



Joseph Pach, founder of the Brunswick String Quartet.

The Brunswick String Quartet Pach's drive for excellence

The Brunswick String Quartet, Resident Musicians at UNB, will be heard in Memorial Hall, UNB Campus, Fredericton, 8:15 p.m., October 29, 1974. When the quartet chose its name, the only alternative which received serious consideration was the "Pach Quartet", after its first violinist and founder, Joseph Pach. When Mr. Pach (generally called Joe by his friends) was asked how he felt about the two alternatives, he said "I couldn't care less what we're called; I only care what we sound like." This is characteristic of Joe, both in his unrelenting drive for total excellence, and his easy-going attitude toward the trappings of life.

Mr. Pach was born of Slovak parents in Toronto. He started studying violin at four years of age, and his natural talent for the instrument quickly became apparent. In spite of being one of Canada's best-known and most frequently heard violinists, he says that he probably played more concerts between the ages of six and fifteen than he has since. By the time he was nineteen he had finished his studies with Kathleen Parlow, had been the first violinist to receive an Artist's Diploma from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, and had performed that finger-breaker, the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.

"Then" says Joe, "I stood on the street corner, violin in hand, saying 'Where do I go now? I know all the pieces, people cheer when they hear me play. I'm ready.'" But people were not ready to pay to hear Canadian violinists. So, for a few years, Joe lived a precarious existence. Occasional radio recitals, calls on short notice to play with orchestras when previously booked soloists took sick (occasionally to have the original soloist miraculously recover the day

before the performance), and doing whatever commercial work was available in Toronto. It was during this period that he met a charming and vivacious young pianist who shared his dreams and ambitions - Arlene Nimmons. In 1954 they were married. The Duo Pach became well known in Canada, but probably better known elsewhere. They concertized in Europe and England, even living six months in Vienna, played on most of the major European radio networks, and were invited to play in several major European radio networks, and were invited to play in several major American musical centers. During this time they also made several records. Still, it was not until the University of New Brunswick invited them to become Artists in Residence, that they could make a secure livelihood in Canada as soloists.

After six years as Artists in Residence at UNB, Mr. Pach proposed to the University that he form a string quartet. "The duo repertoire is limited...I was starting to repeat myself. Besides, there was only one quartet in Canada of any stature. That's a shame in a country like this." After an interim year as a trio, the quartet was formed. For two years they played as the UNB Pach Quartet. Last year, with a new second violinist and a new cellist, the Brunswick String Quartet was formed. Already the Brunswick String Quartet has met critical acclaim in its first performance outside the Maritimes, in Toronto.

When asked how he feels about the new quartet, and being a soloist, Joe said, "I think it's great. For me the quartet literature reaches the highest peak of musical expression. It's a privilege to be able to play it. And the group is working well. I don't think I could be happier."

movie

Uptown Saturday Night

review

By DANIELLE THIBEAULT

With a cast including Bill Cosby and Richard Pryor, I was expecting a slapstick comedy. What I got was a watered-down show with an overdose of ridicule.

The movie seems to have been produced for the actors rather than the other way around or there's someone with bad editing criteria.

The plot goes something like this: A steel worker (Sidney Poitier) on holiday is convinced by his taxicab-driving "buddy" (Bill Cosby) to spend an expensive evening at Madam Lonobeys via a (fake) letter of introduction from a respectable lawyer. A rather lucky streak at the crap table is

interrupted by a gang of robbers that decides to clean the place of all its wealth including Sidney Poitier's wallet which, he later discovers, contains a lottery ticket worth \$50,000.

A mad search for the robbers (and the wallet) ensues and the duo successively decides to enlist the help of a five-foot meanie with a 6 foot-plus body guard, Private Eye Washington (Richard Pryor) a con-artist private investigator and finally Geechie Dan with Harry Belafonte in a poor "Godfather" cop-out.

The man they are after is Slinky Slim, notorious arch-enemy of Geechie Dan, who promised to help them after they let him in on a

secret: The loot contains a letter of introduction from a lawyer at whose address is stashed \$300,000 in diamonds. They finally recover the wallet untouched and live happily ever after and all that but it's a little short on entertainment.

Richard Pryor is not even a bit funny and that's disappointing. Sidney Poitier is out of character with his grey suit, white shirt and tie. Bill Cosby is the only one to save the show with his quick witted portrayal of the ever-so-cool cab driver and Harry Belafonte gets a groan for his Marlon Brando-style imitation of "Godfather".

If it wasn't for Bill Cosby, this movie would be a total loss. So decided for yourself. Is it worth \$2.00 (\$1.75 for students)?

Former Brunser honoured

Former BRUNSWICKAN staff member Forrest Orser has published his first short story.

Much of the action in the story, entitled "Assorted Mooseheads", takes place on the UNB Fredericton campus.

"I'm really happy," Orser told the BRUNSWICKAN, "I've been writing since I was 14, and this is the first damn story I've ever got published."

It appears in the summer, 1974 issue of "The Antigonish Review", which has only recently appeared on the news stands.

Orser is now working as a staff writer for the "Telegraph-Journal" in Saint John.



Morris, the Hallowe'en moose, says 'Boo!'

Hallowe'en is coming!

Brunswick String Quartet at Contact 74

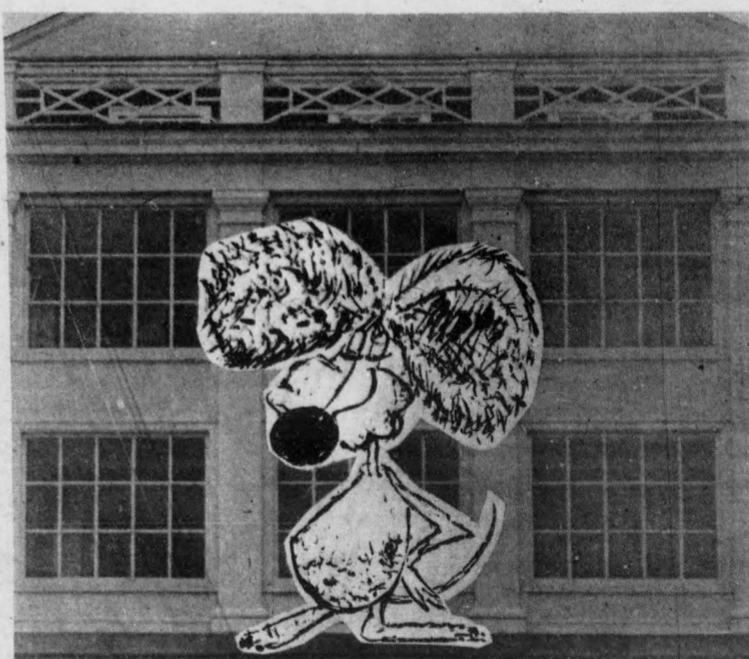
Early this month the Brunswick String Quartet played at Contact in Toronto, an annual musicians conference and a showplace of Canadian musical talent.

Its performance of the Shostakovich 8th Quartet, played in Fredericton by this quartet last year and recorded by the CBC, was reported to be enthusiastically received.

"Marvelous controlled sound - precise ensemble" and "the finest quartet playing I've heard in a long time" were typical comments by the audience made up of musicians attending the conference from all over the country.

This was the first time the university's quartet-in-residence has been heard outside of the Maritime provinces.

The next concerts by the quartet are scheduled for October 24 at Hazen Hall, UNB Saint John, and October 29 at Memorial Hall, UNB Fredericton. In addition, the Brunswick String Quartet can be heard on the CBC Program Music East at 9 p.m. on the last Friday of each month, commencing October 25, 1974.



Here's Joe Cool hanging around the sub

The Bruns needs your poems and short stories. Keep 'em coming!