The Doors are back after too long an absence, and they're just

as good, even better than before!

Kicking off their nation-wide tour at Pershing Auditorium Friday night in a Fillmore style concert, The Doors scored a tremendous hit with the small (a little over 4,000), but appreciative audience.

However, preceeding The Doors were two disappointing acts. THE SPENCER DAVIS GROUP opened the concert, but didn't establish any rapport with the audience. Perhaps it is difficult for acoustical guitar work to be appreciated in a Fillmore style concert, but Davis (although a thouroughly competent musician) just didn't make it. He got his biggest response from the audience on "Wash My Hands In Muddy Water."

Ballin' Jack was next on stage. Playing everything from jazz to rock to rhythm and blues to dixieland, they brought the audience to their feet, but the good feeling didn't last. Maybe it was the excited anticipation of The Doors, but Ballin' Jack became tiring after a while. Toward the end of their performance, the songs started to sound all the same.

ONE OF THE HIGH points of the Ballin' Jack set was an excellent flute solo on "Carnival" by Jim Coile.

But when The Doors took the stage, you knew who the audience had come to see Opening up with "Tightrope Ride," their new single, The Doors brought the audience to life for the

first time during the evening.

Ray Manzarek, playing keyboard and doing the majority of the vocals, deserves most of the credit for making the show so fine. Not only is he a very talented musician but as a showman he is superb. In addition, I even heard someone after the concert say that they liked Manzarek's singing better than the late Jim Morrison's. And that ain't a bad compliment!

JOHN DENSMORE, The Doors' drummer, was really into it, breaking drum sticks right and left, not to mention the heads of two trap drums. Meanwhile guitarist Robbie Krieger just seemed

to stand back nice and easy and groove. Performing songs mostly off their new album Other Voices and intregrating them with an interesting recorded intro tape, The Doors picked the audience up and never let them down with such songs as "Down On The Farm," "I'm Horny, I'm Stoned" and "Hang On To Your Life."

Especially good were "Eye of the Sun" and "Variety Is the

"pice of Life" on which Krieger gave a gutsy vocal.

BUT MY FAVORITE of the evening was the extended "Ships With Sails." It is one of the nicest things The Doors have ever done and Manzarek's vocal and keyboard work on the song was positively spellbinding.

Unfortunately there was a breakdown in the sound system so that The Doors' last song, the familiar "Light My Fire" went either unheard or muffled to most of the crowd. The song, whether it was meant to be or not, seemed a fitting tribute to

The audience screamed and stamped and demanded more. They wanted an encore. As far as they were concerned The Doors could go on playing all night. And, The Doors seemed willing, but the sound system was now completely dead and the encore was

THE DOORS were a success on their first outing without Morrison, and they deserve continued success. Friday night was a historic night because the Lincoln audience saw the re-birth of a

Meditation, a play written and directed by Sanjulu Michael Randall, will be presented Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at 8 p.m. in the Nebraska Union for free.

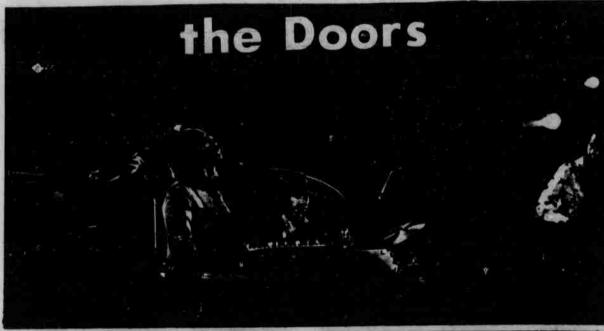
CHUCK BERRY. Teagarden & Van Winkle and Bob Seger will appear at Pershing Auditorium in a Fillmore style concert on Friday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$3.50 in advance and \$4 at the door.

The Film Orgy is returning! Friday and Saturday from 6 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. the Film Orgy will be held in the Nebraska Union. Admission for the 61/2 hour film fest will be \$1.25.

FRIDAY NIGHT will mark the opening of the last Community Playhous production, Halfway Up The Tree, in their old building before moving to the new Playhouse location.

The comedy is about a retired British general, his hippie son

and numerous other assorted characters.

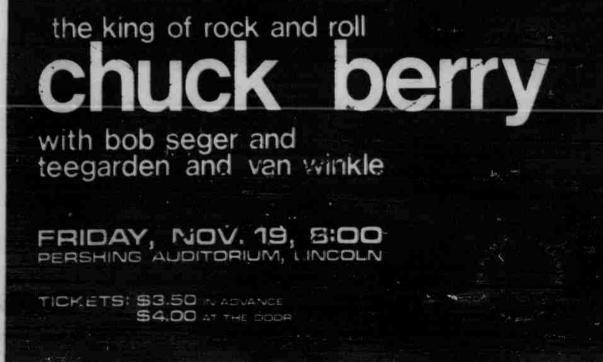








Photos by Gail Folds



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