

# State and Local

## Violinist proves he was 'born to play'

Perlman's performance shows his devout love for music

By Karl Pallmeyer  
Staff writer

Violin virtuoso Itzhak Perlman received a standing ovation after playing Johannes Brahms' Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D Major to a near-capacity crowd at Rudder Auditorium Sunday.

Perlman appeared with the San Antonio Symphony Orchestra to open the 1986-87 concert season for MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society.

Before Perlman came on stage, the orchestra under the direction of conductor Andrew Schenck performed the national anthem and two pieces by Brahms — "Tragic Overture" and Variations on a Theme by Haydn.

Perlman began learning the violin because of a deep love for music. Through years of practice and hard work, he established himself as one of the world's top violinists.

Dubbed the consummate master of the violin by Newsweek in 1981, Perlman has won several awards, appeared on numerous national television programs and plays to sell-out crowds around the world.

Perlman's ability on the violin is outstanding. It is as if he is using his instrument to run and leap and fly.

During Brahms' Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, Perlman showed he understood the full possibilities of his instrument.

He sat with his head bowed in reverence for the first few bars of the first movement and then attacked his first passage with viciously blinding speed.

During the solo, the audience, orchestra and conductor watched Perlman in awe as he played soft and fast. No music was in front of Perlman — he knew the piece by heart.

It's easy to see why Perlman is considered one of the best violinists in the world.

Sometimes his playing would be gentle and sorrowful and at other times joyful and upbeat. But at all times he showed a devout love for music.

The 83-member San Antonio Symphony Orchestra performed with a clarity and professionalism that helped accentuate Perlman's talents.

Schneck, the youngest conductor to win first prize in the International Competition for Conductors, led the orchestra with a fierceness and showmanship that was fun to watch.



Photo by Greg Bailey

Violinist Itzhak Perlman joined the San Antonio Symphony Orchestra to open the 1986-87 season for OPAS.

## Researchers try faking scent to stop beetles

HUMBLE (AP) — Texas forestry experts are engaged in a new campaign to halt the epidemic spread of the Southern Pine Beetle, which is infesting some 10 million acres of land in 33 counties.

Researchers from Texas A&M and the Texas Forest Service are trying an experimental chemical spraying program in hopes of duplicating the pesky insect's natural scent, which warns other pine beetles that a particular tree already is infested and that they should move on.

"The object is to keep the beetles out of the trees as long as we can so they can be eaten by predators or dry out from lack of water, die and blow away," said Ron Billings, principal entomologist for the Texas Forest Service.

The new treatment, administered to about 20 spots in East Texas this summer, is called an inhibitor and is designed to drive the insects away from healthy trees or trees that are in the early stages of attack from the beetles.

"As beetles emerge and attack, we hope to provide an artificial signal that a tree is no longer suitable for them," said Tom Payne, an A&M professor of entomology and forest science who has been working on the beetle problem for more than a decade.

Officials say the outbreak this summer, while at epidemic levels in 16 East Texas counties, is not as bad as a year ago, when the current cycle of outbreaks apparently peaked.

Some 50,000 acres of forest, worth \$51 million in lumber, were killed in the first eight months of 1985 because of beetle infestation. In the same period this year, Forest Service officials put the lumber losses at \$10 million for 16,000 diseased acres.

Payne has developed a compound called Verbenone, which duplicates the secretion male beetles give off as a warning to other beetles to stay away.

"It's basically sensory physiology," he says. "It

doesn't kill. It's a behavioral chemical. We don't kill. We don't want to take from the forest."

What researchers want to do is try to keep the beetle out of the trees. Without a tree to burrow into, the insect will die in three to five days, Payne says.

The artificial scent is sprayed on about a square-foot area of bark on a healthy tree which is in the immediate vicinity of trees already infested. The air currents around a tree move the scent up the trunk.

The compound, however, is just one of 14 different compounds emitted by the beetle.

The beetle, about the size of a grain of rice, hides under the bark of a pine tree. Females lay as many as 30 eggs, with half of the eggs surviving. Each female can infest up to three trees.

The beetles disrupt the water flow within the tree and kill it. They also inject a blue dye into the wood, making it undesirable for use as lumber.

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## What's up

### Monday

**AGGIELAND '87:** Recognized student organizations may pick up yearbook contracts in their Student Finance Center boxes. Contracts are due Tuesday.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH:** will sponsor a writing workshop, "Expressive Essay," at 6:30 p.m. in 153 Blocker. The instructor is Cindy Stevenson.

**TAMU SNOW SKI CLUB:** will discuss the Breckenridge trip at 7 p.m. in 601 Rudder.

**AGGIE ALLEMANDERS:** will give square-dance lessons at 7 p.m. and meet at 8 p.m. in 225 MSC.

**TAMU SAILING TEAM:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 109 Military Sciences.

**INTRAMURAL RECREATION SPORTS:** entries open for triathlon and pickleball singles at 8 a.m. in 159 Read.

**VENEZUELAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION:** will meet at 8 p.m. in 507A-B Rudder.

**TAMU WRESTLING CLUB:** will have team and beginner practice at 7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays and 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in 260 G. Rollie White.

### Tuesday

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH:** will sponsor a writing workshop, "Referential Essay," at 6:30 p.m. in 153 Blocker. The instructor will be Diane Dowdey.

**DATA PROCESSING MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION:** Data General will present information on careers in data processing at 7 p.m. in the Ramada Inn Penthouse.

**NUTRITION CLUB:** will discuss sports nutrition and have an aerobics workout at 7:30 p.m. in 401 Read.

**TAMU ANTHROPOLOGY SOCIETY:** will show "The Year of Living Dangerously" at 7 p.m. in 301 Bolton.

**COOKE COUNTY HOMETOWN CLUB:** will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 501 Rudder.

**TAMU ONE-WHEELERS:** will meet at 6 p.m. in front of G. Rollie White Coliseum.

**AGGIES FOR CLEMENTS:** will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 321 Physics.

**AGGIES FOR BARTON:** will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 410 Rudder.

**CLASS OF '87:** applications for Ring Dance subchairman positions are due at 5 p.m. Applications are available in the 1987 cubicle.

**CIRCLE K:** will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 402 Rudder.

**RHA CASINO:** applications for co-chairman are due Oct. 1. Applications for subchairman are due Oct. 8. Applications are available in 215 Pavilion.

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES:** "The University Rules and Regulations," "Student Organization Guide" and the Fall 1986 All-University Calendars are available in 208 Pavilion.

**TAMU MEN'S RUGBY:** will hold practice every Tuesday and Thursday at 6 p.m. on the rugby field. For more information call Mark, 846-9772.

*Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three working days prior to desired publication date.*