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# Detroit Free Press

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SPORTS, 1C

## Dantonio can still make gutsy calls

"Little Giants" play reminds us of the risks he used to take.



METRO, 5A

## Amazon eyes Silverdome site

Former stadium site to become distribution center.



PLAY, 1D

## The making of 'Ad Astra'

Brad Pitt reflects on the challenges sci-fi epic posed.

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Mostly sunny. Forecast, 2A



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# GM 'poured gas on the fire'

Expert says yanking health care from striking workers not a good call

Inside

Phoebe Wall Howard Detroit Free Press | USA TODAY NETWORK

Within 36 hours of the UAW strike against General Motors, the Detroit automaker announced a decision to shift worker health care payments to the union immediately — a strategy that risks dragging out the strike, labor negotiators say.

"They're pouring gasoline on the fire," said Harry Katz, the Jack Sheinkman Professor of Collective Bargaining at the School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University. "This induces the workers to get more angry. GM thinks this will scare them or get them to rethink the cost of their benefits."

I think it's going to backfire. It's quick, rash and insensitive."

In response to criticism, GM spokesman Pat Morrissey referred to the company's statement released Tuesday: "We understand strikes are difficult and disruptive to families. While on strike, some benefits shift to being funded by the union's strike fund, and in this case hourly employees are eligible for union-paid COBRA so their health care benefits can continue."

Katz, though, compared the tone of the move to how GM abruptly announced planned factory shutdowns in November

■ Negotiators buckle down but no deal in sight, **1B**

■ Sticking point in talks is over health care, **3B**

■ Worker walks two picket lines, in Michigan and Ohio, **1B**

■ GM strike exposes America's broken labor law, **15A**

See **HEALTH CARE**, Page 6A

### GOSPEL'S KIERRA SHEARD TO JOIN MOTOWN 60TH CELEBRATION



Gospel singer Kierra Sheard performs Friday in a live recording at Greater Emmanuel in Detroit. The forthcoming album, a blend of studio tracks and the live material, is due for release next year. JUNFU HAN/DFP

## 'God always meets me there,' Detroit star singer says

As she neared the end of a musically eclectic, often exhilarating gospel recording session Friday night, Kierra Sheard let loose a declaration of creative independence:

"Don't box me in!"

Inside the recently renovated sanctuary at Greater Emmanuel, the west-side Detroit church founded by her pastor father, the young gospel star was deep in the spirit of the moment. Having battled through what appeared to be early nerves and technical issues, Sheard had just served up a triumphant performance of new and vintage music for a pumped-up crowd that included some of gospel's glitterati.

"It was just a smart way to go," Sheard said of her choice to cut a live record. "I'm



**Brian McCollum**  
Columnist  
Detroit  
Free Press  
USA TODAY  
NETWORK

See **MCCOLLUM**, Page 7A

## Michigan shops have 14 days to take flavored vapes off shelves

Kathleen Gray and Kristen Jordan Shamus  
Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Michigan retailers will have 14 days to remove flavored vapes from their shelves under emergency rules released by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services on Wednesday.

Michigan was the first state to issue a ban on flavored vapes in the midst of growing health concerns surrounding vaping. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is investigating more than 450 cases of lung disease that some officials believe were triggered by vaping. At least seven deaths have been attributed to the lung disease.

In Michigan, the state health department has identified seven confirmed and one probable case of severe lung disease associated with vaping. The department also is investigating an additional 16 possible cases that have been reported by health care providers.

See **VAPING BAN**, Page 6A



Michigan was the first state to issue a ban on flavored vapes in the midst of growing health concerns surrounding vaping. AP

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