

# UA Symphony Could Give Village Concerts If Supported

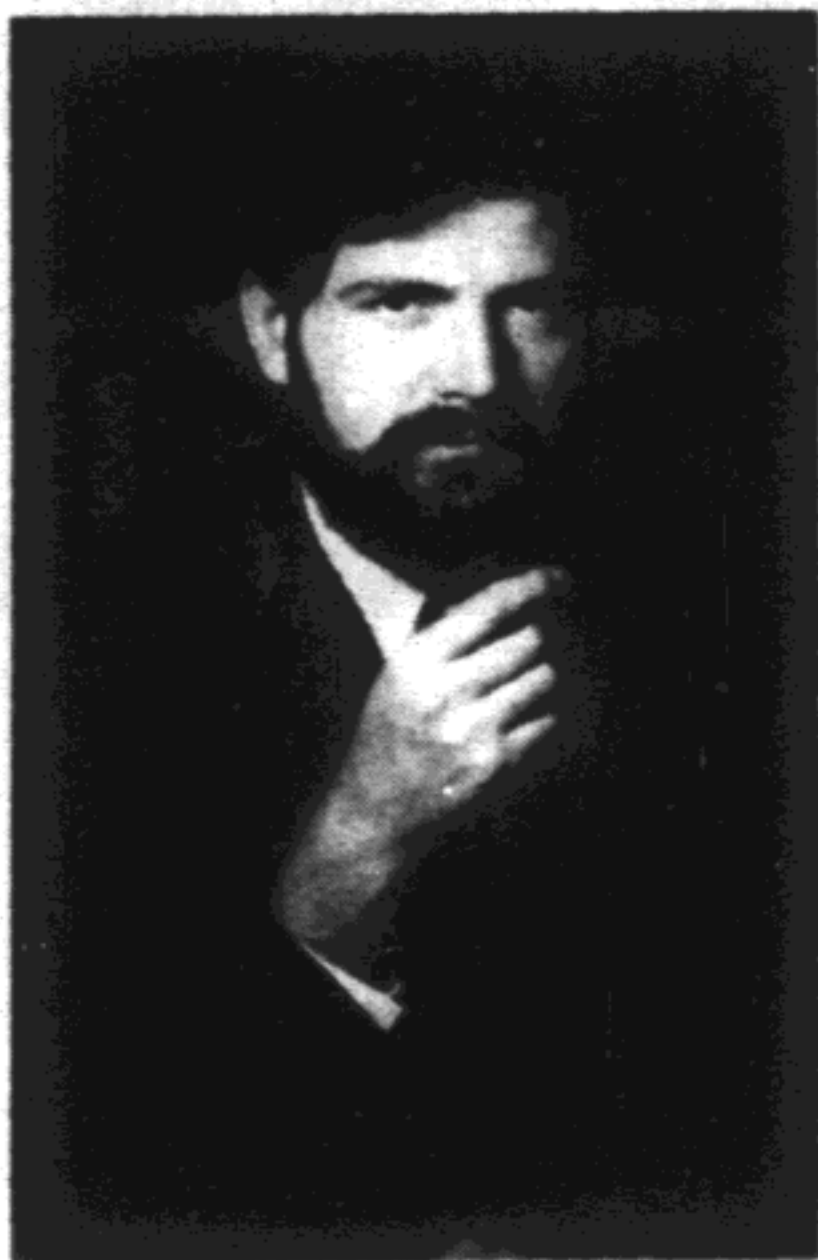
Take symphony orchestra concerts to the rural villages of Alaska?

Yes, that's exactly what Gordon Wright, conductor of the University Fairbanks symphony orchestra, hopes to do someday—if the orchestra gets the support it needs.

Such concerts, he said, have been given once or twice, but not enough. Out of four scheduled concerts a year, Wright would like for three to be in the villages.

He talked of these plans as he discussed a concert to be given Sunday, March 8 at the Patty Gymnasium at the University of Alaska at 4 p.m.

Open to the public free of charge, the concert will feature



GORDON WRIGHT

flute soloist Nan Orthmann. A professor at the University of Alaska, she will be making her first appearance as a soloist with the Orchestra.

Comprised of students, faculty members, military, and townspeople, the 45-member orchestra practices twice a week. The last concert was given Oct. 25 and 26 at the Alaskaland Theater—the second concert in the 1969-70 series.

The concert will open with a symphony by Franz Haydn. Rich and melodic in scope, the symphony exhibits Haydn's constant search for the ideal symphonic structure, Wright said.

The "Unanswered Question" by Charles Ives will also be performed. Much of his work, the conductor added, is said to reflect the basic character of the 19th century American.

Also a piece by George Teleman, who is considered one of the leading composers of the

baroque period, will be performed.

The final selection will be the "Romeo and Juliet Overture" by Peter Tchaikovsky which portrays in music the stormy nature of Shakespeare's tragedy.

The musicians play on a volunteer basis with planning and administering done by the University-Fairbanks Symphony Association, whose members are citizens interested in furthering orchestral music and the musical arts in the Interior.

Wright explained that the group would like to give concerts in the villages because many of the villagers have never seen or heard some of the instruments.

The main problem is a lack of transportation money.

The few concerts that have been given in the villages, he added, have been well received with members of the audience talking with the musicians afterwards and examining the instruments.

Another goal of the association is to further string and other instrumental education in the public schools.

Individuals interested in joining are encouraged to call Helen Frank at 456-4883.