Jet-setting lover of jazz helped bring festival

For seven summers, Livonian Don Lupp has been taking his love of jazz to one of today's great fountains of the art — the Montreux International Jazz Festival in Switzerland.
This year, the head of Henry For Community College's music department will again head a jazz studies program at Montreux, an arts loving commant at Montreux, an arts loving comgram at Montreux, an arts loving com-munity that faces Geneva down a long

For Don Lupp, you might say it began with a 1972 conversation between a Swiss consulate who happens to be a

a Swiss consulate who happens to be a jazz buff and a Swiss airlines official. Or you might go back farther, to his early years of growing up as a student of wind instruments and an admirer of jazz greats like Bennie Goodman and Johnny Hodges.

BECAUSE OF his long interest in iazz, he listened attentively when he

heard from the airlines man that the Swiss consul thought it strange that people in this country didn't know about the famed Montreux feetival. Lupp certainly knew about the festi-val, a meeting of the best in bands that began during the 1969s as a weekend competition for the right to represent Europe at the classic Newport Jazz Festival. By the time he talked to the airlines man, it had become a big event in its own right.

in its own right.

"He wanted me to go for a package deal to take some students to the festival," Lupp said. "I wasn't interested in that."

at. But eventually the music teacher did But eventually the music teacher did put together a summer studies package for college students, and he took it to Monreux where he met with Michael Ferla, president of the Montreux festi-val, and Raymond Jaussi, a leading cit-izen of the Swiss city.

val, and Haymond Jaussi, a leading cir-izen of the Swiss city.
"I included in the program courses in English and ecology, because music seems to be always at the low end of the totem pole," said Lupp. "But as it turned out, the jazz studies program was the only part that survived."

JAZZ STUDIES have been going on at Montreux every summer since 1972, with bands from colleges around the country auditioning by sending tapes to Lupp at Henry Ford Community Col-lege.

Then they head for the Swiss city each July, working in jobs like

chauffering the visiting bands and setting up for them and getting in some studies as well as the opportunity to hear some of the world's best jazz. Lupp is on hand each summer to direct the program. This summer the dates are July 4-20.

"As a musician in a two-year college I was especially interested in setting up this kind of program," he said. "There is the opportunity to have a jazz program in a two-year college which in other ways cannot compete with four-year music programs."

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year music programs."
This year, while noting with some satisfaction that Wayne State University is just beginning to offer a degree in jazz study, Lupp is turning a lot of attention to the development that will put the eyes of the musical world on Detroit.

From Aug. 28 through Sept. 1, top jazz musicians from all over will converge on the motor city, putting on a myriad of concerts on the riverfront, in Hart Plaza and in Music Hall.

Hart Plaza and in Music Hall.

The announcement of the first North
American edition of the Montreux festival was made early this year by Detroit Mayor Coleman Young with Jaussi, Ferla and Robert McCabe, president
of the Detroit Renaissance Foundation,
joining him at historic Music Hall.

The festival will be sponsored by the Renaissance Foundation in cooperation with the Detroit Plaza Hotel, Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts

WHILE PLANS for the weekend of WHILE PLANS for the Weekend or stellar performances involve renowned professional musicians from all over the country and local stars on the jazz scene, Lupp's main involvement will be with student musicians when he comes home from Montreux in Switzerland to Montreux Detroit.

before the second and the second and

Sunday. Tickets and schedules will be available in record and music stores.

LUPP, WHO began his university work in engineering, switched to music

Summer season announced

Three comedies and a Pulitzer Prize-winning musical are this summer's Michigan Repertory '80 season, according to Jean Galan, general manager of the Professional Theatre Program at the University of Michigan.

at the University of Michigan.
Running in repertory
July 9 through Aug. 9,
with a break for the Ann
Arbor Street Fair, are "A
Midsummer Night's
Dream," "Blithe Spirit,"
"La Ronde" and "Ol Thee
I Sing,"
As in past summers,
theatergoers will be invited to have a picnic
supper in Feich Park, in
front of the Power Center
for the Performing Arts,
prior to curtain.





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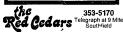
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