this week, most of them consider festival week to be the best vacation they have ever had, a time to gain energy and inspiration.

By most accounts, the fes-tival is more like a family celebrities each other only every two years at the festival. Those stars with good memories have actually formed bonds with theater fans they have met over the years.

"I have actually watched people's kids grow," said actress Ella Joyce, who has attended seven straight festivals.

The 2005 NBTF officially kicked off Monday, but the patented energy that the event brings to the city was already in the air days before that. Festival

founder, producer and artistic director Larry Leon Hamlin has come to call his festival "Black Theatre Holy Ground." And the event is sacred to many just as is black theater, an art form that the festival has allowed to

thrive



# Sit-in hero to take on Burke

Carl Matthews is upset that the city demolished his daughter's house

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

It will be legend against legend in the Sept. 27 Demo-cratic primary for the Northeast City Council Ward.

Carl Matthews filed late last week to run for the seat. He will

face longtime Council Member Vivian Burke n d a Rasheed B e y , who has fre



quently

run for the council over the years. Others could file to run in the ward before tomorrow's 5 p.m. deadline

Matthews is a well-known local civil rights pioneer. In 1960, he led a group of Win-ston-Salem State and Wake Forest students in a sit-movement aimed at forcing downtown five-and-dime stores to integrate their lunch counters. Matthews was jailed and threatened along the way, but the movement was a success. The department stores buckled to the pressure that the sit-ins created and opened the lunch counters to blacks.

See Race on A10

Harrell School coming

to town

Teens will learn interworkings of state

government BY COURTNEY GAILLARD

Fargas

There is a certain swag See NBTF on A11



Actor Daniel Beaty (right) shares a laugh with Larry Leon Hamlin and his father, Danny Beaty, in the lobby of the Marriott on Monday.

## Actor's reconnection with his father has been real-life drama

Now free, Beaty's father had been in and out of jail

### BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

There is a monologue that Daniel Beaty delivers in his one-man show "Emergence-See!" in which he laments about a young boy who longs for a male role model, someone to teach him how to dribble a ball, talk to a lady, walk like a man.

Beaty is a Yale-trained actor, but the power and passion that he invokes when he recites the piece is no act. Beaty spent much of his life physically and emotionally separated from his father, Danny Beaty. The elder Beaty has spent

much of his 58 years of life behind bars, a fact that he is not proud of but not ashamed to talk about.

"I gave my life to crime. I thought I had a right to do things my way," said Danny Beaty, who was locked up for the very first time when he was only 10 years old for stealing watches. Danny Beaty just finished his most recent - and what he says is his last -stint in prison. He got out in November after serving nearly 10 years for aggravated assault.

Danny Beaty kept up with his



Harrell School of Governmėnt promises to give local

young people the chance to experi-

ence the inner workings of the N.C. General Assembly.

Womble

A slew of state and local elected officials - including



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See Beaty on A7