



*D&C Photo by Jay Reiter*  
Jazz pianist Monty Alexander.

# Jazz Session At Monticello

By ROBERTA PLUTZIK

The Rowntowner Motor Inn on Jefferson Road played host this week to an MCI eight-track, \$13,500 tape deck. It remained placidly behind the scenes in room 106 while recording the funky keyboard jazz of pianist Monty Alexander for the German label, MPS.

Alexander, 27, and a native of Kingston, Jamaica, has been packing 'em in at the Inn's Monticello Restaurant since early last month. Rounding out his trio is the incomparable bassist, Eugene Wright, who played for many years with Dave Brubeck, and drummer Bobby Durham.

Alexander said he chose Rochester for his live in-concert album because of the fine reception he has had here among jazz buffs and other musically inclined dinnertime listeners.

moved in from the Top of the Plaza for the event was equipped with three long-necked microphones over the keyboard. Alexander told the audience Wednesday night and last night that the recording session would be "just like any other night of the week—except this stuff is here."

So people resumed conversations, ate heartily and clapped often while Monty and MCI eight-track went to work.

The trio began with a medley of old favorites played in the Art Tatum, grand-old-jazz-melodies styles. "You Stepped Out of a Dream" was first.

Alexander plays in quick tempos. His effervescence brings to mind a phrase especially common at more steamy jazz clubs. "He's really hot tonight."

Bassist Wright showed the style for which he is famous—playing every beat or "walk-

A Steinway grand piano.

Please turn page