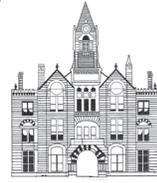


THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD



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Who's on the Hill?

By H.H. & JEAN HOWZE

The Fayette County Record

Every Tuesday throughout the Festival Hill concert season, The Record will publish a brief feature about one of the young musicians. Below is the first of these features.

The concertmaster for the opening orchestral concert was Kurt Munstedt, a completely engaging and passionate spokesman for classical music and for the program at the Round Top Music Festival. "The grounds and the facilities here are 'state of the art,'" he said during a short pause in his busy week-one schedule there.

At age 25, Munstedt has 20 years of experience playing the violin, so what does a musician get from attending a summer



Violinist Kurt Munstedt

Photo by H. H. Howze

institute such as the Round Top Music Festival?

"Practical experience. We have to put on a concert every week. Most of us are still in school, and we have a lot more

time (in school) to put together a concert. But this is more in line with the professional standard of preparation. It really gets us ready for professional orchestra."

As concertmaster for the opening orchestral concert, Munstedt had "the responsibility of leading the orchestra. He takes what the conductor is doing and translates it" for the orchestra. He described the position as "a conduit between the conductor and the orchestra."

The orchestra performed Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 2, which Munstedt said was written in a lush romantic style, using the violin as a "very vocal instrument to lead the orchestra most of the time."