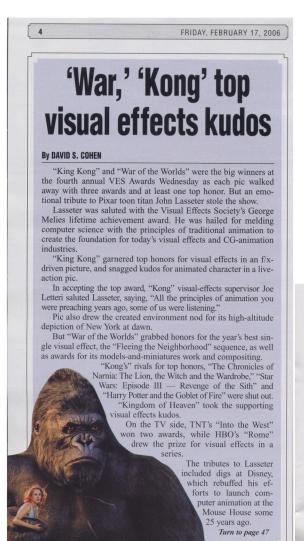


## PRESS CLIPPINGS







FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2006

DAILY VARIETY

## 'KONG,' 'WAR' VISUAL VICTORS

Continued from page 4

Presenter John Ratzenberger quipped that the day he saw the news that Pixar would be taking over Disney animation, "I also saw a little item that Walt Disney had stopped spinning in his grave."

Lasseter, in his acceptance speech, recalled going to work in 1980 at Disney, "the place I'd wanted to work all my life," only to find

"they'd reached a plateau."



Lasseter

Recognizing huge potential in the work being done on "Tron," he worked on a demo to show what computer animation could do.

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"It fell on deaf eyes," he said.

Lasseter was careful not to disclose any plans as animation topper for the Mouse once the purchase of Pixar is complete, saying only that he is "looking forward to working with the pioneering artists" there again.



"War of the Worlds" was one of the big winners at the VES Awards taking three nods, including the honor for best single effect.

Lasseter's tale hit a nerve among the assembled visual effects pros, many of whom were disgruntled ex-Disney animators.

Fellow Pixar vet Ed Catmull, who also goes with Lasseter to Disney, will receive a sci-tech award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences on Saturday.

Pixar's Jim Morris received a special honor, the VES board of directors Award. Morris is a longtime Lucasfilm vet who left to join Pixar in 2004.

Morris managed Lucasfilm's transition into digital production and was saluted for being a linchpin of the VES during its founding and early growth.

For a complete list of winners go to variety.com/ves