

Yukho Abe, a junior high schooler from Farmington, plays her solo as Oakland Youth Symphony's musical director, Erwin Monroe, looks on approvingly. (Photo by Mary Doerr)

## Virtuoso at 14

# Violinist displays skill

By MARY DOERR

If Yukho Abe is typical of the quality of musicians in the Oakland Youth Symphony, every teenager in Oakland County serious about music should consider auditioning.

In Sunday's final concert of the season at Oakland University's Varner Hall, Yukho soloed with the orchestra playing the Third Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, Op. 61 by Saint-Saens.

A violin virtuoso now 14, she has been the concert-mistress for the orchestra this season. Earlier last winter, she won second prize in the concerto competitions entitling her to play a solo with the orchestra.

Considering the talent that she displayed Sunday so early in her life, one can only imagine what lies ahead. She is nothing short of extraordinary.

THE 63-PIECE orchestra also played Scherzo Capriccioso in D Flat Major Op. 66 by Dvorak under the symphony's associate conductor James

Hohmeyer, Hohmeyer was honored nationally recently for his conducting skills.

After the intermission, Erwin Monroe, music director, conducted the orchestra in three dances from "The Gayne Ballet" by Khachaturian and concluded the concert with a stirring rendition of the Finnish National Anthem "Finlandia."

From start to finish the concert was an exciting one.

The personable Monroe, who is the principal flutist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, has his students well trained.

"They are fresh and enthusiastic with eagerness to learn," said Monroe. "They are extremely sharp and critical but never cynical."

THE SUCCESS of the youth symphony lies in the relationship of its two conductors with their young musicians.

"Monroe is the glue that holds this thing together," said symphony vice

president Whitney Miller.

But Monroe is also backed up by extremely capable Hohmeyer, who is ready to take over at any time.

Officially or unofficially, the Oakland Youth Symphony became the youth orchestra of the Meadow Brook Music Festival with its successful "Young Peoples' Concert" last summer.

The two-week youth symphony summer camp will provide its participants again with the opportunity to play on the Baldwin Pavilion and meet the members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Master classes and listening sessions have been planned at the DSO rehearsals.

To anyone who is a young musician thinking about music professionally, the Oakland Youth Symphony is an excellent place for training.

More is going to be heard about this orchestra.

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## Milburns celebrate 65th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Milburn Sr. of Farmington Hills will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on May 31.

They have lived in the Detroit area all of their married life and have lived in Farmington Hills for 50 years.

Milburn is retired from Local 59 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers since June, 1961. He and his wife Jo have four children, Josephine Turnbull of Redford Township, Ray Jr. of California, Earl of Livonia and Carl of Milford.

They have 12 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.



MR. and MRS. RAY MILBURN SR.

## Mercy High students selected for national forensics competition

Four students of Our Lady of Mercy High School in Farmington Hills will participate in the National Catholic Forensics League competition in Boston.

They are: Kathy Klein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Klein of Farmington Hills; Jeanne Kolinski, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kolinski of Detroit; Virginia Minolli, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Minolli of Livonia and

Lori Mirek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Mirek of Southfield.

The students will compete in the following categories: Ms. Klein in declamation; Ms. Kolinski and Ms. Mirek in dramatic interpretation and Virginia Minolli in extemporaneous.

Each category is judged on the basis of the student's pitch, clarity of presentation, vocal delivery and expression.

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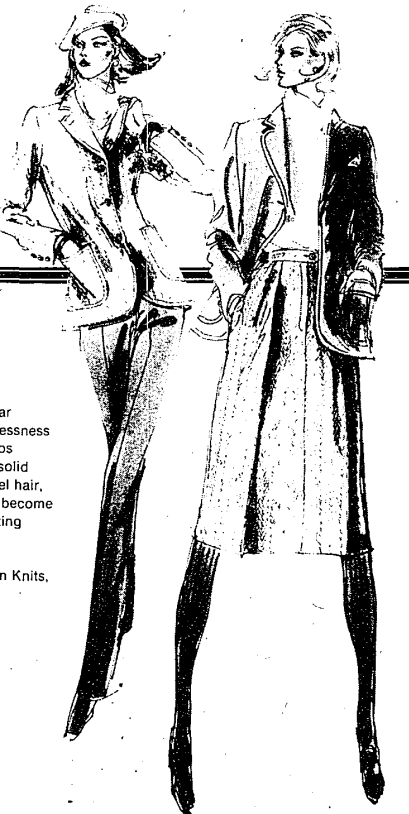
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Our next Designer Collection Show is St. John Knits, Tuesday, June 3

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