

SPORTS

Red Wings' newest committed to Blacks

Detroit Red Wings fans will be encouraged this season after the June 15 acquisition of former St. Louis Blues left wing Tony McKegney.

McKegney is a native of Sarnia, Canada, a city near Detroit. McKegney recalls traveling to the Motor City as a boy to watch the Pistons, Tigers and Red Wings. How ironic that he's become a part of his past.

Meet McKegney and hear about how he'll add excitement on and off the ice to the Detroit Red Wings and to the Black community. See related story on Page D-1.

By Danton Wilson  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

(Part one of a series)

In an exclusive Michigan Chronicle interview, Detroit Mayor Coleman A. Young blasted the local media for biased news coverage and offered stinging responses to the campaign comments of those he is expected to face in the mayoral election.

The mayor also spoke on what he saw as the major accomplishments of his 15-year tenure as the city's leader and what he considered the greatest disappointments.

Young said he believes a lot of Detroiters have "bought into"

**YOUNG HIGHLIGHTS**  
In the first installment of Chronicle's exclusive interview on Page 5-A, Young speaks out on Tom Barrow, Erma Henderson and the special investigative unit.

what he said was the media-created notion of downtown development at the expense of neighborhood development. And he issued a challenge to those Detroiters who express that concern: "Believe what your eyes see and not what the newspapers tell you to believe."

He said he is " saddened and angry " by the violent deaths of young people throughout the nation and blamed a tragic cycle of unemployment leading to drugs which lead to violence. Though the increased violence is society-wide and does not stop at suburban or rural borders, Young said cities like Detroit face the most intense crime problems because

In exclusive interview

they have the most intense unemployment problems.

While some Detroit businessmen point to Atlanta or Chicago as trailblazers in the area of minority contractor gains, Young pointed to recently released statistics that prove Detroit far surpasses those city's performance when it comes to contracts with minority business people.

And though he stopped short of announcing his candidacy for mayor — it to decide — the mayor did say he thought the election would be an "extremely in-

(Con't. on page 5-A)

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News & More

Martins invade city for reunion

T-shirt entrepreneurs, get your "Martin" stickers ready.

The 28th annual "United Martin Family Reunion" is expected to draw over 1,000 members of the clan to Detroit, starting Friday, June 30.

Mayoral Executive Assistant Fred Martin Jr., chairman of the reunion, said the theme for this year's meeting is "A Legacy for Our Youth."

Other notable Martin family members are former Detroit Schools Superintendent Arthur Jefferson, Charles F. Bolden Jr., NASA astronaut, Ralph Carter of "Good Times" fame, New York Episcopal Bishop Richard Martin and "The River Niger" playwright, Joseph Walker.

The Martin clan, which includes "over" 100 Detroit members, originated in Jenkinsville, SC. The last Detroit reunion was held in 1982.

Council candidate calls for salaries cut

Retired Detroit food store operator Ray Shoulders, who filed for candidacy in the Detroit City Council races this week, is calling for a ten percent pay cut for council members and a return to the ward system.

A recent legislative ruling tabled the ward system issue until the next City Council election.

In outlining his "vision for the future," Shoulders said, "I want to play a role in rebuilding Detroit. We must develop new ideals and attitudes favorable to political, economic and social institutions, including commercial development."

A long-time activist in Detroit's neighborhood stores community, Shoulders is vice-chairman of the Michigan Food & Beverage Assn. and a board member of Friends of the Michigan State Fair.

Among his other platforms, Shoulders wants to "inspire people to come back to Detroit" in order to promote "better race relations with all people regardless of their background."

Pantry funds quandary here

A Northwestern member had to suspend operations of his food pantry because Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds are reportedly being held up by city officials.

James DeLee, who operates Mt. Nebo Resource Center, said he relies on the FEMA allotments — which range from \$5,000-\$10,000 annually — to provide canned goods and other commodities to an estimated 6,000 recipients each year.

City officials, who have distribution control of the federal monies, have questioned

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KING RAP

A Look At Its

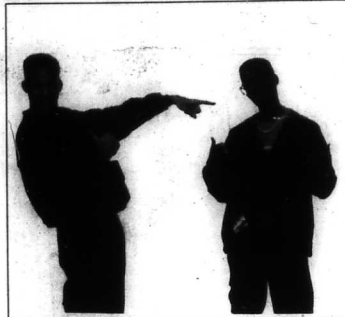
Continuing Reign

(Part one of a series)

By Alvin Steele  
CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

**Y**ou can love it, or you can hate it. But you can't really deny it: this is the age of rap.

The beat seeps into ears from booming trucks and private earphones. The words find their way into classrooms and family discussions. Television commercials and giant billboards use the rapping technique to market products ranging from speakers to refrigerators. From Waycross, Georgia to rap's mecca in New York, young people are tuned in to the rap beat.



D.J. JAZZY JEFF and the Fresh Prince, one of the many rap groups dominating today's airwaves, is sending out the indisputable message that rap music is here to stay.



SALT N' PEPA recognized as the queens of rap music, were the first female rappers to gain national appeal.

—Andre Smith photo

Rap is no longer simply a musical genre. It has spilled over into society and become a culture.

But to what end? What are the consequences of this invasion of rhymes that critics say range from the truly inspired to the truly terrible?

Local educators, activists and political leaders say categorizing rap as a "good" or "bad" is a futile effort. And they say it's much too powerful to be ignored. Rap's potential for negative regression is perhaps only matched by its potential for positive education.

"I'm not all that familiar with it," said Deputy Mayor Adam Shakoor, considered the city's crime czar. "I've heard raps that send out some positive messages. And I've heard some that really don't even belong in a gutter conversation. I think we should encourage our children to be

wise and selective in what they listen to.

"We should support the ones who are positive. Music, and the whole media industry — from movies to records — have contributed to the crime and violence that we see in society. We African Americans should be especially concerned about that because our folks tend to be more intensely involved in listening to the radio, watching television and going to the movies. There is a definite relationship between that and the violence we see in the community."

But Shakoor says supporting positive rappers is only a start. A larger battle, he says, is to wear young people from the distracting attachment to non-stop electronic stimulation.

"Yes, many young people tend to spend too much time listening to radios and watching television, as opposed to the more positive things they could be doing — like going to the library and reading or discovering some of the areas of historical meaningfulness to us. They could, for example, broaden their experiences to include a trip to the Underground Railroad terminal at Second Baptist Church."

Bob Law, host of a national Black call-in talk show

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RHYME & RAP REASON

Steve Halsey looks at history of rap and rappers. Page 1-B

W.L.L. Cool J speaks against drugs. Page 8-A

Editorial: Open letter to rappers. Page 8-A

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Agent Orange victims can get help

By Jill Day-Foley  
CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

For the 400,000 Vietnam-era veterans in Michigan, the battlefields they left 14 years ago still loom as an awful reality for their today. Due to exposure to toxic defoliants, most common of which is Agent Orange, studies show that the horrors of war may be with veterans and their families for the next generations.

The combat continues as the federal government still lags in taking definitive action, the Michigan Agent Orange Commission (MADC) drags its feet and

conflicting study results cloud answers to veterans' questions, charge members of the Great Lakes Association of Combat Veterans (GLACV).

"The truth and the human reality of what is happening is all we need," said Greg Krowitnik, who has compiled a vast amount of information on the various defoliants used in Vietnam and their effects based on state studies. "We're very unhappy with the commission's progress; we're not pleased with it in its present form or its activities."

Larry Pilkinton, of the

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MANY VIETNAM veterans are or were victims of Agent Orange.

Calvert denied Young relationship in 1988 report

By William Patterson  
CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

Anniversary Calvert last year denied under oath several times that she ever had dated Mayor Young or had been his social companion.

Calvert made the denial in a sworn deposition given Feb. 2, 1988, at Police Headquarters. Her testimony was in connection with a former Detroit police officer who had asked her to move her illegally parked car during

the 1984 Grand Prix here.

According to witnesses, Officer Curtis Burton, who has since retired on disability from the force, approached a city car driven by Calvert and occupied by her mother, Yvette Porter, two sisters, Mary Ann and Charlotte Porter, and Calvert's 20-month-old child, Joel, and asked her to move it because she was blocking an entrance to a parking lot on E. Jefferson and Orleans.

Calvert reportedly refused and demanded that Burton check

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Police brutality complaints follow Pistons' celebration

By Charles Williams  
CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

Elka and Erica Gaston were celebrating a friend's birthday at a downtown club June 18, the same night the Pistons won the NBA championship.

In retrospect, they've concluded they were in the wrong place at the wrong time. The Gastons

have filed a complaint with the prosecutors' office after allegedly being beaten up by between 10 and 30 Detroit police officers who were on duty during the Detroit Pistons' championship celebration.

The Gastons' attorney, Kerry Jackson, said a prosecuting attorney has not been assigned yet. The matter will be investigated by the Detroit Police Dept. Office

of Professional Standards. After a two month investigation the findings will be turned over to the Police Commission that will either file criminal charges or drop the matter.

Jackson said the Gastons will file assault and battery charges and a civil suit they are preparing. After its internal review, the Detroit Police Dept. could fire or

suspend the officers. Non of the officers have been identified by name.

According to the citizens' complaint, the Gastons were driving home after celebrating the birthday of Ashraf Ghadieh, a 22-year-old student at Wayne County Community College (WCCC). Also riding with the Gastons and Ghadieh was Ray Hines, 26. At the corner of Farmer and Bates,

the van was struck by a bottle thrown from a large crowd which had formed after the Pistons won the NBA championship.

The complaint said Ghadieh, the Gastons and Hines got out of the van to check the damage when several officers approached them and told them to get back in the van.

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