

THEY WERE FIRST TO ADMIRE rugged grace of Eric Claus equestrian statue unveiled last week on Mountain Park; Lake Oswego City Councilwoman, Mrs. Mary Goodall, (left) Dr. George Saunders, Stable Master Dale Balenseifen, City Manager Deane Seeger and Lem Nelson of Mountain Park, Inc. Review photo 156s

Bronze Statue Unveiled At Equestrian Center

The first of a number of statuary that will be seen in the planned community development on Mt. Sylvania was unveiled last week at the Mountain Park equestrian center by Dr. George Saunders, noted horse authority, Lake Oswego City Manager Deane Seeger, City Councilwoman Mary Goodall, and Lem Nelson of Mountain Park.

Cast in bronze by Eric Claus of Amsterdam, Holland, for Carl Halvorson, Mountain Park Corporation president, each piece of statuary will characterize the area in which it will be placed.

The first statue depicts four youngsters bouncing and clinging together atop a horse galloping through a field. It suggests the joy and friendship that are part of riding activity.

Halvorson commissioned Claus, a noted European sculptor, after studying the works of several American and European sculptors.

They are rough in texture but expressive of form, with controlled strength in the grace of man's doing something he enjoys.

However, they are not really statues of people. "We prefer not to have a statue of an individual; we want our statuary to represent a facet of everyday life.

"We are trying to have each piece as topical as possible," Nelson said.

The unveiled statue is three quarter length size and weighs one and one half tons.

It has been placed conspicuously but esthetically near the entrance to the equestrian center.

Other statuary will include a group of life-size swimmers for a million dollar recreation building now nearing completion.