

MAR. 1975, NO. 39

WORLD'S FIRST NEWSPAPER OF HORROR, SCI-FI & FANTASY!

**12  
FREE  
GIANT  
COLOR  
POSTERS  
INSIDE**

# the Monster Times

Horrifying Holiday Bonus:  
**DESTROY ALL  
MONSTERS!**  
A Gigantic  
Creature-  
Packed  
Portrait of the  
Entire Toho  
Terror Team!



**FIRST  
GIANT  
COLLECTORS  
EDITION!**

Introducing  
the World's  
BIGGEST  
Monster  
Paper!!!!  
Starring  
a Gruesome  
Gallery  
of Horror  
Greats!

**12 GIANT  
MONSTER  
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...A  
parade of  
Monsterdom's  
most fearsome  
& beloved fiends



...**GODZILLA!  
KING KONG! DRACULA!  
FRANKENSTEIN!  
PLANET OF THE APES!  
GHIDRAH!  
WOLFMAN!  
GAMMERA!  
RODAN! THE MUMMY!  
THE CREATURE!**

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# The World's Greatest Monsters

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A number of new monster-oriented book titles were also published over the past year. In addition to the usual spate of science fiction novels and horror anthologies, horror film books like Robert F. Moss' KARLOFF AND COMPANY: THE HORROR FILM, Edward Edelson's GREAT MONSTERS OF THE MOVIES, Richard J. Anobile's FRANKENSTEIN filmbook, Richard Bojarski and Kenneth Beal's THE FILMS OF BORIS KARLOFF, and Arthur Lenning's THE COUNT: THE LIFE AND FILMS OF BELA LUGOSI



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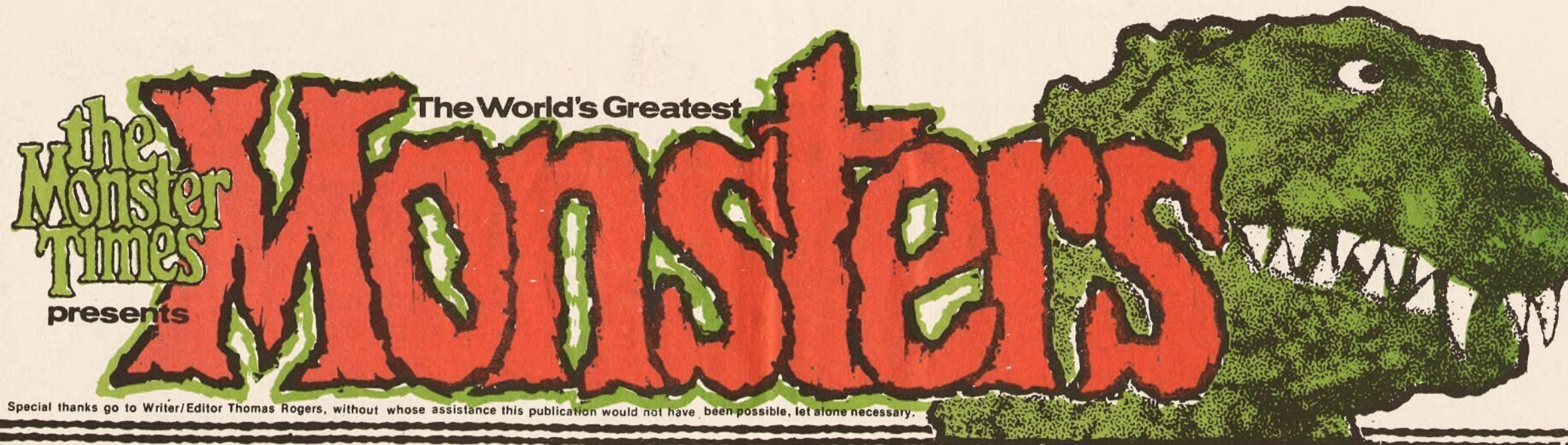
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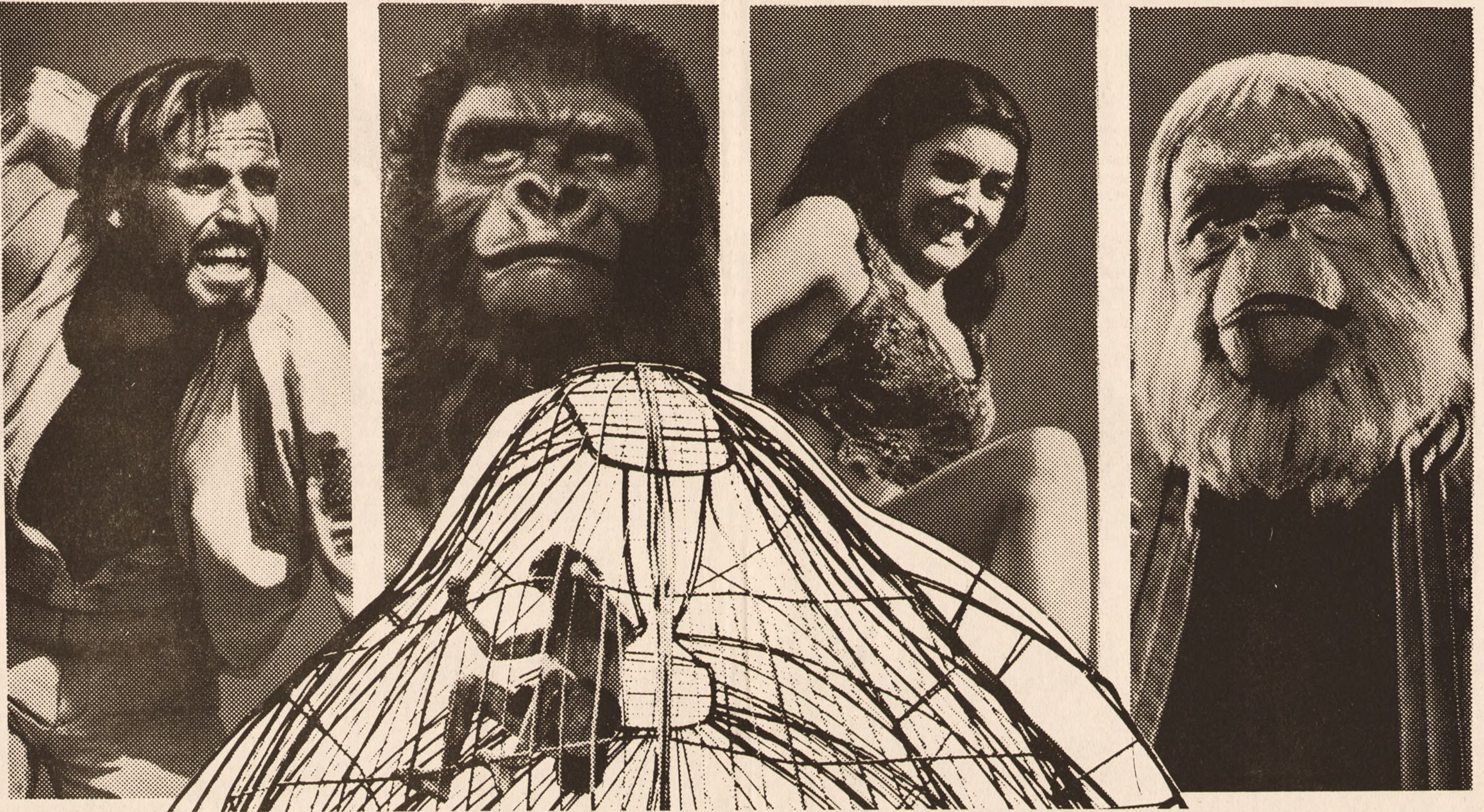


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# Man... hunted... caged... forced to mate by civilized apes!

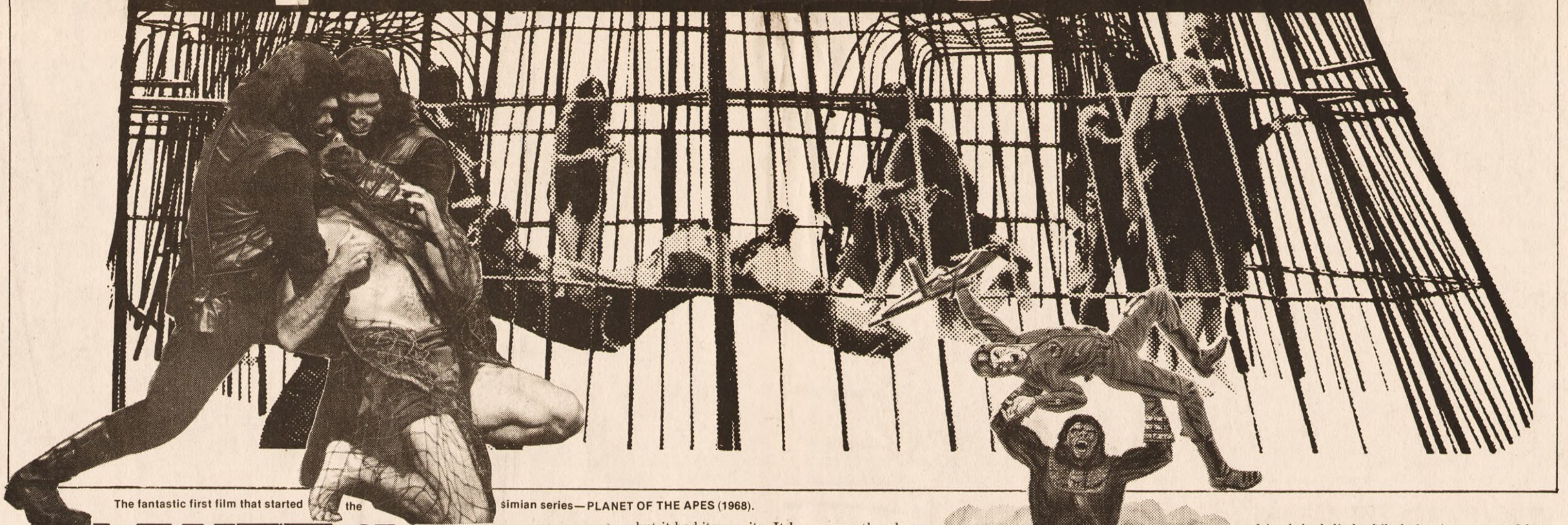
**Commander Taylor. Astronaut.**  
He landed in a world where apes are the civilized rulers and man the beast.

**Marcus. Head of security police.**  
His specialty: violence and torture.

**Nova. The wild human animal**  
captured and selected for special mating purposes.

**Dr. Zaius. Brilliant scientist.**  
Only he has the power to save or destroy the animal called man.

## PLANET OF THE APES



The fantastic first film that started the simian series—PLANET OF THE APES (1968).

## PLANET OF THE APES

THE PLANET OF THE APES proved to be one of the most popular and influential fright films ever to lumber across the screen, inspiring four sequels and a television series. They're the most successful simians to surface since the days when Kong was King.

The unparalleled success of the PLANET OF THE APES series is truly remarkable. There were five films in all, and now there's even a TV show on CBS-TV. Apparently, a lot of people like talking apes; it obviously isn't the quality of the flicks that draws the audiences, because they've gotten progressively worse since PLANET. There are so many errors and inconsistencies in the series that it's really incredible that it succeeded well enough to merit a TV show.

The opening chapter, PLANET OF THE APES (1968), is one of the finest, and most expensive, science-fiction films of all time. The screenplay, written by Rod Serling and Michael Wilson, was based on Pierre Boulle's fine novel, MONKEY PLANET. It opened with four astronauts in a starship. They entered suspended animation so that they would not age much, and trusted that they would be near a distant planet when they awoke. Hundred of years later, the three men revived and found that: 1. the only female member of the crew was dead; 2. they had crash-landed in water; and 3. they were on a planet with a suitable atmosphere. After a long trek, they found a tribe of idiotic humans. Moments later, uniformed gorillas on horseback attacked! One of the astronauts was shot to death, and the others were taken prisoner. They were put into cages, and one of them was operated on so that he would



General Urko leads ape army into battle in BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES (1970).

lose his memory. The survivor—Taylor—befriended a pair of chimps and tried to prove to the amazed ape society that he came from a world of intelligent humans. His execution was ordered, but he escaped and learned that the mad planet he was on was Earth! An atomic war had caused it all!

Two years later, BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES was released. This sequel was not as good as the original flick,

but it had its merits. It began exactly where the first one left off: at the half-buried Statue of Liberty. Afterward, Taylor was captured by an underground society of atomic mutants and sentenced to death for "spying" on them. Meanwhile, another pair of astronauts had broken through the time barrier and landed in the radioactive "Forbidden Zone." One of them died almost immediately, and the survivor—Brent—set out for help. He met Nova, Taylor's mate, and followed her to Ape City, where he was led to Cornelius and Zira. The two chimpanzees aided him as much as they could, and they told him where he might find Taylor. Brent and Nova left in search of the other spaceman, and sometime later they were captured by the warped mutants. When an army of apes assaulted the hidden citadel, Nova was killed and the astronauts escaped. After Brent was also shot, Taylor tried to warn the apes that there was a live Doomsday Bomb on the premises. Taylor was also wounded, and in dying he (accidentally?) activated the Bomb. Earth exploded!

In 1971, Cornelius, Zira and a third ape made their ESCAPE FROM THE PLANET OF THE APES. They had located and repaired one of the damaged starships and blasted off just before the world was destroyed. They passed through a time warp and ended up on Earth in the year 1973. At first, they pretended to be dumb animals because they feared what humanity would do to them. After the third chimp was murdered by a gorilla, though, they revealed their intelligence and ability to speak. Once they proved their worthiness, Cornelius and Zira were made celebrities and given the key to the city. As time went by, Zira became pregnant, and it was then that a very devious scientist used truth serum to get the full story of the future out of her. As a result, the chimps were imprisoned and there were



Newspaper art from BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES (1973).

some people in high places who wanted them executed. Fearful of their destiny, the apes escaped by killing a guard. This malicious (although accidental) act made the authorities order their deaths. A few days later, Zira gave birth to a male chimp at the circus of a man named Armando. Zira then switched her baby for a normal, newborn chimp, and fled with Cornelius. Shortly afterward, all three were killed—but Zira's baby lived!

During the following year, CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES was released. It took place in the near future, when semi-intelligent apes in various uniforms were slaves to humans. A space virus had killed off all small domestic animals, and apes had replaced them in homes. When Man learned that apes made better servants than pets, they were forced into a life of servitude. By this time, Caesar, the son of Cornelius and Zira, was full-grown. He alone, of all the apes in the world, was able to speak in English. In addition, he possessed a strange telepathic link with his species. He posed as a dumb ape for a while, but when he learned that Armando, his only

friend, had died while being interrogated by the police, he vowed revenge against humanity. Before long, he led the apes in full revolt and took over a city. At movie's end, though, he and his hairy army left in order to plot Man's downfall.

In 1973, BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES was issued to theaters across the country. The story here began soon after the atomic war had occurred. Human and ape survivors were living in a crude town some miles from New York City. The leader was Caesar, and they all respected him—but a great deal of ill feeling existed between the two species. To make things worse, the mutated survivors who were living beneath New York decided to attack the ape/human community. After a long and bloody battle,



Roddy McDowall as Caesar in CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES (1972).

the mutants were wiped out and peace was restored. The last scene showed how, centuries in the future, ape and humans were living together in peace and harmony. Ridiculous, and the TV show is even worse! □