

JUNE 1970/40 CENTS



# BIG FOOT IS FOUND! SEE STORY THIS ISSUE

CELEBRITIES RACE FOR CHARITY INTRODUCING SYNCTROL INSTANT DAILIES FOR FILMS DURANGO VS. HOLLYWOOD



**JUNE 1970** 

VOLUME 5 NO. 2

# THE COVER

Burbank is the home of Walt Disney Studios and Warner-Bros.-Seven Arts, but few people realize it is also the home of the mysterious "Big Foot" who is reputed to be roaming the hills scaring the daylights out of hunters and picnickers.

John Chambers, Hollywood's foremost makeup artist and winner of an Academy Award in 1969 for his work on "Planet of the Apes," has created the 900-pound version of "Big Foot" seen on this months cover. For the whole story, plus information on Chambers latest project turn to page 1A.

RACE FOR CHARITY
When the checkered flag flashes this summer at the Ontario International
Speedway this summer, stars like Paul Newman and the Smother's Brother
will be at the wheel in a celebrity race for charity.

## A new advancement is announced by Columbia Studios as Synctrol goes on the set to improve the flexibility of movie makers and the quality of the world famous Hollywood product.

#### The naturalist who did more than any other human for the often misunderstood, yet, dangerous Grizzly bear, Ernest Thompson Seaton's work on the giant bear has been adapted for the screen by Walt Disney. The two combined are certain to make a motion picture of great entertainment, for the family.

## While many were content to dream about a modern system to allow instant. viewing of film shot each time the camera rolls, Gordon Enterprises has been pioneering in the field of TV combined with the standard studio camera. Here's what they have come up with.

#### Yes, according to author John Ringo Graham who recently conducted an exclusive interview with John Chambers and Alan Campbell who took the photos used in our feature on the ape-like mystery man who is supposed to be roaming the wilderness of Northern California.

Probably not, but veteran publicist Lou Dyer who has spent more than his share of time on location in this outpost of civilization, gives some inside information on what is happening as the Mexican government tries to lure more business South of the Border.

DEADLINE: The 8th of each month for all news copy columns and photos for the following months edition.

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"BIG FOOT"
BORNIN
BURBANK?

By John Ringo Graham

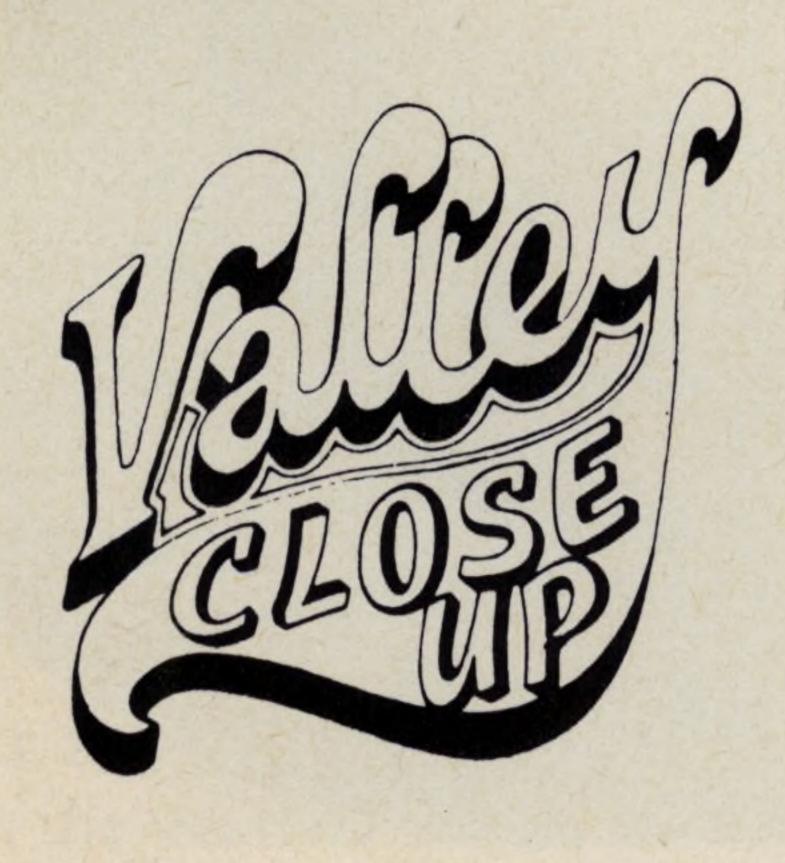
For the benefit of those scientists who may still be combing the wilderness areas of Northern California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah and Canada for traces of the fabled "Big Foot" giant reputed to be hiding there, John Chambers of Burbank has an announcement to make.

The giant is laying in his garage. Chambers spent more than a month in creating a concept and executing a figure which probably looks as much like the real thing (if such a thing even exists), as anything the Big Foot hunters are likely to find.

For the past five years one national magazine after another has run articles on the mysterious half-ape, half man that is supposed to roam the wilderness areas of the Western states. Countless eye witness accounts and blury photos have been gathered to attempt to prove the creature exists. But John Chambers is way ahead of the pack.

His version of the creature has big feet to match his 900-pound bulk and seven-foot, four inch height. The figure is cast from the body of a Hollywood actor whose actual dimensions are seven feet, but falls somewhat short of the weight. Three makeup men worked countless hours casting the man's limbs in a special impression material used by dentists.

The body was joined together and Chambers set to work giving the handsome actors face a Neanderthal look to match that of the so-called Big Foot. Then when the plaster cast was finished, it was carefully painted by Chambers and his crew to resemble natural skin tones. Over this layer of pigment went three pounds of human hair costing over \$100 per pound.





This version was, and as might be expected, John Chambers, the makeup expert was the father —

Laying hair on the monsters body required nearly a week of full-time work in Chambers garage workshop. Body hairs were placed on the figure a few at a time, and blended with various colors to match the patterns found on gorillas, monkeys and humans.

After the hair was set in place, Chambers and his men cut and trimmed it carefully, to give the entire hair covering an even natural look. The figure is so-life-like, casual visitors to Chambers workshop have been badly shaken up when they stumbled upon the reclining figure by accident.

"I forget about it now and then," Chambers says with a grin, "and I have jumped several times when I see him out of the corner of my eye in the semi-darkness." Surgical eyes were to be installed in the monsters face, but it was decided against. "They would make him too erie for people to look at," the makeup man said seriously.

Now that he has a Big Foot, what does he plan to do with it? Well, that is a fairly long story. The creature was ordered by a man who specializes in sideshow attractions and wanted something new to haul around the country this summer. Last year he had the life-size figures of the Cartwright Family on "Bonanza!"

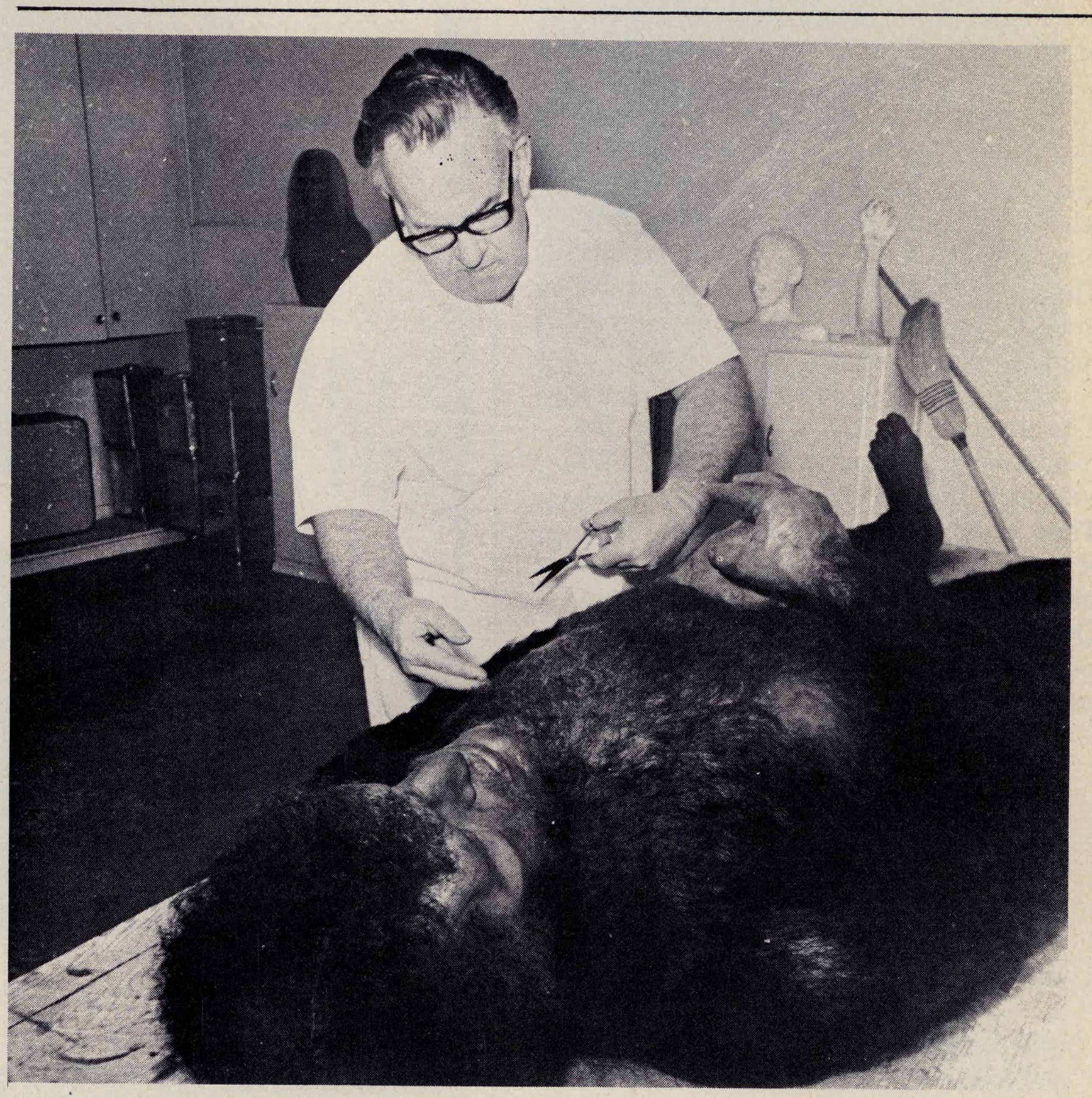
In order to keep the public curiosity satisfied however, it is necessary to come up with a fresh attraction each year. So the man came to Chambers with a number of magazine articles and clippings proporting to show the mysterious ape-man and asked for a duplicate in plaster.

The figure is so perfect, (including foot and finger prints) it is nearly impossible to tell it from the real thing at a distance of a few feet. Big Foot will soon be on his way to the mid-west as a curiosity similar to the famed Cardiff Giant of the last century, except John Chambers makes no claims for his creature other than the fact it is one of the most impressive studies in plaster he has ever done.

But making monsters, creepy characters and other wierd things for the movies is a specialty of Chambers which won him the coveted Academy Award, (one of two given to a makeup artist.) Last year the talented makeup man created the ape-like faces for the new sequel, "Beneath The Planet of the Apes."

The first faces he designed were so authentic, yet intelligent, audiences were

BIG HAIR CUT — While his creation lies quietly on a table in his Burbank garage, John Chambers gives him a trim.





REAL BIG FOOT - With size 20 feet, Chambers creature should qualify for the title.

captivated immediately and the motion picture was an international success. Now, almost two years later, Chambers is still hard at work figuring out ways to frighten audiences with his exciting makeup talents.

Chambers is so devoted to his craft and the science it has become in recent years, he has decided the public needs to know what goes on behind the scenes in Hollywood. The makeup union has no program to inform the millions of fans around the globe who come to see motion pictures. So Chambers has launched a one-man effort to create a vast makeup display in Movieworlds Cars of the Stars which it is estimated will be seen by half a million people this year who visit Buena Park, California.

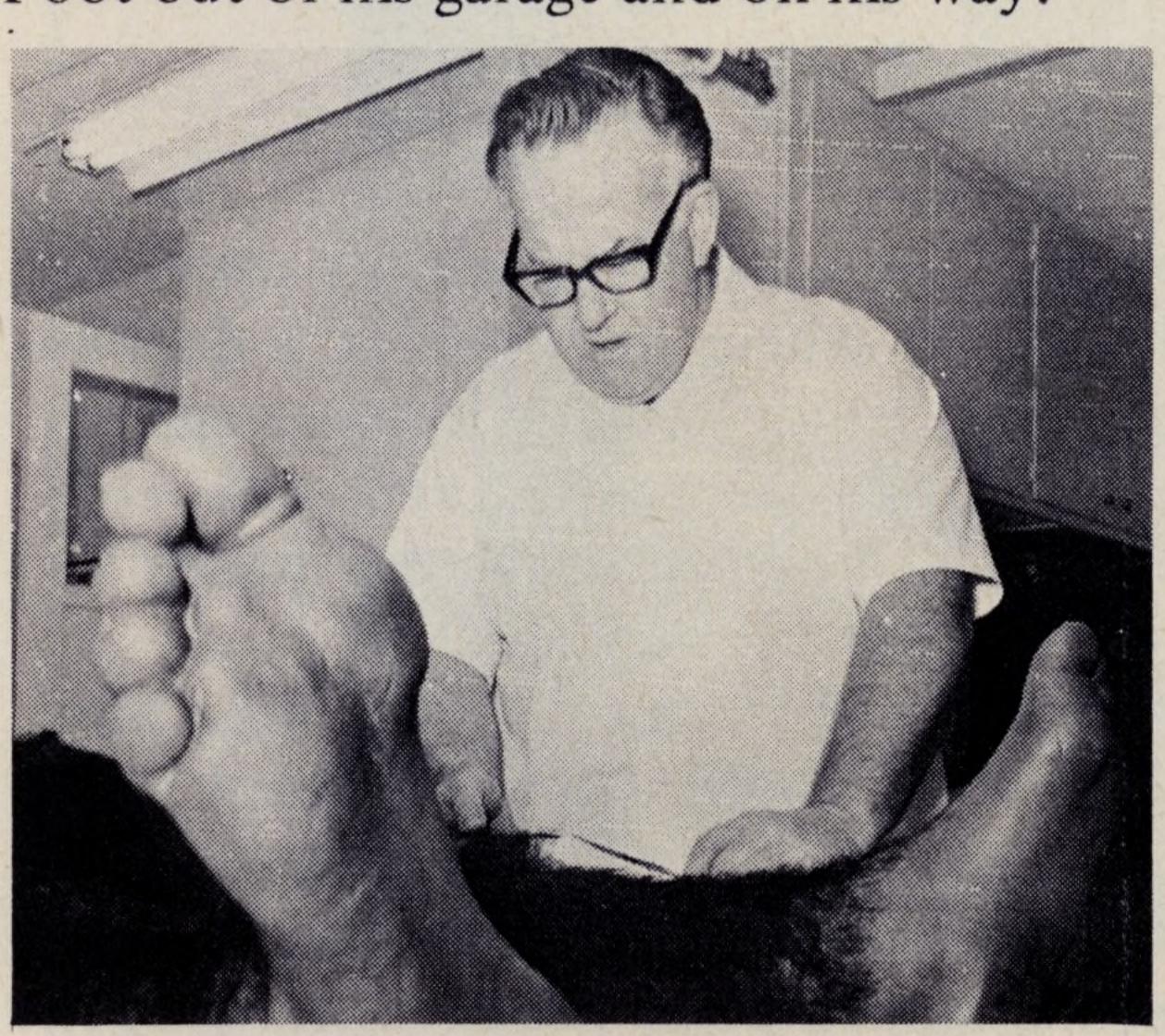
The display will contain actual samples of ape faces from "Planet of the Apes," life masks of famous actors such as John Carradine, Gregory Peck, Bela Lugosi, and a host of other actors who have helped make Hollywood great. This will be backed with various types of appliances used to age actors, make them look younger, or change their appearance completely.

Chambers has collected historic photographs and memorabilia of the past for his Movieworld Cars of the Stars display which will demonstrate in simple terms the evolution of makeup from the silent movie days to the present. This will become an educational tool that Chambers hopes will reach thousands of people in the years to come.

"People should understand the

technique and philosophy behind the makeup artists work," Chambers said recently, "so that when it is flashed on the screen, they will have a greater appreciation for our craft. People understand the cameraman pretty well now, so I feel it is time they knew what makes us tick."

Besides his Movieworld Cars of the Stars exhibit in Buena Park, Chambers is considering the construction of a makeup display in a future Hollywood Hall of Fame Museum. But this is probably a long way into the future he feels. At the present time he is more anxious to get Big Foot out of his garage and on his way.



If in some future era a scientist uncovers a mysterious seven-foot, four-inch creature that seems to be petrified, he had better take a second look, it could be Big Foot, the guy born in a Burbank garage. If this ever occurs, you can bet John Chambers will be looking down from that big makeup lab in the sky with a grin on his face.