

arts/entertainment

Jennings and country rockers did it right for Omaha

By Bill Graf

Red-hot country rock and memories from the past supplied by Waylon Jennings and a host of other musicians at Omaha's Civic Auditorium made Saturday night's show a country rock cooker.

The bill included Jennings and the Wailors, Hank Williams Jr. and Buddy Holly's original Crickets.

Hank Williams' band kicked off the show with a tune that exemplified the entire evening: Charlie Daniel's "The South Is Gonna Do It Again."

Williams then joined his band to do a rockin' rendition of his father's "Jambalaya."

Williams' act was tight and full of energy, but for the

entire 45-minute set, with exception of a few borrowed rockers, his music seldom strayed from the subject of his father, Hank Williams the late 40's country legend.

ALTHOUGH HANK Williams Jr. will never be as hot as his father was, it would be better for him to do tunes about something other than "the old Williams tradition."

Williams' last tune brought the crowd to it's feet. He returned and did "Whiskey Bent and Hell Bound," a tune on his new album scheduled for release next month.

The Wailors without Waylon played the next set. Even without Waylon, they had no trouble keeping the energy level high.

With Ralph Mooney playing a screaming steel guitar,

Carter Robertson belting out the vocals, Randy Wilson singing and picking lead guitar, Jerry Bridges singing and playing bass, Barney Robertson singing and playing keyboards and Richie Albright playing on drums, Waylon may have one of his best backup bands yet.

THE NEXT BAND, Buddy Holly's Crickets received wild approval from the crowd when they opened with Buddy Holly's "Oh Boy" and "Maybe Baby."

The three-piece band played a number of Holly's rockers, which seemed especially entertaining to older members of the crowd who remember the rock'n'roll star of the early 50s.

Immediately after the Crickets brought the crowd to its feet in a wild frenzy with a Holly tune recently revived by Linda Ronstadt, "That'll Be The Day," Waylon, custom Fender Telecaster in hand, made his way to center stage.

Waylon and The Crickets did Buddy Holly's "Well All Right," they joined by the Wailors, they did two more Holly tunes "It's So Easy" and "Peggy Sue."

review

WAYLON HAD the crowd in the palm of his hand for the rest of the evening. He got them clapping along with rockers like Neil Young's "Are You Ready For the Country?" and quietly held their interest with slower tunes like "Amanda."

However, as soon as he slammed into "Good Hearted Woman" all hell broke loose. Many people stormed up to the stage and those still at their seats stomped their feet to the beat. Waylon continued this frenzy with his last tune "Luckenback Texas."

For his encore, Waylon brought Williams with him. Backed up by the Wailors, Waylon and Hank did a tune written by Waylon about Williams' father called "Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way?"

Carter Robertson, the female singer with The Wailors, was especially impressive. She not only could sing the sweet songs that some woman vocalists do, but when the tune called for it she could sing from her gut, belting out the lyrics like the best of them.

For all of the country-rock fans who weren't at the Civic on Saturday night, you missed out.



Photo by MaryAnne Golon

A rowdy Waylon excited concert-goers Saturday night at the Omaha Civic Auditorium.

Author takes dim view of 1970s university students

By Pete Schmitz

... Just don't let up or you'll be dragged beneath the wheel.—Hermann Hesse

It seems trite to hear about how students today are compared to how they were in the 60s.

By now, most of us have been informed that, unlike the young activists of yesteryear, we are politically apathetic, culturally inept, single-mindedly career oriented, and representative of the distasteful "me" ideology.

This type of rhetoric runs throughout Lansing Lamont's *Campus Shock*, which was published last spring.

book review

Although this author (who is also a prominent journalist) exposes many unflattering aspects of our school generation, his revelations are written in a sympathetic and lucid style, making the book worthwhile reading for every student, administrator and teacher on all campuses across the country.

From 675 interviews of students, parents and faculty members connected with 12 prestigious U.S. universities, Lamont has presented various scenarios explicating the problems of those involved with these institutions.

THE FOCUS may be on elite schools, but many students elsewhere, including those enrolled at UNL, are probably painfully familiar with the conflicts that plague those going to Harvard, Cornell, or the University of Chicago.

Commenting on the housing situation at most of the universities he visited, the author states that they, "like airlines, preferred to overbook rather than risk having space unused."

Students who have lived in the television lounges in the dormitories here will find that remark applicable.

One of the saddest, yet most typical, comments made in this book, was offered by a male when he talked about relationships, saying: "Taking on a girl is like talking on a fifth subject."

Indeed Lamont describes in chilling terms how aspects of student life are cynically calculated and quantified.

According to him there is little talk among students about Marxism, sex, or even the next football game. Instead, the topic of job opportunities prevails even in the conversations of the youngest undergraduates.

And as this journalist sees it in his account, it is the anxiety about getting a good job and accruing wealth and status that has got students fighting each other and themselves.

IT IS STATED that the hostility between blacks and whites has increased this decade as blacks are being snubbed by fraternities, sororities and other clubs, while they form their own exclusive organizations and team sports as a defense against the racism they encounter.

Making matters worse is the fact that many whites are

resentful of minorities, thinking that they have more access to financial aid in this penny-pinched era.

Not only is there a battle between the races, but Lamont comments that tensions between the sexes have intensified over the past few years. Women resent the sexist attitudes of men who feel that their intellectual terrain is being invaded. And men are stunned that their wives or girlfriends will not give up their futures in order to put them through professional or graduate school.

Besides being beset by economic worries and troublesome relationships, students are also disillusioned by an education that does not give them a ticket to immediate job success. And those more concerned with learning, are frustrated by overcrowded classes, aloof professors who are more concerned with publishing than teaching and rushed teaching assistants who have work of their own to do.

Considering the picture that Lamont presents to us of what students are up against, it's no wonder that many form more substantial relationships with psychiatrists and counselors, then with professors and teachers.

Yes, this author does give us a bleak view of our situation. And sometimes he does not delve deeply enough into the topics explored in his book. Many may not be impressed by the lack of sophisticated theorizing in these pages. Also, the proposals offered in the last chapter are predictable, and unlikely to change things much in the long run.

But read *Campus Shock* anyway; the dilemmas brought forth should stimulate students to reassess their values, priorities, and possibly their futures. Also, there is an excellent bibliography that will direct motivated readers to more in-depth books dealing with the paradoxes that those of us in the 70s have inherited from our older sisters and brothers of the 60s.