

Arts & Entertainment

'Keith County' brought to NETV

By Bill Allen
Senior Editor

"Keith County Journal," based on UNL Biology Professor John Janovy, Jr.'s widely acclaimed books, "Keith County Journal" and "Back in Keith County," airs tonight at 9 p.m. on the Nebraska ETV Network, channel 12.

The program looks at the natural world of the Nebraska Sandhills and, by extension, the wider world around us and the world within... a look at the subtleties and intricacies of dependence and interdependence.

"The animal situations in the film are used as symbols or analogies to human situations. The way snails find new habitats is compared to the need to explore in humans... we need to constantly be reminded to explore," Janovy said.

The production begins with the winter reflections of Janovy, who also serves as interim director of UNL's Morrill Hall Museum, but rapidly moves west on Interstate 80, headed for the Cedar Point Biological Research Station near Ogallala.

"It offers a totally different look at what Nebraska really is," Janovy said, "We tend to look at Nebraska as a somewhat impoverished state. This says in no uncertain terms that Nebraska is not impoverished. We often miss the richness and opportunities right before our eyes."

The lessons of "Keith County Journal," his books and the questions they raise suggest to him that we may all be more a part of the natural world than we sometimes like to admit, Janovy said.

"We depend on nature intellectually as well as physically," Janovy said. "Physically, of course, we depend on it for sustenance, but the film also asks what else do we depend on nature for?"

He said much of the questioning and

wondering man does on an intellectual level is a direct result of observations in nature.

Filmed mainly in Keith County, this documentary follows Janovy into the Sandhills to learn lessons from nature — from termites living under cowpies, snails in warm muddy marshes, cliff shadows under concrete bridges, and parasites in the eyes of the Killifish that inhabit the Platte River.

Combining the skills of a biologist/teacher and philosopher/writer, Janovy takes viewers exploring with several of his students to wade in the marshes that unexpectedly dot the prairie landscape, to patiently explore the sandy coves of Lake McConaughy, and then to muse about the advantages and disadvantages of social groups while observing cliff swallows construct their communities under the concrete bridges that span the Platte River.

More than a place to be seen and explored, Keith County becomes, through Janovy's eyes and insights, a way of seeing and a state of mind.

Janovy's television script was written with advice from three UNL colleagues: Richard Booher, associate professor in the School of Biological Sciences; Robert Knoll, professor of English; and Nelson Potter, associate professor of philosophy. Janovy said these men offered critiques of his script and helped clarify the material.

Narrator for the program is Charles Bell. Funding was provided by Bankers Life Nebraska, the Nebraska Committee for the Humanities and Nebraskans for Public Television.

Janovy said television was a "strange medium" for him and that he has been a bundle of nerves for the past few weeks awaiting the screening of "Keith County Journal." He said the footage for the film was shot in 1984.

He said another aspect of the film as

far as UNL is concerned is that it shows students and faculty working together on a personal basis.

"The film shows that the university

need not be this big, impersonal place," he said.



Courtesy of NETV

Janovy explores life in the warm mud of Sandhills marshes.

CCR-like group at Grove

The Revival, a five-piece band from Wilkes-Barre, Pa., will re-create the sound of Creedence Clearwater Revival tonight at the Royal Grove.

Creedence Clearwater Revival was one of the most influential bands of the '60s and '70s, combining elements of rockabilly, traditional country western music, cajun swamp rock and psychedelia to create an eccentric and unique American rock'n'roll sound.

John Fogerty's echo-laced vocals were the band's trademark on hits such as "Bad Moon Rising," "Lookin' Out My Backdoor," "Suzie Q," and "Fortunate Son."

The Revival, although they are not impersonators like other tribute bands, re-create the Creedence sound. Their renditions of CCR's most popular songs are what the band and Fogerty

"soundlike" Charlie Hennebaul capitalize on. Occasionally the band even sneaks in original material in the Creedence vein.

The Revival has been together for three and a half years with some personnel changes in that period.

The Glide will open the show and The Revival will play at about 10:30 p.m.

The cover charge is \$3 at the door.

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