

Recording artist M'city Solo shares his motivational story with Potton youth



THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

On Saturday evening, May 18, gifted Montreal performer, songwriter, recording artist and motivational speaker, M'city Solo was a guest at the leadership retreat weekend for youth organized by the Missisquoi North Youth Centre. The weekend aims at building leadership skills, team involvement and personal growth for members of the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Mansonville chapter and the Former Youth Involvement (FYI) committee; both programs are under the umbrella of the Missisquoi North Youth Program in Mansonville.

Twenty youth as well as staff and volunteers welcomed M'city Solo and his team for dinner and the meal was followed by a presentation and musical performance. From his arrival until his departure, "Solo" soon learned that he was in the presence of youth who both appreciated and related to his inspiring

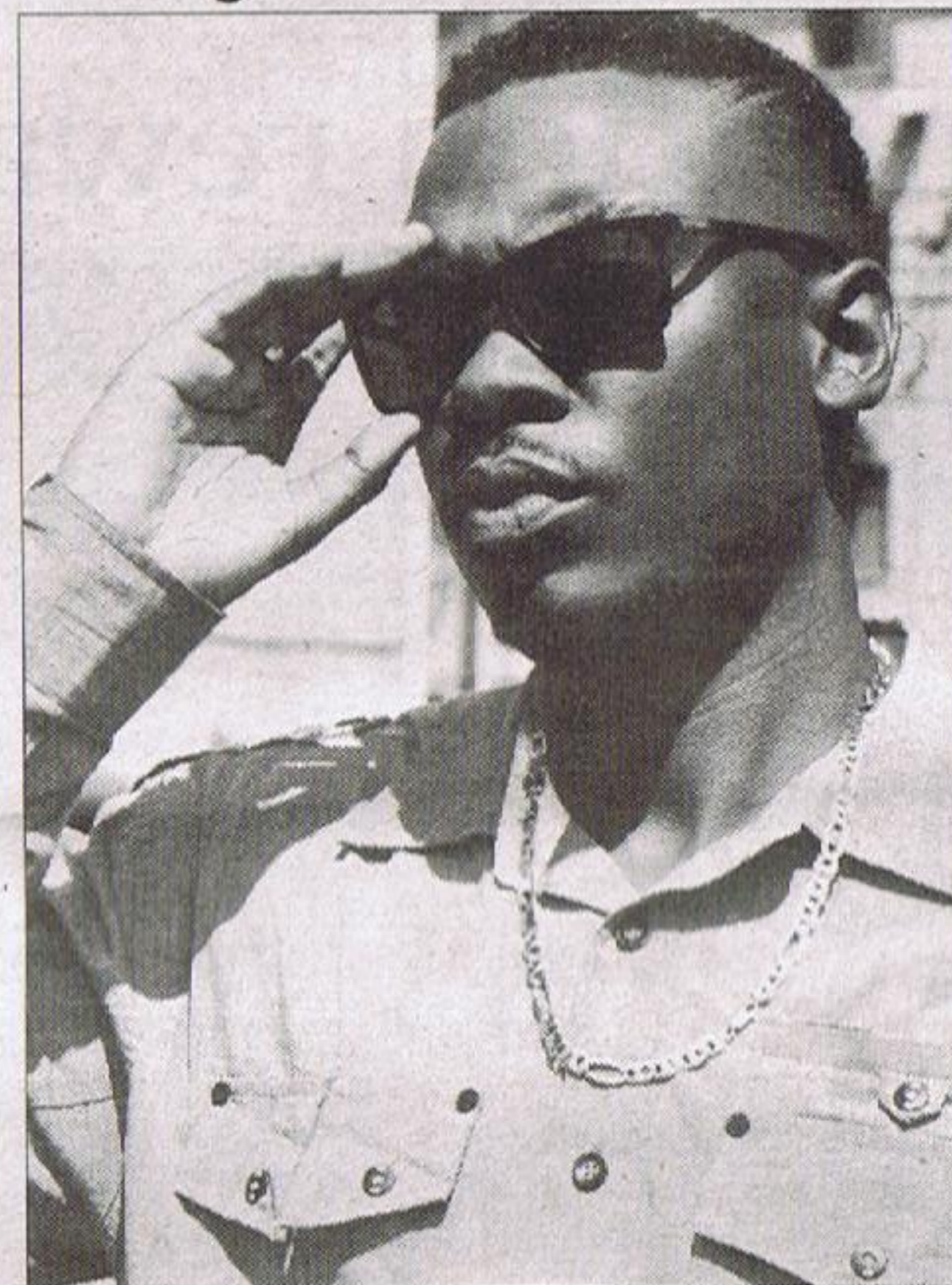
message.

Solo is a gifted hip-hop recording artist, songwriter, performer and motivational speaker. His musical style is a dynamic mix of modern pop and hip-hop, with a distinctly Caribbean flavour (a tribute to his proud Trinidadian culture).

In 2005 Solo, alongside his brother and business partner, created "The Music with Meaning Tour;" an inspirational school tour that combines music with a motivational message. This tour has become a platform for Solo to fulfill his passion for giving back to the community, while perfecting his performance skills. With over 250 shows to date and over 50,000 youth benefiting from "The Music with Meaning Tour," Solo can also add to his resume "Community Leader," as he has demonstrated the ability to impact the lives of youth as a result of these presentations.

During his down time, Solo continues to share his talent and positive message by performing at camps, community centres, private parties, bar mitzvahs, concerts, fairs and festivals. Also accredited to him, Solo is the first Montreal Hip Hop artist to get a production deal with Akon's Hitlab Records. Whether it's solely through his music or music attached to a motivational presentation, Solo gives 110 per cent every time.

M'city Solo is currently in studio putting the final touches on his upcoming full-length concept album that will



COURTESY

Montreal performer, songwriter, recording artist and motivational speaker, M'city Solo

bring listeners on an emotional journey through the issues facing the world today. He also has a series of singles available on iTunes.

The SADD and FYI youth and young adults have long been active in supporting positive initiatives to better the lives of youth and the communities in which they live. Empowering youth by providing information, giving opportunities for them to become active and involved and by offering some positive encouragement, there is a hope that youth will find their "place" and feel validated in

their ability to contribute.

In a fast paced world, M'city Solo encourages youth to take the time allotted to "just be a kid. In our day growing up, when we played video games, it was stuff like 'Mario,'" said Solo. "Today, kids at that same age are playing 'Call of Duty.' The world has definitely changed," he added.

Solo encouraged the youth to seek out adults in times of difficulty because, as he explained, many of them have gone through some of the same stuff that kids are facing. Sometimes a little experience makes way for some good advice and feedback.

Beyond his powerful message, Solo's immense talent as a songwriter and his refined ability to perform, came shining through. With ease, honesty and understanding, Solo worked the crowd of youth making them feel that they'd made a new friend with a kindred spirit and one heck of an ability to perform!

Solo has performed at Massey Vanier High School in Cowansville and it was obvious that he had built a relationship and following with the kids in the group who attend the high school and had seen his shows there. Immediately, Solo remembered their names and referred to exchanges he had had with the youth while at the school.

Any school or group looking for a performer with a powerful and positive message for youth should contact M'city Solo and his team. He is "real" and he can relate to the kids and that is where making a difference really begins.

Contact McitySOLO@gmail.com / 514-651-4545/ www.McitySOLO.com

The Record archives book

Volume 2 (1921-1930) HAS ARRIVED!