



Czechs and Balances

For their final concert of the 2004 – 2005 concert season, on the 17th of April, the *Great Plains Music Society* presents “Czechs and Balances,” featuring the orchestral music of Antonin Dvorák, Johann Sebastian Bach, and Hector Berlioz.

The concert features the folk style of Czech composer Antonin Dvorák with his opus 88 Symphony number 8 in G major. This symphony accentuates Dvorák’s use of folk songs in all four movements. The sonata form first movement follows with the extremely song-like second and third movements, and concludes with an exquisite theme and variation style fourth movement.

The *Society*’s featured soloist for this concert will be *Union College* senior Christy Parfet. Miss Parfet will be performing Bach’s Violin Concerto in E major, BWV 1042. Typical of Bach’s concerto style, the concerto stresses the balance of soloist and ensemble. A senior at *Union College*, Miss Parfet has played all four of her collegiate years with the *Union College* string quartet, *The Golden Cords*, under the direction of Dr. Tom Shepherd. She currently studies with David Neely, associate professor of violin and chair of the string division at the UNL School of Music.

Finally, the *Society* will present Berlioz’s “Royal Hunt and Storm” from the opera “Les Troyens.” Drawn from the story of Virgil’s “Aeneid,” the “Royal Hunt and Storm” musically represents the respite of Dido and Aeneas interrupted by an entourage of Carthaginian hunters and, second, a great storm. The entr’acte, which the *Society* will use as this concert’s overture, concludes with Aeneas painfully aware that he must leave Dido to fulfill his destiny, the founding of Rome.

The *Great Plains Music Society*, in residence at *Union College*, is under the baton of Dr. Patrick Fortney. Dr. Fortney is also the director of Lincoln’s early childhood music education program, *Music Together*.

The venue for the performance will be the beautiful College View Seventh-Day Adventist Church at 4015 S. 49th Street. The program time at the handicap-accessible facility will be 4pm. The concert is free and open to the public.