

## Cheers & Tears Flow as NAACP Olympics' Medalists Win \$100Gs

by Larry A. Still  
NNPA News Service

(BALTIMORE, MD)— A touching memorial for a Chicago youth who won an NAACP gold medal for scientific achievement provided one of the most dramatic moments at the civil rights organization's 77th annual convention here. Over 100,000 in medals and prizes were awarded in the ceremony.

Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO), sponsored by the NAACP in cooperation with major corporations, choked with emotion and held back tears as he presented a \$10,000 prize in memory of Kevin Duster, previous winner of the gold and silver awards in the scholarly competition.

Duster, the 18-year-old great grandson of Ida B. Wells, a Chicago civil rights pioneer and a founder of the NAACP, died of leukemia last

### A Phillip Randolph Institute Hosts Regional Conference

The Las Vegas Chapter of the A. Phillip Randolph Institute (APRI) is hosting the 1986 Western Regional Conference on Friday, July 18 through Sunday, July 20 at the Frontier Hotel, according to Amos Knighten, local chapter director of public relations.

The theme of this year's conference is "Jobs and Justice: A black-labor agenda for Election '86." The program will include speakers and workshops on voter participation and grassroots lobbying. The conference will open on Saturday morning at 8 a.m. with registration and conclude on Sunday at 1 p.m. The APRI Western Regional Conference includes California, Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, Washington, and New Mexico.

National Black Labor Leaders addressing the delegates include Norman Hill, National President of APRI, Leon Lynch, Vice President of United Steel Workers, AF of L, CIO, Green Lewis, Assistant Director of Organization and Field Services of AF of L CIO, and Howard Richardson, Vice President, Hotel and Restaurant International Union.

Leon Green is the President of the newly reorganized Chapter of APRI.

Christmas day after winning ACT-SO medals in science and mathematics in 1984-85. Approximately 500 finalists from 2,200 chapters participated in the ceremony after a year of preliminary competition.

Three thousand spectators, cheering for over 60 winners in the 21 ACT-SO categories, temporarily sat in solemn silence as Kevin's father, Atty. Benjamin Duster, his brother, Atty. Benjamin Duster III, a Harvard Law School graduate and his godmother, Mrs. Claude (Geraldine) Buddy Young, joined in

citing young Duster's achievements in athletics and scholarship.

But, the packed audience of teenagers, parents and NAACP supporters continued to jump up in wild applause as each of the 63 winners received their gold, silver or bronze medals in true, drumbeat Olympic fashion from television star Kim Fields; her mother, Chip Fields, and Alfonso Robiero, Broadway star of the Tap Dance Kid.

"Act-SO is an attempt to organize a lost tradition (among Blacks). Once See ACT/SO, Page 12



**NATIONAL SELLERS**—Ms. Dasher King, seated at left, Marketing/Sales Coordinator for No-Tox Products Inc., and James Gekas, Buyer for Kmart, seated right, agree during recent talk at Kmart's offices in Troy, MI., to the placement of No-Tox's "Roachbusters Traps" and "Roachbusters Power" in Kmart's more than 2,100 stores in the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico. With them are, from left; Carl P. Rampy, Director of Marketing for Kmart, Hank Ford, Vice President, National Sales and Leon Wright, President of No-Tox. A minority owned firm based in Mt. Vernon, NY, and Phoenix, AZ, the No-Tox organization produces low-toxic pesticides for roaches and it promotes new and innovative ways to create employment for Blacks and Hispanics in inner-city areas. Kmart Corporation is the second largest, retailer in the world, offering high quality products at Kmart discount department stores, Kresge variety and Jupiter limited-line discount stores.

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