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'Wilderness' is just a lot of pretty scenes

By JAN WILLIAMS

Too many films focus more on photography than on content. This is true of "The Vanishing Wilderness," a nature film released by Pacific International.

I can't say the film isn't enjoyable, however. It covers some of the most beautiful

leisure

parts of North American wilderness, from the Arctic to the Everglades.

But it seems to be missing its own point. Where and why is the wilderness vanishing, and what is being done or should be done about it? Narrator Rex Allen fails to answer or even ask these questions.

The same goes for the animals featured in the film—the ones who inhabit the vanishing wilderness. Some of them, too, are in danger of becoming extinct; this is pointed out in the movie. But showing a hungry wolf catching a fish for dinner isn't dealing with the problem.

A herd of buffalo is shown roaming the range. "Their sad eyes tell their story," But Rex Allen doesn't.

A small group of mustangs was a beautiful sight galloping across the plains. It was probably one of the few left, but why? what does the future hold for them? Unanswered.

A beaver whose dam broke probably would have died if the dam hadn't been repaired because his stored food would have frozen. But he repaired it. How many other super beavers are there?

Other species were dealt with in the same manner—all looking beautiful and "safe" on film.

It's a shame Arthur Dubs and Heinz Seilman, producers, directors and photographers for the film, couldn't have used the material more constructively.

If you're amused by the antics of the otter and amazed by the duels of big horn Rocky Mountain sheep, you'll enjoy this film.

However, if you're a true nature - lover you'll want to look deeper than the mere surface.

Two sub - titles the film carries are "see it before civilization sweeps it away," and "man can live in harmony with nature." Ironic, isn't it?

Concert features Barbara Woolf

Pianist Barbara Woolf will be the featured performer for the Farmington Community Concert Band and the Farmington Community Orchestra's second combined concert of the season Tuesday, Feb. 12, at 8 p.m. in Harrison High School auditorium.

Mrs. Woolf, who has a BA in music from the University of Wisconsin and a master of music in piano performance from the University of Michigan, will perform Mozart's concerto No. 15 in B-flat.

While at the University of Wisconsin, she studied with Gunnar Johansen and with Berning Dexter at the University of Michigan. She is presently working toward her PhD in musicology at the

University of Michigan.

The newly organized Farmington Community Orchestra, under the direction of Harold Kacanek, will present Dvorak's "Slavonic Dance No. 8" and Aaron Copeland's "Hoedown" from "Rodeo."

This 45-piece musical group, including a 22 - member string section, will be making its second appearance following a successful debut last November.

Band Conductor Paul Barber, has selected works by Prokofieff, Grainger, Maltby, Legrand and Dvorak for the 65-piece concert band.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served following the performance.

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