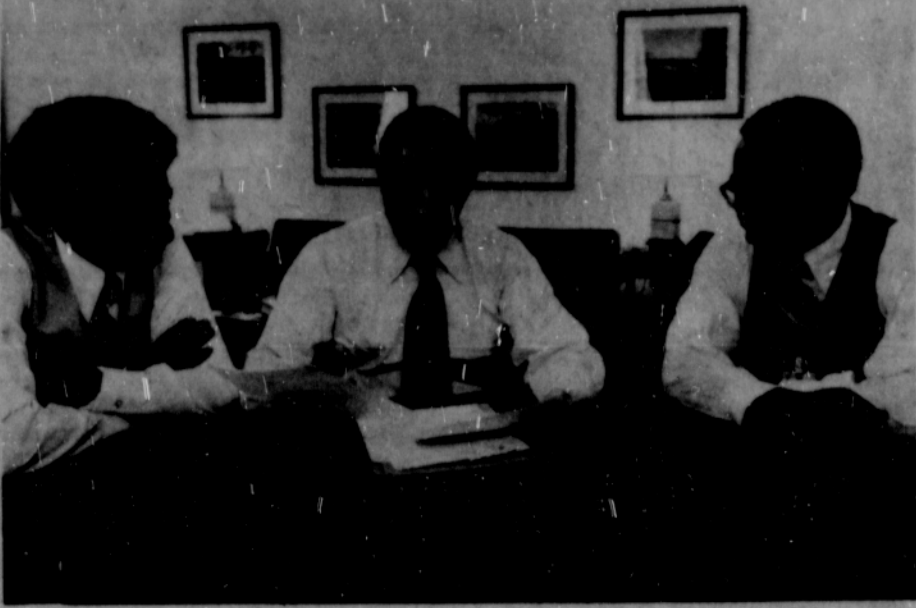




James Dyke and Lawrence R. Oliver join vice president Walter Mondale.

Blacks join Mondale staff

Vice President Walter F. Mondale has announced the appointment of two Black attorneys to key positions on his personal staff. They are James Dyke of Washington, D.C., and Lawrence R. Oliver of East Palatka, Florida and Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Dyke, 30, will be Mondale's Special Assistant for Issues Development and will work closely with Carter staffer Bunny Mitchell in coordinating the new Administration's relations with the Black community. He will serve as the Vice President's personal and political liaison with the Black community and the District of Columbia government. In addition, he is responsible for a wide range of domestic issues, including civil rights.

A graduate of Howard University and Howard University Law School, Dyke was an attorney with the Washington firm of Covington and Burling and served

as Counsel to the Democratic Platform Committee before joining Mondale's Vice Presidential campaign as Political Advisor.

Oliver, 30, will serve as Mondale's Special Assistant for Legislation. He will work in the Vice President's Senate office and will assist Mondale in congressional relations. He also will serve as legislative liaison for consumer, health and veterans issues.

After receiving his B.S. degree in political science/history from Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida, and pursuing studies at Harvard University, Oliver received his law degree from the University of Iowa Law School. He practiced law with the Minneapolis firm of Dorsey, Marquart, Windhorst, West and Halladay before joining Mondale's Senate staff in 1975 as Legislative Assistant with the Subcommittee on Children and Youth.

Cocaine to follow marijuana?

by Linda Ross

BOSTON, (PNS) - A series of legal and legislative battles brewing here could spark national moves to limit criminal penalties for cocaine, fast becoming the new "candy of the rich."

In one corner are a group of attorneys and medical researchers who condemn the jail terms given possessors of a drug they don't consider dangerous.

Pitted against them are law enforcement agencies who contend cocaine has harmful physical and psychological effects and must therefore be controlled.

Both sides are expected to summon a number of witnesses - doctors, scientists, historians and law enforcement specialists - to testify on their behalf.

Meanwhile, encouraged by the prospects in Massachusetts, lawyers in California and Alaska are reportedly planning test cases to challenge their states' cocaine laws later this year. They would confirm no details, however.

Cocaine - a white, crystallized powder derived from South American coca leaves - is a central nervous system stimulant. When inhaled, it provides about an hour's euphoric "high." Federally outlawed since 1914, cocaine at the turn of the century was still a common ingredient in "nerve" tonics and even Coca-Cola.

Federal law calls for a up to a year in prison for first-time possession of cocaine, sale can bring up to 15 years. Each state also has criminal penalties for cocaine possession and sale, ranging from misdemeanors to felonies.

But within the past decade or so, according to drug enforcement officials, cocaine has surpassed marijuana as the favored drug of the white, upper-middle

class - especially young professionals. Cocaine offenses have doubled in the past 15 years, says the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), even while its price has skyrocketed to \$80-\$110 a gram (enough for an evening among friends).

Ironically, the debate here began last December when a Black district court judge - regarded as a hardliner on drugs - threw out Massachusetts' current cocaine law as too harsh. Cocaine, the judge said, has been misclassified as a narcotic and was actually less dangerous than alcohol or nicotine.

In dismissing charges against a 36-year old Black defendant, Judge Elwood McKenney also said the state cocaine law "has led to blatantly racist attacks on cocaine users." McKenney had allowed into evidence the testimony of five expert defense witnesses, one of whom charged that cocaine enforcement has historically been aimed at Blacks.

McKenney's final ruling concluded that the current cocaine law resulted from "generations of ignorance and myth, all now destroyed by reliable scientific evidence." He now routinely dismisses cocaine cases brought before his court.

Proponents of cocaine decriminalization view McKenney's ruling as a major first step in paving the way for milder cocaine penalties across the country - much as similar decisions did for marijuana in the early 1970's.

And it's no coincidence, legal observers note, that the national push for decriminalization of cocaine is following - like marijuana - its leap from the ghettos into the upper classes.

"White middle-class professionals in three-piece suits have been coming up to me and saying they hope the laws are

changed," says Jim Lawson, a Boston attorney who helped prepare the case that led to McKenney's ruling.

FLURRY OF MOVES

McKenney's decision has set off a series of moves and counter moves in Massachusetts' official corridors.

While the state Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal on the McKenney decision because of a legal technicality, it has announced it will hear arguments for and against the current state cocaine laws as soon as the next test case is tried and appealed.

Defense lawyers say they plan to bring another test case soon. And next time, losing prosecutor Jim Hayes says, he will offer his own expert witnesses in rebuttal.

Meanwhile, state Representative Michael Flaherty has introduced a bill that would reclassify cocaine with marijuana. While both marijuana and cocaine possessions are misdemeanors in Massachusetts, first-time convictions for marijuana can bring at most six months probation - while cocaine can bring up to a year in jail and a \$1000 fine.

The victorious defense attorneys have announced they will reassemble their panel of experts for the Massachusetts House Judiciary Committee hearings on the Flaherty bill, scheduled for March.

And Rep. Flaherty, a South Boston Democrat who helped liberalize the state's marijuana laws, will invite the DEA's New England Regional Director Edward Cass and other law enforcement officials to testify in opposition.

The defense experts will contend, as they did in Judge McKenney's courtroom that cocaine arrests, trials and jail sen-

tences waste the state's time and money.

According to defense witness Richard Ashley, a New York writer-historian and author of books on heroin and cocaine, some police agencies spend up to 50 percent of their drug enforcement time on cocaine-related cases.

"Cocaine isn't a criminal problem," says defense witness Ron Siegel, professor of research pharmacology at UCLA. "It's a public health problem."

Siegel and other defense medical experts contend cocaine is not an addictive narcotic like heroin and causes no similar physical dependence or painful withdrawal symptoms for the average user.

And, Siegel says, "cocaine may have medical uses in the alleviation of depression and gastrointestinal problems and the facilitation of weight loss."

Prosecutor Jim Hayes, on the other hand, points out that according to the defense experts' own testimony, cocaine-taken regularly in extremely large doses can cause anxiety, depression, paranoia and insomnia and can damage the nasal septum.

And the DEA's Edward Cass says his experts will testify that cocaine can be psychologically addictive even if it isn't a narcotic. Cass also links cocaine to the heroin trade. "On the intrastate level our agents buy cocaine and heroin from the same people," he says.

Even if Massachusetts does relax its cocaine penalties, Cass says, "I'll just keep enforcing the federal laws there."

But he acknowledges that the federal government is not likely to pursue small-time possession cases. "We can't afford to deal at the street-corner level," he says.

Youths produce sequel to Kong

(Continued from page 1 col. 3)

inch, still another for the next slight movement until the desired motion is completed. When the film is run at regular speed, what in actuality is the systematic "inching" upward of, say, an arm appears on the screen as a fluid motion. With cartoons, a series of drawings is used to accomplish this.

Blending their artistic talents, the young producers fashioned several versions of miniature Kongs to use in the C and C production. For filming body movement of the big ape, seven-inch tall miniature frames were carved out of wood and jointed in the neck, shoulders, elbows, wrists, abdomen and legs. The frames were then covered with layers of latex, plasticine (a rubbery, clay-like substance which was used for muscle tissue on the models), sponge rubber, and finally rabbit fur.

A Kong head matted on a piece of cardboard is used for closeups and facial expressions.

In the opening sequence of the C and C production, a two-foot-tall Kong doll plunges to the streets of Downtown New York (Portland) but continues "breathing" thanks to an internal air bag, attached hose and Hunt's breath.

The various dinosaurs and a "huge" spider used in the filming were bought from a commercial outlet specializing in models.

Scene construction and filming took place at young Cash's home and, originally, in the studios and hallways of the Portland Art Museum.

As with all great undertakings, mistakes are made. "When we started filming, we were very nervous and taking every precaution possible," explains Cash. "The animation was easy, but somehow, the focus would occasionally screw up. Ironically, the young producers' first camera suffered the same fate as Kong: someone tripped over a lighting cable and sent it out of a fourth-story window. Eventually, Cash explained, with a bit more experience, things went smoothly.

Smoothly, indeed. In November of 1976, the Portland chapter of Links, Incorporated, a national organization of mostly professional women committed to cultural, civic and educational activities and endeavors, presented young Cash with an award at the "Showcase of Arts" held at Jefferson High School. In their

efforts to recognize and encourage young people in the Arts, Links, Inc. found out about C and C's project from instructors at the Art Museum, many of whom may have been dancing around, jumping over and ducking under the young producers' sets. Mrs. Katherine Bogel and Mrs. Carmen Walker, co-chairpersons of the "Showcase", as well as other members of Links, Inc. considered the project, even though unfinished, worthy of commendation. Says Mrs. Walker, "We had made contact with the Art Museum and Art teachers and based on what we had seen of what young people were doing, this was different and was beyond the regular high school program." Even though the award was presented to Cash because only he attends the Museum Art School, he notes, "It is for all three of us. We're all equal in this."

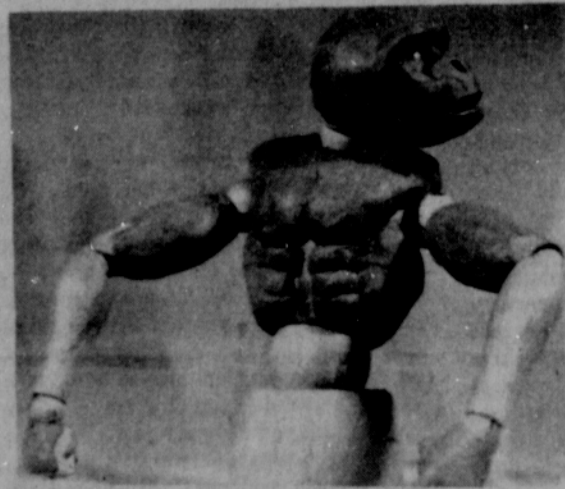
C and C Productions estimates that the film will be completed around the end of this year. Most of the filming is done on the fight scenes; what is primarily needed are a rear projection screen and actors to put in front of it to bring beauty and beast together again. The search for the "new Fay Wray II" has proven fruitless.

"People either don't believe we are really making a movie," says Colt, "or they are looking for a lot of money." Even though C and C is willing to pay actors a small fee, he explained, it doesn't have the millions behind it like De Laurentiis has. According to the three young producers, the \$2 million-plus, 40-foot tall Kong model in the film has only a "bit" part spanning "in the area of 30 seconds or so." Between them, the trio has seen the De Laurentiis Kong 20 times.

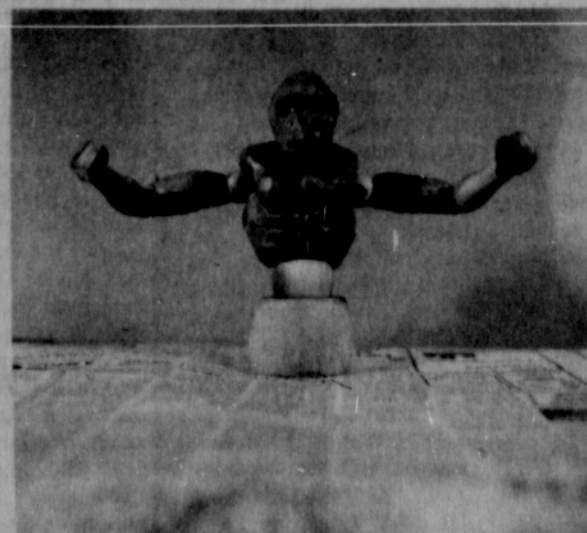
All three, however, claim that they are not copying De Laurentiis. According to Colt, they found out through "inside sources" about the coming of the new Kong after they had begun researching for the C and C sequel to the original.

When the C and C production is completed, arrangements are being made to debut the entire film (the first clips were shown at "Showcase") at the Portland Art Museum. Plans for a new film, featuring dinosaurs, are already set.

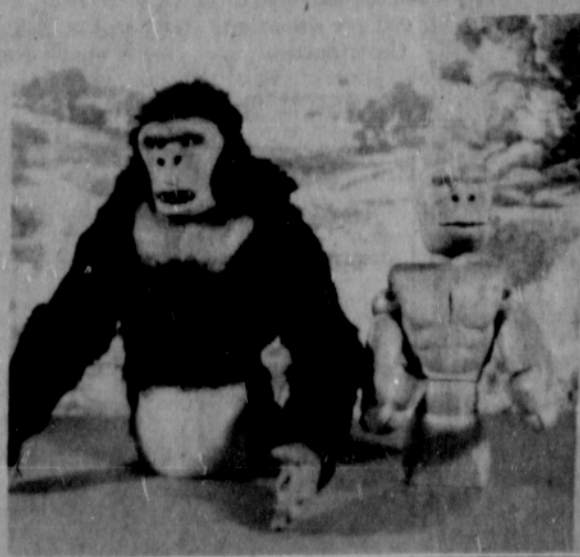
Obviously Cash, Colt and Hunt are addicted to filmmaking; there are a lot more movies, mistakes and, hopefully, money to be made. In the meantime, Ray Harryhausen, look out.



Miniature frame of Kong was carved from wood.



Jointed neck, shoulders, elbows, wrists, abdomen and legs make movement possible.



A cover of rabbit fur completes the model.

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Citizen of the Week



Marshal Haskins is an eighth grader at Boise Elementary School. One of those "all around students", he is editor of the school paper *Boise Speaks*. He is an honor student and enjoys school. He has been a member of the student council for three years and is chief school photographer.

An athlete, Marshall is a 34 point man on the eighth grade basketball team at Boise and is called "Dillion" by his team mates. He played second base on the McDonalds Senior League baseball team and in 1974 made the Little League All Star Team.

Marshall, who will be fourteen on May 29th, is not sure about his future plans but he is still contemplating sports or newspapering. He is considering either Benson or Jefferson for his high school education.

A resident of Portland since the age of three, he has attended all eight years at Boise. He lives with his foster parents, Margaret and Willie Frison.

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