

HAT POWER

"Crowns" delves into longstanding tradition of women's headwear

Cast of 'Crowns'



GO-TO GUY

West Charlotte High's Trenton Guy Jr. has nation's top prep time in 60 meters/1C



FLY ON THE WALL

James B. Duke Memorial University of Paul Robeson headlines Apollo, plus comic Dave Chappelle's comeback/2A



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# The Charlotte Post

The Voice of the Black Community

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WEEK OF FEBRUARY 16-22, 2006

## Activists recall time of trials, tribulation

Wilmington 10 was vaulted to infamy after 1971 violence

By Sommer Brokaw  
THE TRIANGLE TRIBUNE

CHAPEL HILL —Thirty-five years ago, the world discovered the Wilmington 10.

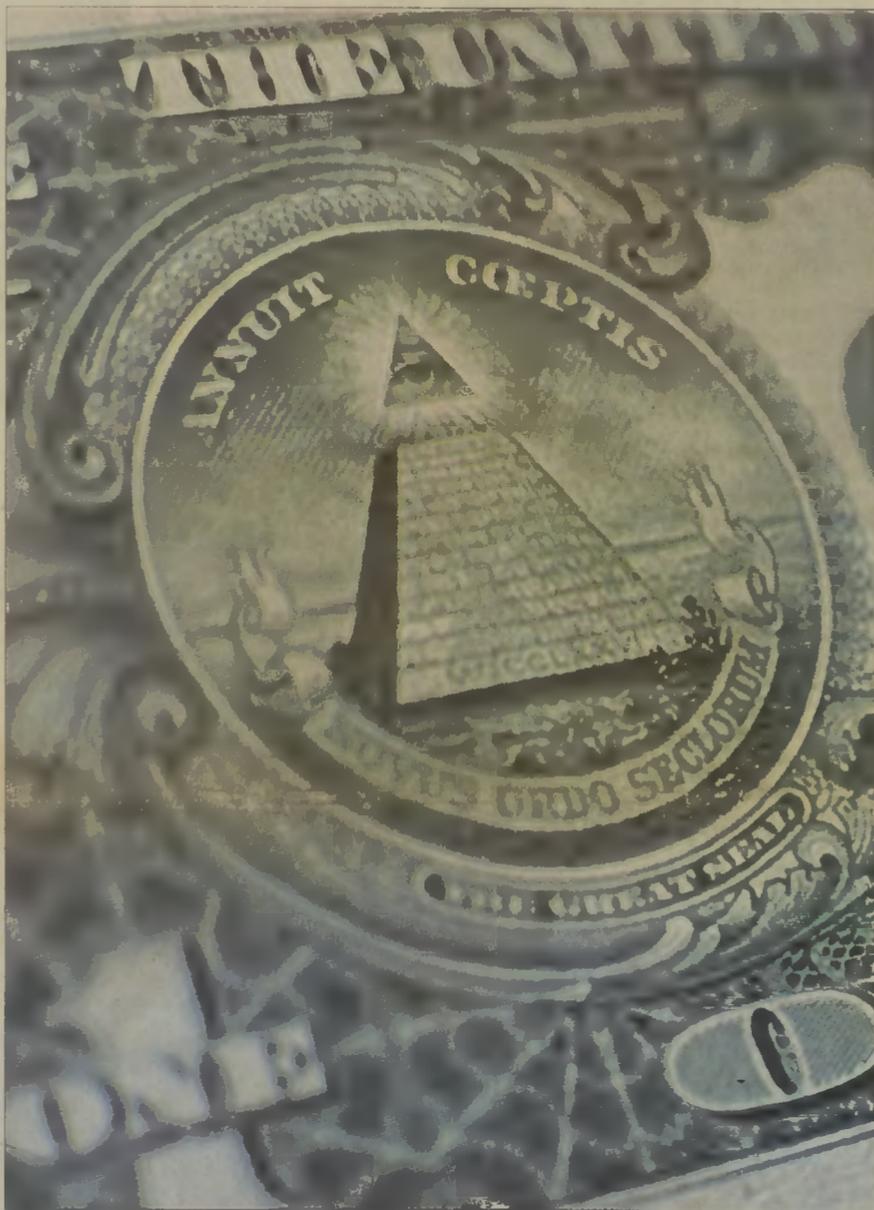
Nine black men and one white woman were convicted in Wilmington in 1972 after three days of violent uprisings from Feb. 6-8, 1971.

Benjamin Chavis, an experienced activist from Oxford, N.C., traveled to Wilmington to organize a student boycott of the city schools in January 1971. A month later, two downtown businesses were burned and African-American activists were blamed for the incidents.

Several members of the Wilmington 10 spoke at a panel discussion about the group earlier this month at UNC-Chapel Hill's Sonja Haynes Stone Center.

Members of the Ku Klux Klan and The Rights of White People began to patrol downtown Wilmington and were openly hostile to boycotting. See **ACTIVISTS/2A**

N.C.'s minimum wage of \$5.15 an hour hasn't increased in nine years. But can an extra \$1 really make a difference for the working poor?



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## For a few dollars more

By Herbert L. White  
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and Eric Bozeman  
FOR THE CHARLOTTE POST

The campaign to increase the state's minimum wage is producing maximum debate.

N.C. Treasure Richard Moore wants to raise the state's minimum wage to \$6.15 an hour, which he said is needed to keep the state's economy moving. The state House last year approved a bill that would raise the minimum to \$6, and give tax breaks to small businesses that offer health insurance to employees. The Senate is expected to take up the debate when it convenes in May.

The federal minimum is \$5.15, but 17 states and



Washington, D.C., have increased standards.

For more than 100,000 N.C. workers — 3 percent of the state's workforce — another dollar an hour would represent an extra \$160 a month. Moore,

who said 3 percent of N.C. jobs pay less than the minimum, is lobbying business leaders. Noting that the minimum wage is worth less now than it was in 1997, North Carolina

See **WAGE/3A**

## They're off and running

Experience not an issue in Mecklenburg county commissioners race

By Herbert L. White  
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There'll be no shortage of political muscle running for political office in Mecklenburg County this year.

Last week, seven Republicans announced their intentions to run for the board of commissioners, highlighted by former commissioner Dan Ramirez and Charlotte-Mecklenburg school board member Kaye McGarry. This week, at-large incumbents Wilhelmenia Rembert, Jennifer Roberts and Parks Helms — all Democrats — all but confirmed their intentions.

Roberts, Rembert and Helms swept to office in 2004 on the strength of a strong Democratic turnout for presidential candidate John Kerry and a campaign built around boosting funding for public schools. This time, Please see **BIG/7A**



Rembert



McGarry

## the box

NEWS, NOTES & TRENDS

### Documentary studies 1954 reaction to Brown

A documentary on how the Carolinas were impacted by Brown v. Board of Education debuts next week.

"Brown in Black and White" airs Feb. 23 at 8 p.m. on WTVI (channel 42). A preview will be shown Tuesday at Levine Museum of the New South. A reception kicks off the evening at 6 p.m., with the screening at 8 p.m.

The documentary, produced by WBTV reporter and regional Emmy-winning filmmaker Steve Crump, chronicles Gastonia's reaction to Brown on CBS-TV's "See It Now" anchored by legendary journalist Edward R. Murrow eight days after the 1954 Supreme Court decision. The court ruled segregated public schools unconstitutional, opening the doors for a spate of civil rights changes in the U.S.

Herbert L. White



Crump

The internet sparks a new passion: Finding lost love/1D



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