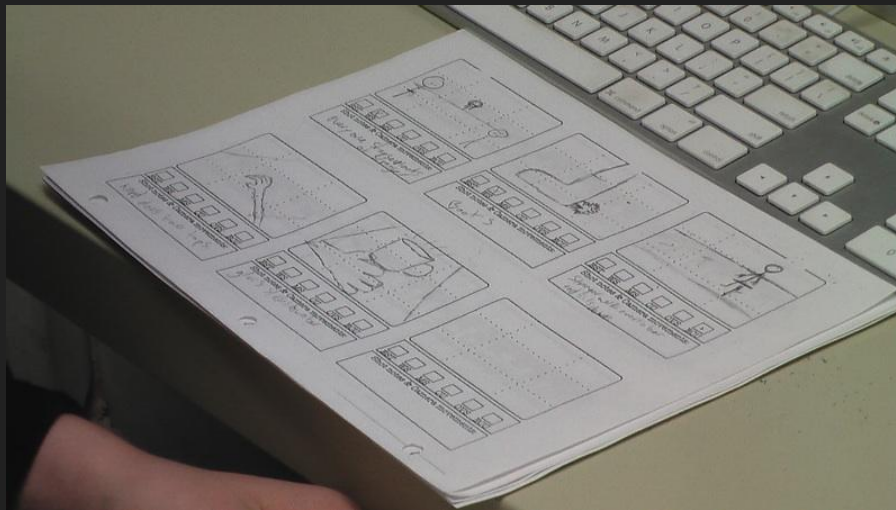




12/08/2009

actually on a computer in Mr. Alans room typing out this blog; Cranberrys computer to be exact (shout out to the Cran Crew). I made the Wild West reference to infer, if you did not know, that our movie is, in fact, a Western. The very first in Walpole High School history ever. Hopefully this will storm some buzz around our film and pave the way for a new genre of movies: The Eastern. Anyway, for some updates on our movie, all is going well. The script is finished (a whopping 11 pages), all of our material is in to the Big Cheese of the Art Direction Department (Ms. Padis), and our crew is ready and excited to ride our steam-powered engine to the heart of the Wild West to undergo this dusty, rusty behemoth. The most challenging obstacle of this film will have to be combated by Padis and her artistic army. The challenge is to create a believable Western, complete with rustic costumes and a full working saloon. The set must be complete before shooting begins, and I am fully prepared to delay production until we get it perfect. We also have found our cast. Stranger, the character, will be played by the one and only Tim Connolly (back from his hiatus after recovering from the infamous Sabatoge). Dan Vicente will embody the role of our devil in disguise: Samuel Friend. Pete The Pistol McNulty will be assisting as fulfilling the character of Luke. And finally, we will have a special faculty appearance as the Bartender. Our crew is ecstatic to begin filming; we hope you are excited to see the final product. All is good on the Western front.

Yee-haw,



12/18/09

Hello all, Mike D here. The lychee crew has been hard at work planning our movie. Yesterday we had our art direction meeting with Ms Padis which went very well. The art direction team has been split up to handle the two different tasks costume design and setting up the saloon. We just cast a freshman, Matt Johnson, as the Deputy character Jack I am pretty confident with the choice. Generally I feel the movie preproduction is going very well, we just need to catch up on story boarding and we are all set. Also, I just want to mention that Huckleberries look like rotting blueberries and are nothing to the sheer awesomeness of Lychee. Watch out Huckleberry. We have Thug, and we are not afraid to use him...



1/29/10

Greetings All, sorry for the short hiatus from blogging but the crew of West has been hard at work making a believable Wild West saloon-- I think we've succeeded. Filming is finally underway and we have been getting a lot accomplished. The costumes fit the saloon like butter on toast and the actors are excellent. Mr. Powers is our ace in the hole at this point; you would have thought we pulled him right out of the 1800's. We've shot some basic scenes to start with and are moving on to more complicated shots as we move on. I have not been this excited for a movie since I heard about the production for The Squeekuel. Wish us luck and be sure to comment-- we all think you will be pleased with the final result.

Your Western Director,
Phill



2/5/10

West is coming along quite well. This week we filmed twice, Wednesday and Thursday. Our set looks amazing, we bought some lights which made this set look legit. They have an almost yellow color to them and they truly make our set. Without them our set did not look realistic. This week we also finalized casting our actors. Samuel Friend is being played by Pete Bowes, and he is doing an incredible job. Also, Mr Powers, playing the bartender, is one of the best actors i have ever seen in a film festival movie (best faculty performance????). Tim Connolly (playing the mysterious Stranger) is also doing a great job acting, and he looks natural in his vengeance stranger costume. I've been taking loads of pictures during the entire process, and they truly show the movie coming together picture-by-picture. I am going to go as far as to say our set is the best and most in depth ever constructed for the Walpole film festival. See you next week! West Co-Director- The Infamous Mike D



3/1/10

This last week we have been getting stuff done. We didn't film, but instead we have been focusing on editing and creating a soundtrack for our movie. Right now we are working on a song to play in the background of the bar intro, in the beginning we had a difficult time getting the feel down. It was either way to fast or way too slow. But towards the end of last week we made a few tweaks and it is sounding pretty good. Also, Phill and I are combining our visions of the sepia look we wanted. Its still a work in progress, but so far I think we are both happy with our sepia color. The rest of our movie seriously depends on the unpredictable weather of the 02081. Alright folks. The period is about to end I am being seriously distracted by listening to a crazy Dan Deacon song (called Woof Woof listen to it here <http://j.mp/3UGPSb>"><http://j.mp/3UGPSb>). This is Mike Demarais signing out.



3/5/10

Can you have a convincing film-festival cowboy movie? That is the ultimate question that the Lychee crew is trying to answer. You cannot describe this movie without talking about the insane set and costume design. Director Phil Groden has been a one-man wrecking crew on this movie. From the onset, Phil's ambitions flirted with the impossible. Before I gave the green light to this project, I had a long talk with Phil to ultimately decide whether a realistic western could be done, he assured me it could. So far, Phil has done everything possible to make this a reality. Somehow Phil corralled Mike Demarias to help make his vision a reality. This, in turn, may be the greatest and most daunting task for Phil: keeping Demarais on task. So far, the two seem to be an impressive team. Most impressive is the set that Phil and Mike built over Christmas break. Complete with a wraparound bar and shelving, they transformed an empty room in Plimpton into a rollicking saloon. These guys are also getting the performances from their actors, most notably a surprise performance by faculty bartender Mr. Wild Bill Powers. If this movie delivers, much like Maltese did last year, then look for Phil and Mike to be very busy on awards night. So far from what I have seen, it seems that is the trail these cowboys are riding on Buzz Analysis: Venti Caff Americano



3/10/10

Hello all (hopeful) blog followers, Phill Groden here, ready to keep you updated on the exciting, crazy cool Walpole High School Film Festival Feature. The news so far is that editing is going well; we've got the sepia color down and have even begun working on some music for them film. Recently, we have shot with the soon-to-be Film Festival Star: Matt Johnson. For a Freshman, this kid is red hot. He has a main part in a feature this year and is even directing his own short. Watch out for this kid in the next few years he may be the next Phill Groden (maybe). Finally, art direction has been (I am assuming) hard at work at creating the Indian costumes for our movie. Chief Caneja is gearing up and getting ready for his big screen debut (spelling?), and we are all very excited. Depending on the weather, our last two big scenes may have to be shot and edited very close to the deadline, but we will just have to wait and see. Cross your fingers for this movie folks it's crunch time and it's gonna be a bumpy ride. YEEEEEEHAWWWW.



4/29/10

For all you readers out there, this is our last blog. For all you new readers, may I say, Welcome! And, Where the HELL HAVE YOU BEEN?! Only kidding...I know we have not kept too up to date on our blogs compared to other crews(**ahem-Cranberyy-ahem**), but we were too busy attempting to make our Western seem believable to blog. However, I believe we have succeeded at our goal. Me and Mike D (Demarais, mind you, not the front-man of the Beastie Boys) are very happy with our end result-- although, I believe if the Beastie Boys were to watch our movie, they would be very pleased. That being said, if it's good enough for the Beastie Boys, the general audience should find the movie satisfactory. To quote every cheesy graduation speech in the history of teenage-kind, What a long, strange trip it's been. More strange than long, though...it's only been a few months, but it's definitely been plenty weird. It's a bit strange knowing me and Rich Murphy will not be frantically throwing ideas (and other objects) back and forth to each other about our upcoming scripts to be written, or that I won't see another Mcguill freak-out concerning when he's filming and where his director has gone. Not all is lost though folks! I will definitely be throwing something at Rich, and Ryan Mcguill will absolutely freak about something, probably sometime in the near future. But I digress... the point is, despite all the long nights editing in front of a computer, frantic phone calls trying to find actors, and stressful months desperately attempting to wrap up my movie, I will certainly miss the Film Festival. The Film Festival has added more to my high school career than any class ever has. Everyone reading this should, if they're not already, get involved in the Film Festival. You will take away more from it than you can ever imagine. For the last time, this is Phill Groden, signing off. YEEEEEEHAWWWWWW, SEE YOU IN MAY!