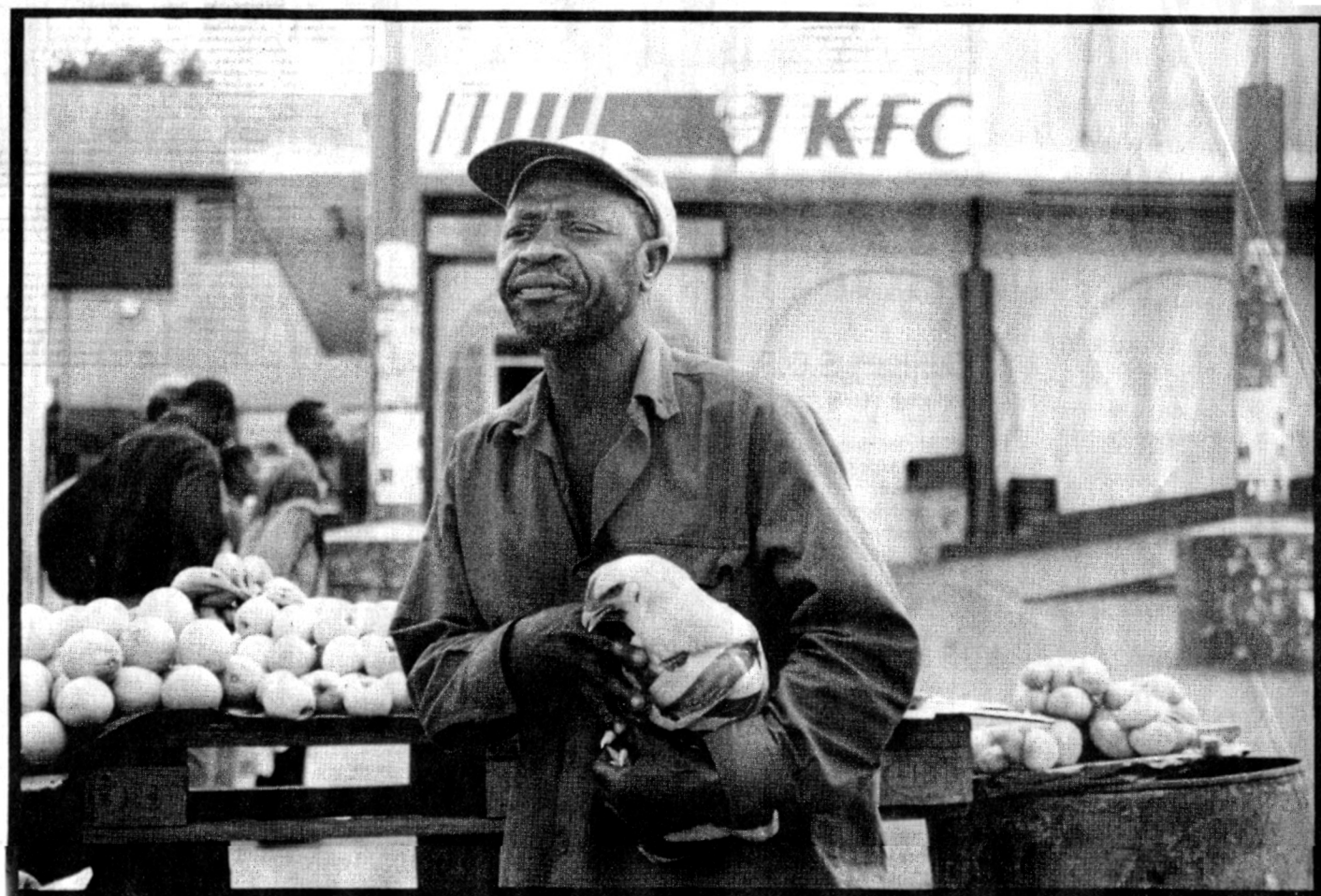


Southern California LIVING

This open-air market at Kwa-Mashu township is a mix of old and new. It has a Kentucky Fried Chicken, a supermarket and open-air slaughtering of livestock.



EAMON WRIGHT

L.A. youngsters take cameras to South Africa and return with a sobering view of world problems and an appreciation for life in America.

Eyes Wide Open

By BEVERLY BEYETTE
TIMES STAFF WRITER

With cameras around their necks and a mandate to photograph whatever intrigued them, they went off for two weeks to document life in South Africa from their perspective—that of 8- to 16-year-old urban Los Angeles kids.

They came home with stunning images—of AIDS orphans, the homeless, anti-American protesters, abject poverty. Not the stuff of tourist brochures. They came home, too, with a renewed appreciation for what they have and how they live—and a surprisingly mature take on excessive consumerism and the shallowness of looking good and wearing the right labels.

The six youngsters were among 7,000 delegates from 166 countries at the Third World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in August and September in Durban, a seaport on the

Please see Images, E3



RAE WRIGHT

An 11-year-old Afrikaner girl who had never seen a camera sits outside a homeless shelter.



SELENA VARGAS

Children play at the Ark, a homeless shelter near Durban.