

## **Jesse For President**

This young voter-to-be holds fast to sign proclaiming her choice for president in November during the visit of presidential candidate the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who appeared at the Benton Convention Center April 18. A crowd of more than 3.000 turned out to hear Jackson's political sermon (photo by James Parker).

## Newspapers roundly criticize Klan-Nazi case From Page A1

tions. Throughout the those who practice them. history of North Carolina, the thread of violence has and one woman are dead. been part of the warp and woof of its political life, its alive than it was." economic life and its social life. Murderous events have Charlotte Observer: " ... punctuated its past with far The not-guilty verdicts in more regularity than the two exhaustive trials also violence of tornados or hur- mean that, although five ricanes, for instance...."

A newspaper in neighboring Virginia echoed that sentiment.

"Once more, a jury in North Carolina has refused to find anybody criminally culpable for the 1979 slayings of five communist demonstrators at an anti-Klan rally in Greensboro," said the Roanoke Times and World News. "It is a blot on the state's reputation."

Their attorneys based the defense of the Klansmen and Nazis on self-defense and painted a picture of them as patriotic citizens who went to Greensboro to projest communism. The defendants were not, in any manner, motivated by racism to attend the anti-Klan rally, the defense argued during the threemonth-long trial.

But the Carolina Peacemaker, a black weekly in Greensboro, found that hard to believe.

"We are having trouble figuring out how traveling a long distance, armed with dangerous weapons, into a perceived zone of danger constitutes the kind of selfdefense envisioned by the law," read an April 21 the federal trial was held, editorial in the Peacemaker. The Sentinel said the kill-"And we are ever harder ings go against the grain of pressed to figure out how what America stands for. rally disruption -- in itself an unlawful act -- could be maimed under cirviewed by a jury as consis- cumstances that reeked of tent with love of country -- willfulness," the paper

Times: "It is sad to say, but freedom of speech, freedoms of assembly and said The New York Times, plored are complaints from North Carolina is a happy peaceable assembly, racial expression were nullified by may be the last glimmer of the communist group that hunting ground for such equality, collective bargainviolence-reeking organiza- ing and the life and limb of

"Meanwhile, four men

Added an editorial in The people were shot to death on a public street in broad daylight, before more than 100 witnesses and with TV cameras rolling, no one has been convicted of any crime. Whatever the reasons, the result is outrageous.

"It was unlikely that every defendant would be convicted of every charge against him. Yet the implicit message the system has sent forth -- that no one was really murdered, that no one's rights were really violated -- stands in shocking contrast to the bloody events recorded on videotape that day."

And an editorial in The High Point Enterprise said: "The basic truths in this case cannot be ignored. Whatever their politics, human beings were slain on that day in 1979, and no one stands responsible for those deaths.... We can only hope that this tragic series of events does not encourage others to take out' political philosophical enmities against others with shotguns and high-powered

In Winston-Salem, where

"People were killed and

gunfire."

Two trials and dozens of

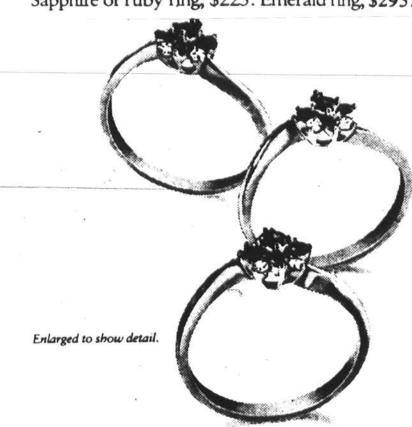
hope for justice.

not-guilty verdicts later, the hope that a still-pending and that both federal and families and friends of the civil suit will bring a more local governments provided five victims have filed a civil complete- answer to the inadequate protection. A And the Klan is a little more suit that is scheduled to go Greensboro tragedy," said further accounting is in to trial in August. That suit, the Times. "Still to be ex- order."

government informers and "There remains some agitators invaded its rights

## "Look what I found at Bailey's!"

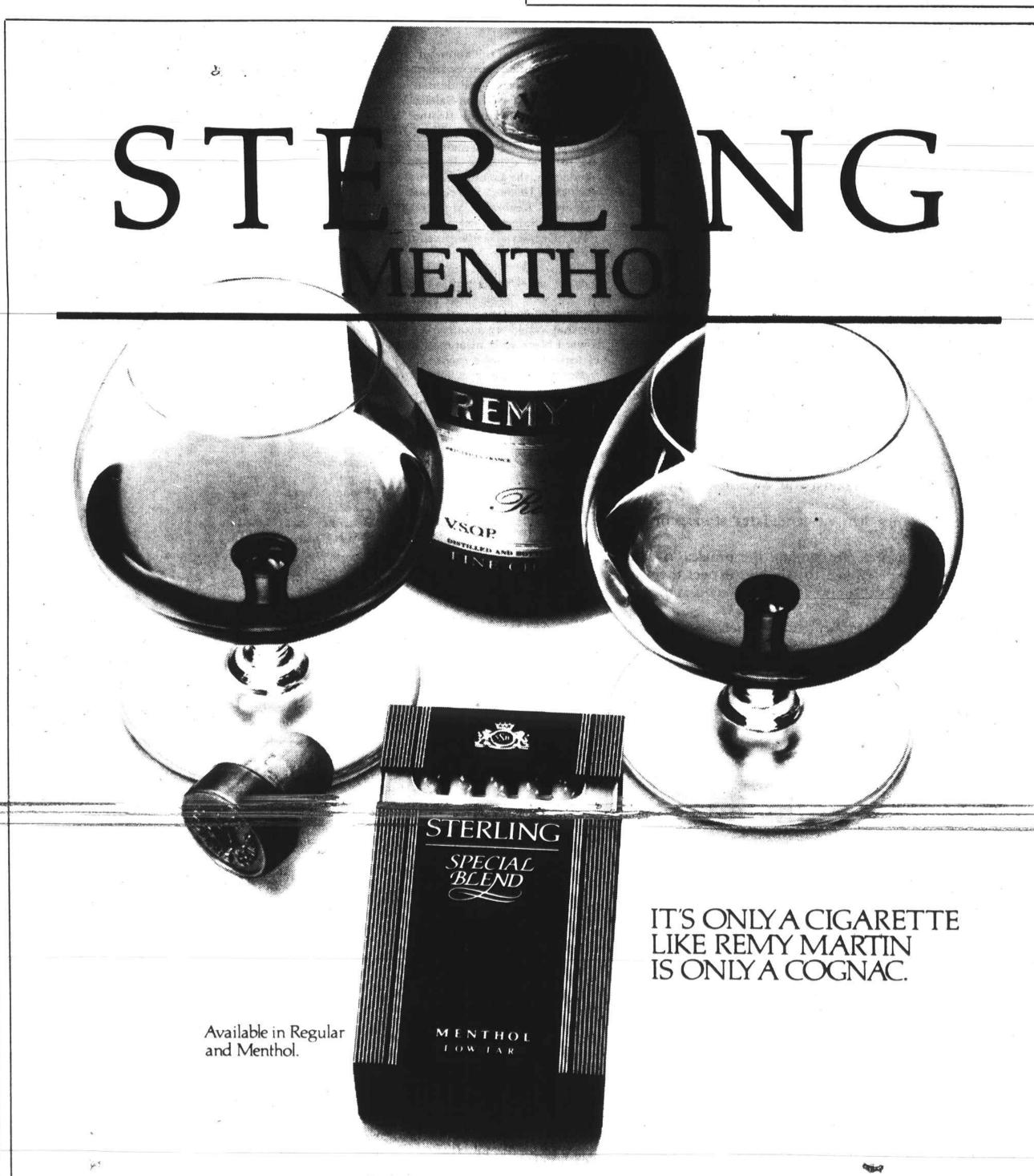
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