

Toulouse is music wrapup

By IFAN PAYNE
Music Critic

The final musical event in this season's McCain Auditorium Series will be a concert by the Toulouse Chamber Orchestra featuring soloist Michel Debost, flute.

The Toulouse Chamber Orchestra was founded in 1953 and it quickly gained a reputation for music-making of a high quality. It took five years for the 'provincial' orchestra to be invited to give a concert in Paris, but that year, 1959, was also the year of its first recordings. Indeed, their initial recording of music by Albinoni, Vivaldi and Corelli was awarded a Grand Prix du Disc.

During that same year, the orchestra embarked on its first tours, to Belgium, Switzerland and Portugal. This was followed, in 1961 by a tour to South America.

Televised concerts, more recordings and international renown followed and the orchestra has every reason to consider itself to be one of

the best European chamber ensembles, to be ranked alongside Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, English Chamber Orchestra and the

Prague Chamber Orchestra.

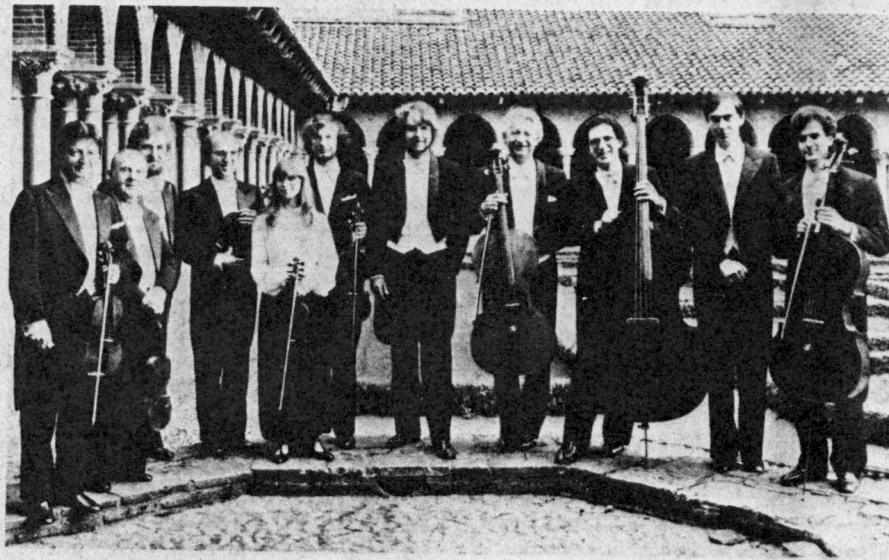
Soloist Michel Debost is not, perhaps, as well known as his compatriot, Jean Pierre Rampal, but he

has been applauded for his fine musicianship wherever he has played and his performances were highly regarded during the orchestra's previous tour of the United States, in 1980.

The program for Tuesday's concert features a first half devoted to the Baroque and Classical periods—Benedetto Marcello, Rossini and Vivaldi (twice)—while the second half has the 20th century in the form of a work by Andre Jolivet, and the evening ends with the simple pleasures of Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for String Orchestra, Op.48*.

M. Debost is the flute soloist for the two Vivaldi concerti, and the concerto by Jolivet.

Of a concert given by the Toulouse Chamber Orchestra in Chicago, the distinguished music critic, Robert C. Marsh, wrote, "...musicianship, skill and sheer beauty were much in evidence", and it is for these qualities that the orchestra is renowned the world over.



The Toulouse Chamber Orchestra, playing at McCain this week.