Looking at history: This East Roman limestone the third century A.D. features the detail of the man's



Empire shines back in art exhibit

By Mary Klemic Staff Writer

At its most powerful, the Roman Empire stretched from Spain to Persia like a giant quit, consisting of a variety of textures and patterns from the different cultures it absorbed.

East Roman art blended Roman esthutics with those of indigenous peoples in what is now Syrie, Jordan, Lebanon and Israel.

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The current display at Donna
Jacobs Gallery Ltd., 574 N.
Woodward in Birmingham, "East
Roman Art: From the Frontier of
an Empire," shows this in a dra-

an Empire," shows this in a ura-matic way.

The exhibit, continuing through Nov. 7, features impres-sive stone busts and floor mosa-ics. But also included are every-day items. It tells of the strength

■ Some sculpture presents frozen grace, as does the 3-inch bronze Venus rising from the sea. This work shows the strong Greek influence of naturalism.

and size of the empire, but also reminds one that real people lived in its borders.

Some busts, about 21 to 26 inches, in limestone, granite, show individual features: a curly beard, a draped toga. One pow ful bust of the third century A shows a man with massive shoul-ders and a square jaw. The laurel wreath on his head suggests his honor and dignity. Other busts, not as detailed, look like contemporary abstract sculpture.
A mosaic, 33-1/2 inches by 34-1/2

inches, from the fourth to sixth century A.D., features natural cut stones arranged in the image of a bird. Other mosaics present imag-es in more subtle patterns.

A marble relief from the corner of a sarcophagus lid shows sheep and a good shepherd.

Some sculpture presents frozen grace, as does the 3-inch bronze Venus rising from the sea. This work shows the strong Greek in-

fluence of naturalism. Not all work depicts gods or

greatness. Some of it is from dally life: pottery, glass, textiles, oil lamps, levelry and coins, for example. But there is beauty here, too. A delicate bowl of 5'v inches in diameter from Asia Minor has thin walls and figures of gods and heroes. Early safety pins, and bronze keys apparently worn, as rings, have art in their practicality.

rings, have art in their practicality. A tiny moonstone features the carving of an animal. Wrestlers and signatures are among the other images carved on items. Other plain stones are works of art themselves, such as the carnelian that changes color. Some beads are flat and bear fages. Other jewelry consists of finely twisted wire.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, Call 540-1600.

Seminar to offer money-making ideas

Non-profit organizations throughout the state will learn how to develop new revenue-producing concepts during a seminar Wednesday, Nov. 11, in Southfield.
Richard Steckel, author of "Filthy Rich and Other Non-profit Fantasless: Changing the Way Non-profita Do Business in the '90a," will chair the seminar, "Producing Money-making Ideas," at the Parks and Recreation Building, Southfield Civic Center, 26000 Evergreen.
Registration, excluding the box lunch fee of \$8, is \$35 for arts organizations supported

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by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cul-tural Affairs, \$55 for Accounting Aid Society members and \$65 for other participants. Registration deadline is Friday, Nov. 6. For more information, call 961-1840.

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Steckel is an internationally renowned consultant and speaker on non-profit marketing and for-profit public purpose marketing.

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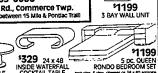
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