Exhibit from page B4

; politics. For the most part, his figures are faceless and multicol-ored."

figures are inceless and multicol-rod." Using a self-styled pictorial vocabulary of birds, utopian gar-den settings and references to paintings by the great masters, Thompson offers the type of orig-inality and fertility that tran-scends any stylistic trend. Unfortunately, when Thomp-son died of selerosis of the liver, he was only beginning to distill both the narrative quality and vivid coloration in his work. Sadly, Thompson, too, suffered from the disease of self-indul-

gence that took away some of the other 1960s cultural icons. At 29, Thompson left a trove of paintings, most of which are oils on canvas. Over a soven-year creative output 16e estimated that Thompson finished 1,000 paintings.

ings.

Like the decade when his work began to mature, Thompson's allegorical imagery swirls with the self-indulgence and rage of the 1960s avant-garde and

counter-culture.

But it's probably an exaggeration to claim that his work should be reconsidered alongside

the great painters of the last half of the 20th century. Yet there's no denying that toward the end of his life, Thompson's work was growing in sophistication and vibrancy. So, too, must have been his inability to control his vices.

In the end, Thompson died far too young, Perhaps that's why his work and career can be summed up with the same words used to describe those other artists who died before their time. Thompson, too, shares the legacy of being a "great maybe."

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CHICAGO EVENT

CHICAGO EVENT
Christmas Around the World
and Holidays of Lights continues
until the day after New Year's at
the famed Museum of Science
and Industry in Chicago. The
event keeps alive a tradition
begun 68 years ago as a United
Nations Day salute to American
allies involved in the war. Today
3 trans and three crefered deep. 43 trees and three creches deco-rated by the city's cultural and ethic groups offer an opportunity to peek into a "global living room." The museum also illuminates the season with a lights collection, including those that explain the customs and tradi-tions of Chinese New Year, Diwali (Hindu and Sikh festival Diwali (Hindu and Sikh fesival),
Kwanzaa (African Americans),
Kwanzaa (African Americans),
Kanandan (Muslims), Hanukkah,
Visakha Puja Day (Buddhist),
and St. Lucia Day (Swedish tradition). The holiday show
includes "Kid Stuff", an exhibit
of popular childhood toys down
through the years; highlight is a
giant Radio Flyer wagon at the
museum's min entrance. The
museum's min entrance. The
museum is at 57th and Lake
Shore Drive in downtown Chicago. Holiday hours include being
open Jan. 1; call (800) GOTOMSI
for hours or check www.
msichiego. org' – an excellent
and detailed Web site.

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All aglow: For a look into a "global living room" visit Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry; holiday displays include deco-rated trees representing many coun-tries and cultures.

coupon for mid-week skiing at coupon for mid-week skiing at participating ski runs. In south-east Michigan, Alpine Valley near Mildrod will use a water-cooling tower to help make dryer some earlier in the season. They have remedeled their lodge and will be offering Sunday night lift tickets at 40 percent off for their 40th anniversary. At Pine Knob in Clarkston they have increased their snownsking cannels. their snowmaking capacity, lengthened the race hill by 25 percent, and upgraded the lodge and cafeteria.

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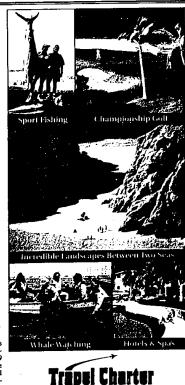
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