

Siloam Springs, Arkansas 72761, Thursday, November 7, 1974



## City Teen's Make-Up Is Beginning Of Vocation

by Mary Kinsey

Andy Neal can do something most of us which we could do. Through makeup and cosmetic tricks, he can become anyone or anything he feels like being.

Andy's skill at characterization through makeup allows him to change himself into anything from an old man to a killer ape. The transformation, as in the case of the ape, can take as long as four hours, and it can be very taxing physically. "I lost 10 pounds in three days working on the ape," he says.

The process of going from man to ape starts with the use of oil base clay applied in layers to a plastic mold of Andy's face. He then peels the layers off one at a time and glues them to his own face.

"For a cat disguise, I once used special chemicals to dilate my eyes," Andy adds. Wigs and hairpieces also play a prominent part in the complete characterization. Andy often shaves the hair on his arms, face, eyebrows and eyelashes to enable him to perfect his character. The "ape man" requires seven or eight hairpieces glued to various areas on his face and arms.

Fifteen-year-old Andy began working with makeup when he was 10. He found this a way that he could stand out from the crowd. "To look at me, I'm just an average person," he says, "but through this, I can become anything I want to be."

Andy studies movies and movie books to learn makeup techniques. He works on a particular characterization for days and sometimes weeks. "But it's never completely right," he says. "I may do several different noses in a day until I have the best one for what I'm doing."

Andy wants to make his work into more than just an entertaining hobby. He'd like to go

to California when he gets out of school and work as a makeup apprentice in the movie industry. Until then, he plans to do temporary jobs, like his most recent as the "ape man" at the Jaycees' haunted house.

For most of us, the closest we can come to being something we aren't is in our dreams or fantasies. But Andy Neal can make a fantasy real by his own unique talent.



Sun., June 17, 1973  
Los Angeles Times

Things go bump in the daytime at Haunted House, Movieland War Museum.