



A MYTH FOR OUR TIMES

Who wants to live forever? This is not just a line from the cheesy Queen song, but a normal question in an age when science seems to be making serious attempts to prolong life. In a study in the *British Medical Journal*, it's stated that drinking milk really can help you live longer. Other scientists found that mice that were given the drug rapamycin lived 28 per cent longer than their drug-free counterparts, raising hopes it could do the same for humans. But be warned. Immortality may not be all that. In a Greek myth the prince Tithonos is given eternal life by Aphrodite. But because he forgets to ask for eternal youth too, he ages just the

same, thus spending his eternal life as a very old man with pains and complaints. And whatever you may think about Michael Jackson, on this subject at least he had a point. Knowing he was not going to live forever, he lived his life in the spirit of eternal youth. He'll become a myth yet.

The picture is taken from the August 1985 issue of *Ebony*. Artist Nathan Wright was asked to look into the future and 'age' black stars accordingly. In the magazine Wright said he expected time to be kind to Michael.