## Florida National Guardsmen keep interstate safe



Wilson sit in a cam-

ouflaged military vehicle on the median known enemy lurking in the shadows or

in a passing car.

The two are among 150 Florida National Guardsmen involved in "Operation Overpass," designed to protect motorists on a highway where a series of sniper and rock-throwing attacks have killed one person and injured others.

The patrols began Friday night, two sary "so people will feel better about

JACKSONVILLE, days after the American Automobile Association issued a warning to motorists Gregory Lawrence to avoid the busy highway, a major gateand Pvt. James way for tourists entering Florida from the

On Wednesday, police announced the of Interstate 295 and watch for an un- arrest of two teen-age boys in one attack in which a woman was shot in the ear. The two were charged with attempted

> Lawrence and Wilson are members of the Florida National Guard's 146th Signal Battalion.

Wilson, who works for a private security company, said the patrols are neces-

'Our role as a deterrent and reassure the public is to be as visible as possible."

> Sgt. Doug Johnson, National Guard spokesman

traveling 295.

Norman LeBert, general manager of the Comfort Inn on U.S. 17 and Interstate 295 in Orange Park, thinks the patrols are working.

sight," he said. "I wish they were not

Since February, there have been 37 confirmed rock and sniper attacks. One motorist was killed when he was hit in the head by a chunk of concrete. He lost control of his car and it crashed into a wooded area. Another motorist was critically injured in late July when someone shot her from another car.

"Our role as a deterrent and reassure the public is to be as visible as possible," said Sgt. Doug Johnson, a Guard spokes-

## Detroit citizens mourn police victim

tersection of Warren and 23rd, where empty lots and boarded buildings still bear witness to the riots of the 1960s, there's a new focal point: the police violence of the 1990s.

On a wall adorned by flowers is a plastic-covered picture of Malice Green, a 35-year-old man beaten to death by police last week.

It has become a gathering point for neighborhood residents who come to see the spot where Green died, to see where gravel has been spread to hide the blood stains.

'I can't believe this is happening in my city," Carrie Washington, a mother of three grown children, said in frustration. "The police used to be our

The death of the black motorist at the hands of a racially mixed group of police has riled this city, noted for its integrated, neighborhood-based policing

The case resounds with disquieting echoes the Rodney King case. But those familiar with Detroit's police say Malice Green's death points to something else: an undermanned force lacking the money or leadership to weed out "thumpers," the violent cops of

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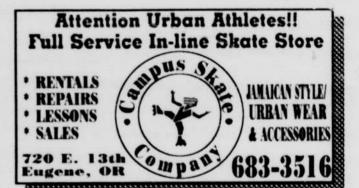
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Green, an unemployed father of five, died from head injuries in a fracas Thursday with po-

While no official details have been released, witnesses say the confrontation began as Green dropped off a friend near a boarded-up hair salon sus-

Two plainclothes officers in a "power unit," an unmarked car assigned to high crime areas, confronted Green. Witnesses said police began beating him when he refused to drop something in his hand, identified variously as a wallet, a piece of paper, or drugs.







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