

## Hog wild



Jeff Haller/DN

Hank Williams Jr. performs at Pershing Auditorium Saturday night.

## Williams goes beyond country

By Jeff Zeleny  
Concert Critic

Hank Williams Jr. came to Lincoln on his Hog Wild '95 tour Saturday night being rowdy and ended his stop 95 minutes later being wild.

Williams' Monday Night Football promotional piece, "All My Rowdy Friends are Coming Over Tonight," kicked off his first visit to Lincoln since 1988.

The country music icon left the stage after a heavy-hitting version of "Wild Thing" brought the Pershing Auditorium crowd of 3,153 to a climax.

Williams didn't waste much of his 1 1/2-hour show with idle chit-chat between songs. But he did know how to appeal to the Nebraska audience.

When Williams told the crowd he came to Lincoln dressed in a pair of University of Alabama shoes, the Husker faithful hissed. But the audience quickly changed its tune when Williams said he bought a Nebraska National Championship cap Saturday.

"You know what those tennis shoes and cap have in common?" Williams asked. "They both beat the shit out of the University of Miami."

*"You know what those tennis shoes and cap have in common? They both beat the shit out of the University of Miami."*

**HANK WILLIAMS, JR.**  
country singer

McBride and the Ride, led by Terry McBride, opened the show. The group got off to a slow start during the 40-minute opening act.

The group, known for its tight harmonies, picked up the pace on two trademark ballads "Just One Night" and "Sacred Ground."

Williams, a five-time country music entertainer of the year, performed with incredible energy throughout his lengthy show. Many times his music went beyond country into classic rock and bordered on a rap beat.

For about 30 minutes during the middle of the show, Williams' seven-piece band left the stage. He sat down with his acoustic guitar and strummed familiar ballads such as "There's a Tear in My Beer," a song he released with his father in

January 1989.

Williams' vast musical abilities were showcased during his solo act. However, at times his deep baritone voice was difficult to understand. Even though the performance was superb, a few members of the audience got restless during the depressing, heartfelt ballads and began to leave the show.

The crowd was quickly aroused when Williams' band returned to the stage and segued into hard country with heavy steel guitar sounds. His 1987 hit, "Born to Boogie," brought the crowd to its feet.

While Williams isn't a country music sex symbol like Clint Black, Clay Walker or John Michael Montgomery, his historical musical talent and ability to capture an audience for 1 1/2 hours is unbeatable.

## NU chooses Chesnutt to lead marching red

By Josh Wimmer  
Staff Reporter

Rod Chesnutt had a pretty good birthday this year.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Music called Chesnutt on his birthday, March 13, to offer him the position of Cornhusker marching band director.

"It was a great birthday present," he said.

Chesnutt, a graduate assistant at Florida State University with a doctorate in music education, was one of three final candidates for the position, said Larry Mallett, School of Music director. All three candidates were equally qualified, Mallett said, but Chesnutt was chosen after a rigorous interview process.

The candidates conducted the university's wind ensemble and concert band, gave a presentation before a class of graduate students, spoke with several music students and interviewed with faculty members, Mallett said.

Chesnutt said he was impressed with UNL, the faculty and music students. He looks forward to living and working in Lincoln, he said, and can't wait to work with the Cornhusker marching band.

"Naturally, I'm excited," he said. "It's a great opportunity for

*"It's a great opportunity for me to work with one of the finest marching bands in the country."*

**ROD CHESNUTT**

New Cornhusker marching band director

me to work with one of the finest marching bands in the country."

Chesnutt plans to move to Nebraska in late July, and will begin practices with the marching band in August, he said.

As director of the marching band, Chesnutt's duties will include conducting the marching band and other athletic bands, Mallett said. Chesnutt will also assume the title of assistant director of bands, Mallett said.

The former director of the marching band, Jay Kloecker, will assume the title of director of bands, Mallett said.

## Inconceivable plot explodes this tank

By Jeff Randall  
Film Critic

When I first saw the previews for "Tank Girl," I tried to assure myself that the images I saw were an aberration from the actual film — there was no way that anyone would allow Lori Petty to be that annoying for a full 110 minutes.

I was wrong. As the title character, Petty goes on a full-scale wisecracking romp that, for the most part, fails to impress or enthrall.

Based on the comic book of the same name, "Tank Girl" takes place in a post-apocalyptic world where water is the only truly valuable resource (a comet collided with Earth and it hasn't rained since).

Petty and a group of her friends live in a large house in California with their own supply of water, and things seem to be going pretty well. But then the Water and Power bad guys break in, kill nearly everyone and take our heroine back with them to the WAP headquarters.

There Petty meets the ruthless leader of WAP, portrayed by the oft-convincing psychotic Malcolm McDowell.

Petty escapes from McDowell's clutches, steals a tank (hence her adopted moniker) and tries to get even with the forces of evil who killed and kidnapped her friends.

But plot seems to be the last concern for the makers of this film, who apparently believe that a series of animation sequences, stills from the "Tank Girl" comic book and Petty's nonstop witty

### The Facts

**Film:** Tank Girl

**Director:** Rachel Talalay

**Stars:** Lori Petty, Malcolm McDowell, Ice-T, Naomi Watts

**Rating:** R (language, violence, brief nudity)

**Grade:** C-

**Five Words:** Tank chick's schtick sinks flick.

comebacks will make up for any lack of a believable or interesting storyline.

In part, they were right. The film looks impressive. The sprung-from-the-pages motif may not be a new idea, but director Rachel Talalay makes it work incredibly well. Unfortunately, Petty's continuous wisecracking loses its appeal after about five minutes.

Ice-T, in an apparent stroke of desperation, plays a half-kangaroo, half-human creature who helps Petty in her struggle against WAP. Ice-T's appearance in this film has completely shattered my previously held respect for him as an artist. It was just humiliating to watch.

Overall, "Tank Girl" is a visually impressive but emotionally empty film that aims for the MTV generation in ways I never could have imagined. It is instant gratification at its best with little or no residual effects. In other words, it should do tremendously well at the box office.