

# Strong leadership leads to good music

By JOHN PEARSON  
The Scandinavian Symphony Orchestra Society of Detroit presented its second concert of the 1974-75 season recently at Southfield High School.

Celebrating its 43rd year of performance in the Detroit area, the symphony featured Mrs. Susan Nye performing the Dvorak B Minor Cello Concerto. Additional selections by Mozart and Sibelius completed the night's program.

The Scandinavian Symphony is a collection of enthusiastic amateurs encompassing a wide range of age groups and exhibiting extreme variations in talent. It must be one of the few groups in the Detroit area in which a seasoned veteran such as Michal Michaloff can use his vast experience and talent alongside a teenager whose total concert exposure has been with his high school orchestra.

Such an apparent mismatch of personnel might lead to confusion and loose performance standards if not for

the strong leadership of Valter Poole. Maestro Poole is well known in the Detroit area for his fine work with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and his current position as Professor of Music at Wayne State University.

THE GROUP'S opening selections consisted of the G major "Nachtmusik" Serenade by Mozart plus works by Sibelius and Rimsky-Korsakoff. While each piece exhibited minor problems in the execution, there were easily overlooked due to the enthusiasm and enjoyment generated by the group. Unfortunately, the one serious problem that cannot be excused by the label "amateur," is the lack of attention to pitch control.

The evening's star attraction was Mrs. Susan Nye, performing the Dvorak B Minor Cello Concerto. This work is considered very difficult and Mrs. Nye performed with obvious talent and authority. But one had the feeling that she and the players were struggling to obtain the proper pitch

and the music never really jelled until the last movement, which was played in a strong, positive fashion.

There are many contributions that an amateur group can make to the musical world. The Scandinavian Sym-

phony Orchestra offers quality music at a nominal price, and must be considered a bargain musical evening. Their next presentation is April 12, featuring pianist Michele Kotler in an all Beethoven concert.

## Zany team bring revue

Peter Cook and Dudley Moore, two of Britain's most inspired comedy actors, are visiting Detroit as stars and co-authors of "Good Evening," a comedy and music revue which opened at the Fisher Theatre on Tuesday for a five-week engagement.

"Good Evening" marks the return of the comedy team, who debuted in "Beyond the Fringe" in 1960. In the interim their zaniness has brightened such movies as "Bedazzled" and "The Wrong Box" and a number of TV specials. During their current run on Broadway in "Good Evening,"

they have been frequent guests on the "Tonight" Show.

The show "Good Evening" is a series of unrelated skits, slightly mad and a bit insane in content, about the fallacies and idiocies of the ordinary (and not so ordinary) people in the world today and the everyday problems they face. The production won a special Tony Award for "outstanding contribution to the Broadway theater" in 1974. The award was presented to Cook and Moore on April 1, at the last Tony ceremony.

Thursday, February 20, 1975 THE OBSERVER & RECENTER (S-P-15C-15B) (O) 11B



## Tuneful

Bobby Short, interpreter of tunes from the '20s and '30s, will present an intimate evening of Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Noel Coward and others at 8:30 p.m. Monday at the Music Hall Center, 350 Madison at Brush, Detroit. Tickets are available at the Music Hall Box Office, Hudson's, Grinnell's or Sears.

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