

Concert Preview

**Bow Wow Wow
reunion tour
comes to town**

BY **BRET SCHULTE**
Senior Reporter

Born in a British dry cleaning shop, nurtured in an era of yogurt and killed by drugs and exploitation, Bow Wow Wow is an old dog in the unforgiving music industry.

But old dogs can learn new tricks. Bow Wow Wow lives again, this time without the backing of a label or producer, a situation which singer Annabella Lwin blames for the initial breakup of the group.

Sunday, Lwin and Leigh Gorman, the band's original bassist, bring the rebuilt Bow

Wow Wow's top-charting hits and '80s pop-punk attitudes to Knickerbocker's, 901 O St.

Lwin said the success of the American tour, now in its ninth week, has exceeded her expectations.

"The tour has been amazing," Lwin said. "People have been very supportive. The American people are very special."

ANNABELLA LWIN
lead singer

Known for its native-drum-beat cover of The Strangeloves' "I Want Candy," and the sweetly subversive "C30, C60, C90, Go!" — encouraging teens to illegally dub albums onto tapes — Bow Wow Wow is perhaps most famous not for its music, but for its looks.

The group helped to define music of the '80s, blending mohawks with cheeky lyrics, and sex with naiveté. In her early teens at the time, Lwin typically performed in trendy lace and vinyl outfits while singing songs charged with sexuality and innuendo.

Now 32, Lwin said she felt disgusted about the exploitation involved in rocketing her from a clerk at a dry cleaning shop to a sex-kitten rock star at the age of 14.

Managed by Malcolm McLaren, the engineer behind the punk machine forged by the Sex Pistols, Lwin said she was forced to make a choice between "living a normal life" and music.

"I chose music," she said. "(McLaren) wanted me to prove I was dedicated, and I left school and my family ... and he said we'll get a tutor in. Of course it didn't happen. He was only interested in making money."

Which is exactly what happened. The group, comprised of a teen diva and three former members of Adam Ant's band, immediately hit the charts in Europe and then toured the United States, where the group received a wild reception.

"We became more appreciated and accepted over here than in England," Lwin said. "In England they hated it because they wondered why we wanted to go to America. There was a lot of cynicism."

Her positive experience in America is what brought the group back together this year, she said.

Although she was kicked out of the band without receiving any explanation, Lwin kept in touch with bassist Gorman, the only member of the group she still trusted.

Fourteen years after the breakup, Gorman proposed doing another American tour with Lwin, which she agreed to do after some deliberation.

Now a Buddhist, and having completed solo projects, Lwin is glad to be back on the road again and playing the songs that changed her life and helped define an era.

"Come and catch a piece of history," she said.

Sunday's 19-and-over show begins at 8:30 p.m. Pablo's Triangle and Swerve will serve as opening acts, and tickets are \$10.

MAIN * EVENT
a star-filled nite

RIC CURT
"Nature Boy" VS
FLAIR HENNING

plus

"DIAMOND DALLAS" PAGE
VS
SCOTT HALL

and many others....

SARAH STORY BY JASON
"Earth Shaker" and "The Rock"
BAKER HARDY

Stars of WCW ready to make Lincoln debut

Friday, Friday, FRIDAY! (Enter the sights and sounds of revved up engines, exploding dynamite, lightning and thunder).

For the first time in history, World Championship Wrestling is coming to Lincoln, so dust off those ripped-up shirts and bandannas because it's time to get down.

Wrestling juggernauts "Nature Boy" Ric Flair and "Diamond Dallas" Page will be among those bloodying up the squared circle Friday at Pershing Auditorium, 226 Centennial Mall South, for a sold-out war of the sweaty pees.

Alan Sharpe, public relations director for WCW, said professional wrestling is as popular now as it has ever been.

"WCW has the greatest wrestling superstars that exist today," Sharpe said. "We want to leave the fans gasping for air and fired up for more."

Sharpe said he thought many of the fans get excited after watching "Monday Night Nitro" and would want to experience the action in person.

"Many of the feuds that start on TV continue in the arena shows," he said. "The animosity is going to spill over into Lincoln. Anything is possible."

Sharpe said he thought the popularity of professional wrestling had to do with many things.

"Wrestling is like an episodic action adventure with bigger-than-life superstars," he said. "These are tremendous athletes,

and Lincoln can prepare for a kickin' show."

Derek Anderson, marketing director at Pershing Auditorium, said the show sold out in five hours.

"We are looking forward to a good event, and I think things are really going to get riled up," Anderson said. "We are really glad people came out to support this event like they did."

Sharpe said the audience should get pumped up for the show.

"They can expect thrills, spills and to scream until they're hoarse," he said.

The fights for the double main event include "Nature Boy" Ric Flair vs. Curt Hennig and "Diamond Dallas" Page vs. Scott Hall.

Sharpe said Flair, who weighs in at 245 lbs. and has signature moves such as flying knee drops and figure-four leg locks, will bring nonstop action when he approaches the ring.

"There is a lot of animosity between Ric Flair and Curt Hennig right now," he said.

Sharpe warned the audience to watch out when the action starts.

"Anytime 'Diamond Dallas' Page fights anyone from the New World Order, especially a person at the level of Scott Hall, it's going to be an all-out brawl," he said. "And you can take that to the bank."