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SIR DOUGLAS QUINTET

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DOUG SAHM
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AUGIE MEYER



The Sir Douglas Quintet had a number of hits in the late 60's, such as 'She's About A Mover' and 'Mendocino'. He's recorded many albums since then and was also featured in American Graffiti Part 2. His current album, 'Juke Box Music', is charting and Sir Doug is back on the road. Don't miss this Master of Blue-Eyed Soul!

THURSDAY, SEPT. 28
9-1:00

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David Hensen/Daily Nebraskan

Looking down the great hall of the State Capitol. Design details of bison, corn and birds on the grate of the balcony.

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Capitol's artwork historic

By Gretchen Boehr
Senior Reporter

Murals, mosaics and inscriptions inside the Nebraska State Capitol tell stories about democracy, early settlers and nature, said Bob Ripley, manager of capitol restoration and promotion.

"What makes the capitol so significant is that it reads like a book," he said.

"Everything represents native plant or animal life or the evolution of democracy."

Ripley said one chapter begins at the front entrance with inscriptions about a government's responsibility to its people.

Throughout the capitol, inscriptions snake their way around the tops of stone walls. Some of these are quotes by Aristotle, early presidents, Indian ritual songs or Hartley Burr Alexander.

Alexander was the thematic consultant for the capitol and worked closely with the architect, Ripley said.

Alexander's depiction of early democracy includes Moses and the Ten Commandments, which represent early Christian law. Most of the art work was chosen by the architect and Alexander.

Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue and Alexander specified the theme and told sculptors and mosaicists what to create. The capitol took 10 years to build, Ripley said.

Ripley said 12 murals and about 20 busts have been added since the capitol's completion.

These pieces weren't specified by Goodhue or Alexander but fit the capitol's theme, he said.

"The addition of the murals followed the original program," he said, "to keep the book as a whole."

The murals and some of the busts are displayed in the rotunda area.

A chandelier in the north entrance vestibule represents the sun. The chandelier is a round globe of light bulbs with arrows separating each sixth bulb in the outer ring, Ripley said.

"Bracketing each arrow is a cluster of wheat and corn."

The foyer chandelier is decorated with ears of corn with a bison head at the bottom of each ear.

The three mosaics in the foyer represent gifts of nature to people. These gifts are earth, plant life and animal life, he said.

The chandelier in the rotunda chamber includes the 12 signs of the zodiac.

"The theme of the rotunda is the whole universe - the concept of the universe in a world sense," Ripley said.

"It refers to heavens and various symbols within nature."

The center piece in the rotunda is a floor mosaic of Mother Nature flanked by the four natural elements - earth, wind, fire and water.

In the rotunda dome, a ceiling mosaic contains eight angel-like figures depicting the eight guiding virtues of noble living.

Ripley said the two legislative chambers on the east and west of the main rotunda are symbolic of two civilizations which occupied early Nebraska.

The east represents Plains Indians and the west represents pioneers.

"The west chamber represents the multitude of races which have inhabited Nebraska since the time of the Indian," Ripley said.

The theme of the east chamber begins with hand-carved Indian doors.

The chamber also displays a woven tapestry of 10 nomadic tribes who lived in and around Nebraska, Ripley said.

The four aspects of Indian life - village, hunting party, war party and peace council - are represented in a ornamental tile dome.

In the west chamber, hand-tooled leather doors symbolize pioneer craftsmanship, Ripley said.

The gold leaf on the ceiling's walnut beams depicts Nebraska's early settlement.

Ripley said the busts are dis-

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