



**KINGS OF ROCK**—Run-DMC held a press conference in Washington D. C. to announce that they are working with the National Alliance of Business and the National Association of Broadcasters to help their fans find out about job programs in neighborhoods from coast to coast. Run-DMC have booths set up at the shows on their current world tour giving out information on local job training and placement opportunities. The kings of rock are also about to record radio and television advertisements designed to help get the message across. Shown at the Washington Run-DMC press conference are (from left to right): Joseph "Run" Simmons of Run-DMC; William H. Kolberg, president of the National Alliance of Business; Darryl "DMC" McDaniels of Run-DMC; Jason Jam Master Jay Mizell of Run-DMC; and Edward Fritts, President and CEO of the National Association of Broadcasters.

### VSU & WSSU Said Tops On CIAA Gridiron

HAMPTON, Va.—CIAA head football coaches' preseason prognosis should add inspiration to the gridiron camps at Winston-Salem State University and Virginia State University. The defending champion Winston-Salem State Rams were picked to claim the No. 1 spot in the South, with the Trojans of Virginia State selected as their northern counterpart.

The Trojans were co-chairpersons of the 1987 northern division race, sharing the honors with Hampton University. Hampton took second place in the balloting. Virginia Union, Norfolk State and Elizabeth City were third, fourth and fifth, respectively. St. Paul's College, a northern division team, suspended their football program earlier this summer.

Winston-Salem was a consensus No. 1 for the South, while positions two, three and four were hotly contested between North Carolina Central University, Johnson C. Smith University and Fayetteville State University. Bowie State University and Livingstone College drew the five and six slots.



**POSTER CHILD**—Antwan Jessale Melton of Cuiver City, Calif. has been selected the 1988-89 National Sickle Cell Poster Child for the National Association For Sickle Cell Disease, Inc. (NASCD). Antwan was selected by an outstanding panel of judges who had a difficult time selecting the youngster from a group of photos and bios submitted by local Chapters of the NASCD. Antwan, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Melton, was nominated by the Sickle Cell Disease Research Foundation of Los Angeles. He is eight years old and attends Roosevelt Elementary School. In spite of a severe stroke and numerous hospitalizations, he has not let this stop him. He is a verbal and energetic child and has a friendly smile for everyone.

### "Sharpeville Six" Get Another Day In Court

NEW YORK, N.Y.—South Africa's minister of justice has set Sept. 7 for the appeals court to hear oral arguments on reopening the case of the "Sharpeville Six," six young black South Africans sentenced to death in connection with the murder of the deputy mayor of the South African town of Sharpeville.

Joyce Mokhesi, sister of one of the six, told a United Methodist-sponsored news conference here Aug. 15 that Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee has stayed indefinitely the execution order to allow for exhaustion of the legal process.

Ms. Mokhesi, a student at Oxford University in England, is in the United States to urge the Reagan administration to plead for clemency for the six. She recently visited in

Washington with Michael H. Armacost, undersecretary of state for political affairs.

She said he is trying to arrange an appointment for her with President Reagan. She also has seen Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and France's President Francois Mitterrand.

Statements by Vice President George Bush and Massachusetts Gov. Michael S. Dukakis were distributed at the news conference. The vice president, noting that diplomatic pressures have led to several stays of execution, expressed hope that "this suspension will become permanent."

Dukakis said, "Justice and humanitarianism mandate that the Sharpeville Six be granted a new trial or clemency by President Botha." In

a telegram he sent to the South African president in June, the Democratic presidential candidate said execution of the six would "further dim your country's chance for peaceful change."

Asked what new evidence the defense has to present, Ms. Mokhesi said one of the state's two key witnesses, Joseph Manete, retracted his testimony against the six in an open letter in City Press, a South African newspaper. On July 10 he made similar statements on television, she said. He said his testimony had been induced by police torture.

Ms. Mokhesi's brother, Francis, 31, a professional football player, is married and has a daughter, Mamolise, 10, who is accompanying her aunt. He and five others were convicted of

subversion and murder in December 1985.

The Court of Appeals said it had not been proved that any of the six convicted of murder had caused the death of the deputy mayor. However, it upheld the death sentence on the basis of "common purpose" covering anyone part of a crowd when a crime is committed.

"By being present, they can be found guilty," Ms. Mokhesi explained. She added that 25 people had been convicted in Cape Province on the same basis.

Asked why these six are being prosecuted, she said nobody knows. "We understand they were taken at random."

Others convicted include an inspector (See COURT, P. 12)

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