# Illiams starts Christmas tour, releases LP

**By The Associated Press** 

Andy Williams, who is identified with Christmas from years of TV specials, is touring with a holiday show for the sixth year. And he has made his fourth Christmas album, his first new Christmas album in 10 years.

It's "I Still Believe in Santa Claus," on Curb, released through Capitol. He said it was fun to make.

"I've done just about every Christmas carol in different albums," he said. "One was all carols. The other two were half-carols and half-pop songs. I didn't do any carols this time. Columbia Records re-releases Williams' first three Christmas albums

"Usually, when you do a record, you go in with 10 songs and a certain size orchestra, and all the songs sound a little bit alike because you use the same instrumentation," Williams said.

"Each one of these is different. It makes a nice album."

One song is "The Hawaiian Christ-mas Song," written by the same man who wrote "The Hawaiian Wedding Song," which was a hit record for Williams in 1958. He heard both songs about the same time.

"It didn't have English lyrics. Neither did 'The Hawaiian Wedding Song," he said. "English lyrics were written for it and for this. I recorded it and never released it. Twenty-five years later I recorded it again.

He said he listened to his old 'Hawaiian Christmas Song" recording. "It's a great song, but the record

Sounded dated."

He sang "Blue Christmas," which
Elvis Presley had on his 1957 Christmas album. "I did that with a country watching that commercial."

Williams' touring with a Christmas show began "when I did a symphony date in Seattle and the lady in backup group. It's typical country, very good country."

'What Are You Doing New Year's Eve?" uses a Dixieland arrangement," he said. "Then I did a tongue-in-cheek I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus' with 1940s movie-musical-type music. I tap-dance in the middle of it. I put down a board and tap-danced. When my brothers and I and Kay Thompson had an act, we danced a

There's a commercial I used to like on TV, Anheuser-Busch Clydesdale horses traveling down small-town streets in snow, with a choir singing 'oohs,' I did 'I'll Be Home for Christmas' very quiet with sleighbells in it, trying to get the feeling I got from watching that commercial."

charge wanted me to sing some Christmas songs in the show. So I did, at the

got around. I did six or seven sym-tures.' phonies during the month of Decem-

"It was so popular I decided to do a tour the next year, taking an orches-tra with me," Williams said. "That third year was the beginning of this touring. The following year I added a set and lights. It has developed into a stage show instead of a concert. A medley of hit songs I've had from movies is the only music that isn't

He uses local choruses, sending the music ahead, and goes to different cities each year.

"It's a large show. We carry 40 eople, 28 in the orchestra, 12 crew. We have snow, Christmas trees, Santa last minute. The next year, word had seconds. We use them to make pic- ous kind of feeling.

The orchestra goes by bus, the crew by minibus, and the sound and light equipment in two trucks. Williams and 11 people fly. They could put on a show if ground vehicles didn't arrive, but have never had to.

When he tours with his regular concert in February and for a week of one-nighters in Florida in March, Williams will take the same orchestra, put together by Al Cobine in Indianapolis, of Indiana University music graduates.

"They're terrific musicians," Williams said. "It's almost like finding a Count Basie Orchestra in the Mid-

Williams said that his Christmas Claus. The stage looks beautiful. We shows sell out more quickly than his rent and carry the swiveling lights shows during the rest of the year. "I rock 'n' rollers use. They get nervous think people really want this kind of if they don't move them every three show. Christmas music gives a joy-

## BOOK

Continued from Page 12 sandpainting can be used to call forth mythic powers and thus upset hozho, or balance in the world.

Yistin Gaggii, another Navaho, is the able and ample bad guy who has learned how to access the computer web and bring the ancient powers to

the modern, futuristic world.
As he shifts the emphasis from mystery to science fiction, Foster's credibility gets strained, making vague references to past visits by intelligent aliens who left tremendous powers

behind. Along the way, Foster leaves the

reader with some wonderful words, as when describing the descent of a shuttle, "falling like an amputated arrowhead toward the red-brown frying pan that was Northern Arizona.

The entire mystery of the "cyber way," the computer access to mythic powers connected to the sandpainting, is built up well throughout the novel, but things fall together (or apart) too quickly at the end.

The result is a fair mystery or science fiction novel, but the blending of the two genres is not entirely successful, since the mystery is solved only when science fictional themes are introduced and that shift is strained.

campus notes



THINKING ABOUT CATCHING UP IS GIVING ME A HEADACHE

HEY TOMMY, HOW WAS THE OLE' BREAK?



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THE FAR SIDE

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By GARY LARSON

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#### 110 Announcements

## "I believe that service to others is an obligation of mankind.

Campus Red Cross December 4th, 6 p.m., Student Union.

#### Lightweight Basketball Weigh-in

The first of two pre-season weigh-ins for the intramural lightweight basketball league (160 lbs. and under) beginning spring semester will be Thursday, December 6 from 4-6 p.m. in the men's locker room of the Collseum. A current UNL photo i.O. is required. 472-3467.

#### PINK FLOYD'S THE WALL

#### PRE-SEASON BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

wishes...
President- Stacy Lampshire; Vice-President- Patricia
Heriey, Recording Secretary- Jane Torrey; TreasurerMike Vodehnal; Public Relations- Todd Noble; HistorianAnn Robertson; Membership Committee- Christie
Zoucha; High School Outreach- Harold Houser.

# COSSWORD Edited by Eugene T. Maleska

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