



All-County picks included in this issue

-See Page B1



Graduates have overcome much

-See Page A3



Arts event brings out young people

North Carolina Room  
Forsyth County Public Library  
660 West Fifth Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

21 110808 1 \*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27101  
NORTH CAROLINA ROOM  
FORSYTH CTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
660 W 5TH ST  
WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

# THE CHRONICLE

Vol. XXXIV No. 25

THURSDAY, February 28, 2008

## KERNER RE-EXAMINED

A&T takes part in effort to measure nation's racial pulse

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

**GREENSBORO** - Forty years ago, President Lyndon Johnson appointed the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorder to probe the cause of rebellions that erupted in inner-city communities throughout the nation in the late 1960s. Chaired by former Illinois Governor Otto Kerner Jr., the 11-member panel is better known as the Kerner Commission.

In a nutshell, the commission concluded that the United States was becoming two societies - one white, one black, separate and unequal.

This week, N.C. A&T State University's Institute for Advanced Journalism Studies and the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Africana Studies and its School of Communications released a 101-page report, "Kerner Plus 40," that takes a modern-day look at the circumstances and issues raised by the Kerner Commission.

Tukufu Zuberi, the director of the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Africana Studies, said the timing of the Kerner Commission was historically ironic, released a few months before Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination on April 4, 1968.

"(The Kerner Commission) took place right before the storm that rocked the United States," said Zuberi, who served as the editor of the Kerner Plus 40 Report, along with DeWayne Wickham, the director of A&T's Institute for Advanced Journalism Studies and a popular USA Today columnist.

As part of its assessment of the nation's progress - or lack thereof - since Kerner, the uni-



Dr. Cornel West speaks to a packed house in Harrison Auditorium on Sunday.

A&T Photo by Charlie Watkins



Darryl Hunt



Sprinkle-Hamlin

## Sprinkle-Hamlin, Hunt earn top Chronicle honors

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

More than a dozen local residents will be honored next month for their phenomenal contributions to the community.

March 8 will mark the 25th consecutive year that The Chronicle has placed the spotlight on the city's best and brightest. Top honors this year will go to Darryl Hunt and Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin.

Hunt's ordeal is well known. Wrongfully imprisoned for nearly two decades for a murder he did not commit, Hunt has not wasted time being bitter or angry since his release. Instead, he is on a mission, trying to prevent others from suffering the same fate. He has become one of the nation's most recognizable advocates for reform in the legal justice system. He speaks about this calling at events around the nation. And through his nonprofit agency, The Darryl Hunt Project for Freedom and Justice, Hunt has become an ally to many, who like him, got injustice instead



Plouff

of justice.

Sprinkle-Hamlin is every woman. By day, she heads the county's burgeoning public library systems. After work, she wears too many hats to name. She is not unfamiliar with challenges, but Sprinkle-Hamlin impressed even those who know and love her when she stepped into the shoes of her late husband, Larry Leon Hamlin, and pulled off one of the best National Black Theatre Festivals that this city has ever seen.

"The caliber of the honorees this year is superior," said T. Kevin Walker, The Chronicle's managing editor. "I think Mr. Hunt and Mrs. Sprinkle-Hamlin are perfect examples of the kind of resilience this city personifies."

In all, more than a dozen awards will be handed out at the awards ceremony, which will be held at the Embassy Suites downtown.

The Human Relations Award, designed to honor individuals or groups that bring people of various backgrounds

See Awards on A15



Kendall Ramseur is a budding star.

## NCSA student still basking in Grammy glory

BY TODD LUCK  
THE CHRONICLE

The list of performers at the recent Grammy Awards is long and illustrious.

It includes names like Alicia Keys, Kanye West, Amy Winehouse, Beyonce and Kendall Ramseur.

Kendall Ramseur? The name of the N.C. School of Arts student may not be a household name yet, but just wait.

Ramseur, a cellist, performed at the 50th Annual Grammy Awards Feb. 10 in Los Angeles. NCSA Chancellor John Mauceri, an acclaimed Grammy-winning conductor, invited Ramseur and another NSA student, violinist Angela Michelle "Shelly" Story, to be among the musicians he conducted for a performance of "Rhapsody in Blue." The performance featured a solo by Herbie Hancock, who later took home the Album of Year Grammy.

Ramseur, a junior who transferred from

See Ramseur on A11



Postmaster David Barcio with Million Mile Club members Stanley Tedder, Jimmy Harrison, Bruce Browning, Chester Clark and Carry Trahan.

## THEY DELIVERED!

BY LAYLA FARMER  
THE CHRONICLE

Becoming a member of the National Safety Council's Million Mile Club is no small feat. In fact, the NSC has likened the probability of traveling one million miles as a letter carrier - which takes about 30 years - without a preventable motor vehicle acci-

dent, to that of reaching the summit of Mt. Everest.

"We have over 400,000 employees nationwide and there's very few people that achieve this level of success," said Post Office Operations

Manager Ronny White.

Five Winston-Salem mail carriers reached that pinnacle in their careers and were honored in a special ceremony at the Manor Station Post Office on Healy Dr. Tuesday morning.

"Obviously, they're professionals and they take their jobs

See Honorees on A12

In Grateful Memory of Our Founders,  
Florie S. Russell and  
Carl H. Russell, Sr.

"Growing and Still Dedicated to Serve You Better"  
**Russell Funeral Home**  
Wishes to Thank Everyone For Their Support

822 Carl Russell Ave.  
(at Martin Luther King Dr.)  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101  
(336) 722-3459  
Fax (336) 631-8268  
russhome@bellsouth.net

6 89076 32439 7