

# Arts & Entertainment

## You think the Finnsters are good? Just give a listen to The Verandas



Photo courtesy of Madness Productions

Cedar Rapids' Verandas will rock and bop your socks off this afternoon at "Music and Melons" by the Broyhill Fountain.

By Chris McCubbin  
Senior Reporter

There's little doubt that, for better or worse, the ubiquitous Finnsters are currently the big fish in the little pond of Lincoln rock 'n' roll. But if you widen your perspective, say to the medium-sized pond of this great American desert, it's clear that those Finnster boys have to bow to The Verandas, from Cedar Rapids, when it comes to picking an all-around regional pop-gods.

### Band Review

The Verandas are playing this afternoon from 4:30 to 6 p.m. by the Broyhill Fountain, behind the Nebraska Union. The big event is "Music and Melons," co-sponsored by the University Program Council and FarmHouse Fraternity.

The last time I saw the Verandas was last November when they ran away with UPC's "Battle of the Bands." That night The Verandas were the last of four bands. Dance floor action all night had been sluggish to non-existent. The second The Verandas hit the stage, hordes of screaming fans (readily identifiable from their band T-shirts) crowded the floor and bopped like crazed weasels till the very last note. This ain't just a band, folks, it's a *movement*.

All this and free watermelon, too. Now you know why they call it "the Good Life."

Seriously, if you have to have music that's happy and danceable, The Verandas are your best bet. They're without a doubt the tightest, most energetic, most professional dance band around these parts.

Miscellaneous Verandas trivia department: They have an EP, "V-notes" out from Graphic Records. You can pick it up at most local record stores. They're working on a full album and talking to major labels.

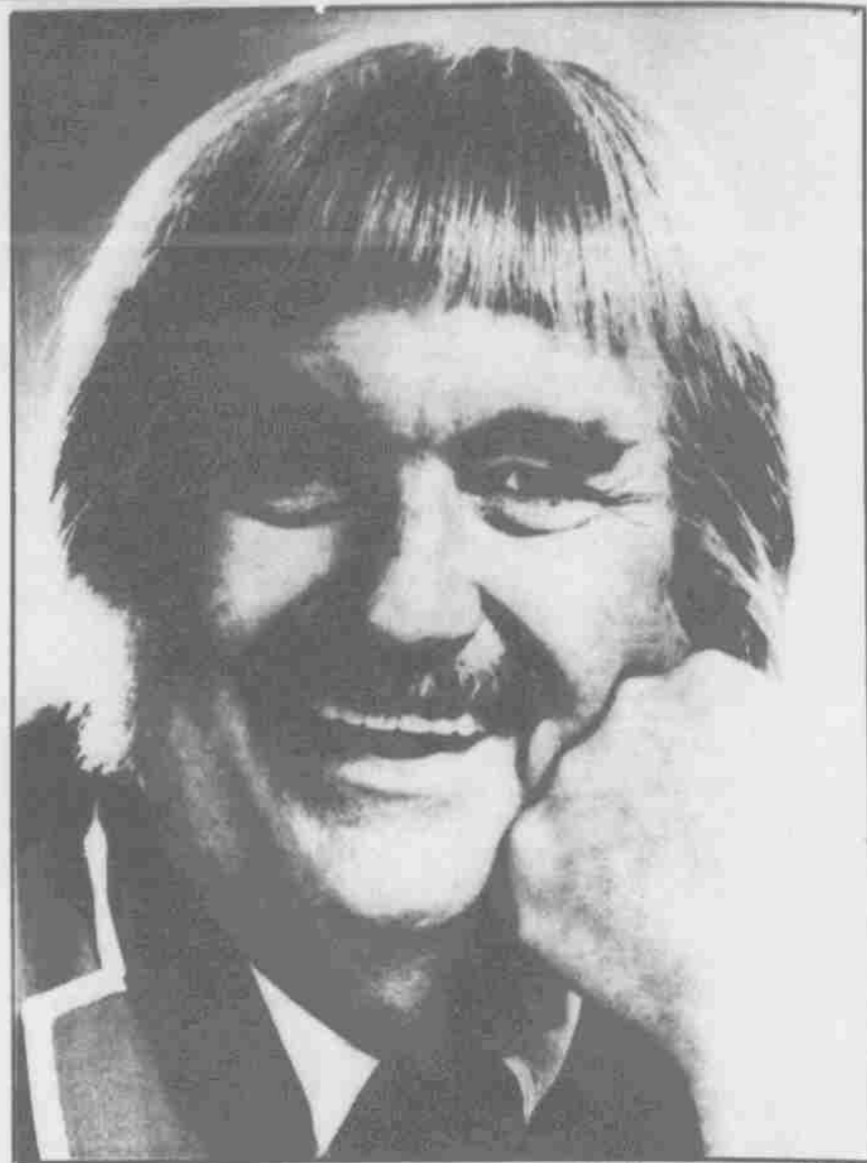


Photo courtesy of NETV

The captain's coming, boys and girls!

## Captain Kangaroo is back

By Scott Wesely  
Staff Reporter

Family programming is getting another boost on the Nebraska ETV Network during the week of Aug. 31. New programs include the return of that sideburned friend, Captain Kangaroo, a voyage of music through the Grand Canyon and daily coverage of events at the Nebraska State Fair.

Captain Kangaroo (Bob Keeshan) is back on television after a year and a half — but on NETV, not the CBS Network. Beginning on Sept. 1, the Captain will air 65 newly edited programs from his 1982-84 seasons on CBS. The programs have been restructured from a full hour to half-hour versions, airing at 8 a.m. Monday through Friday. From Sept. 1 to 12, the shows will be repeated

at 3 p.m., but starting Sept. 15, the only repeat will be on Fridays at 3 p.m.

Many of the characters from the old series will return with the Captain. Mr. Green Jeans (Hugh Brannum), a congenial neighborhood farmer, the silent, carrot-eating Bunny Rabbit, the ping-pong ball dropping Mr. Moose, Carolyn Mignini, Kevin Clash and Cosmo "Gus" Allegretti comprise the basic cast.

"Canyon Consort" is a chronicle of the Paul Winter Consort's 227-mile voyage down the Colorado River as they created music of the Grand Canyon. The film, shot on the last of three expeditions through Grand Canyon National Park, shows the beauty of the canyon as the jazz group creates the music.

Virtually all NETV production personnel will be involved in its 20th season covering the Nebraska State Fair, providing viewers all over the state with a taste of each day's activities. Sixty minutes of daily highlights will be included in each broadcast, airing Wednesday, Sept. 3 through Sunday, Sept. 7 at 9 p.m.

Big Bird and his friends visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art, finding treasures and adventure on "Don't Eat the Pictures: Sesame Street at the Metropolitan Museum of Art," airing Monday, Sept. 1 at 8:30 a.m.

The top five Drum and Bugle Corps in the world compete in championship competition in Madison, Wis., on "1986 Drum Corps International World Championships," also on Sept. 1 at 1 p.m.

Russian conductor Woldemar Nelson leads the Opera company of Philadelphia in "The Queen of Spades" by Tchaikovsky. It will air on "Great Performances" on Sunday Aug. 31 at 2 p.m.

The locally produced "All-State Fine Arts Final Concert" presents highlights of the best performances by high school students at UNL's annual All-State program. It airs Wednesday, Sept. 3 at 7 p.m.

Nebraska gubernatorial candidates Helen Boosalis and Kay Orr face off in the 1986 gubernatorial debate sponsored by the League of Women Voters, videotaped earlier at the Nebraska State Fair Open Air Auditorium.

W.C. Fields, Dorothy Lamour, Shirley Ross, Bob Hope and others will be featured in "The Big Broadcast of 1938" on "Comedy Classic," Friday, Sept. 5 at 10:30 p.m.

One hundred and fifty elephants are brought together every year in northeast Thailand for one of the largest events in the world. "Elephant Games," airing Friday, Sept. 5 at 8:30 p.m. celebrates the fun and excitement of a rodeo for domesticated elephants where the animals' trainers and owners can show off the strength, speed and skill of their pachyderms.

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