

NAPIER GUILTY IN SLAYING

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Friday, September 27, 1985

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Young Boys Inc. hit man Kurt (Kurt McGurk) **Napier** pleaded **guilty** Thursday to second-degree murder for the May 1983 Detroit street-corner assassination of Joseph (Wamp) Brown.

Originally charged with first-degree murder, **Napier**, whom the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office called Detroit's Public Enemy No. 1, pleaded **guilty** to the reduced charge, including a firearm violation, **in** exchange for a prosecution recommendation of a 10-to-20-year prison sentence.

Speaking **in** a barely audible voice, **Napier** told Recorder's Court Judge M. John Shamo: "I seen Joseph Brown standing on the corner of Concord and Benson and I shot him."

Napier is to be sentenced Oct. 4.

Napier, now 20, already is serving a 20-to-40-year prison sentence for the wounding of Gregory Kendricks, who was shot the same day Brown was killed. **Napier** also is serving a four-year narcotics sentence for a violation of state drug laws and has another four-year drug sentence pending **in** federal prison.

Investigators believe the Kendricks and Brown shootings were part of a last bloody settling of old scores and grudges before members of Young Boys Inc., a citywide drug operation run mostly through juveniles, went to prison.

Napier was tried last year for Brown's death, but a Recorder's Court jury could not reach a unanimous verdict.

Memo: **in** court; dateline Michigan

Edition: METRO FINAL

Section: NWS

Page: 18A

Index Terms: PRISON ; LAWSUIT ; VERDICT ; DRUG ; YOUNG BOYS INC ; KURT NAPIER; AGE

Record Number: 8502080916

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