

for your friendship to end" is subtly whispered by Rhoda Daker and Stan Campbell in "Racist Friend". "War Crimes" and "Free Nelson Mandela" are equally biting in their depiction of man's injustices to his own kind. The anti-racist focus of the Special AKA may be too much for some people and if it is too strong for you, well I guess you know what you are.

**D.T.**  
**Prince and the Revolution: Purple Rain**  
(Warner Bros./WEA)

Prince has arrived with his latest album and is now the undisputed champion of American rock stars "Purple Rain" is unquestionably the best album to be released in the past year and confirms what many have been claiming for years — that Prince is a genuine musical genius. At least this is what everyone from Rolling Stone on up wants you to believe. Well babies, "Purple Rain" is in fact a

giant step down from "1999" with nothing as danceable as "Delirious" "Purple Rain" has only one great song ("When Doves Cry") with the rest simply products of Prince's continuous musical masturbation. There is very little on "Purple Rain" which shows more than a flicker of genius on Prince's part and this 40 minute sob story of his wretched life only proves that Prince is concerned about noone other than himself. I'll take Bruce over this anyway.

**Little Steven and the Disciple of Soul: Voice of America** (EMI/Capitol)

No longer content to hide in Bruce's shadow, Steven Van Zant has burst forth into his own and has severed all ties with his former boss on his second album with the Disciples of Soul. "Voice of America" as the title suggests, is very American in focus ("I'm A Patriot" "Undefeated" and the title track) but the energy present throughout the album

should make it attractive to the listener despite the American excesses in the lyrics. "Checkpoint Charlie" is very close to the musical style of "Nebraska" and in several other places you may say to your self "Wasn't this on Darkness?" However, if you're best friends with Bruce Springsteen for twenty years, you have to be influenced to a degree. "Voice of America" is a welcome blast of rock and roll with a little bit of soul and is a pleasing change from grey skies and long trenchcoats.

**D.T.**

**La Toya Jackson - Heart Don't Lie** (Epic/CBS)

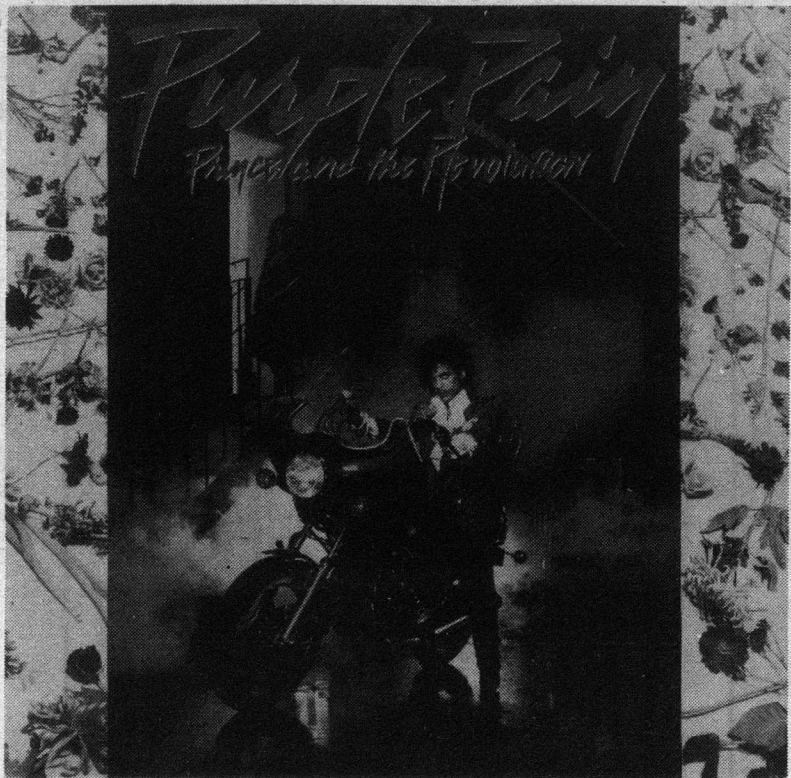
The Jackson backlash has started. Most everyone now feels slightly nauseated whenever Michael and his family are mentioned; proof of this may be seen in the disappointing sales of "Victory" the Jackson's reunion

album. Even more snubbed has been sister La Toya's solo album, "Heart Don't Lie". This is a shame since this is one very hot piece of vinyl. The title track has HIT written all over it, with fine choral help from Musical Youth. La Toya has a very attractive voice and it is showcased to its full potential by the techniques employed by ace producer Amir Bayyan; the record has a crisp sound due to Bayyan. "Heart Don't Lie" oozes energy and La Toya Jackson shows that she belongs in the uppercrust of female vocalists alongside Donna Summer, Rachel Sweet and Tina Turner.

**D.T.**

**Lou Reed New Sensations** (RCA)

It has been a long time coming but Lou Reed has finally gotten his act back together from the startling lovely "I Love You Suzanne" through to the closing sparsenes



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