



1/30/07

What Teachers Want is currently in Pre-Production. We have completed storyboards and we are working on a tentative shooting schedule, along with production design and wardrobe. Hopefully, we will begin shooting the week before February vacation.



2/8/07

On Monday, we began filming. Shooting is going well. This week, we are only filming minor scenes and we anticipate filming more important scenes next week and after vacation.



2/26/07

We are still in the beginning stages of filming. Over vacation we shot a couple short scenes. The scene at Ellis' house came out alright. I think we might have to redo the scene at Dan's house. An interesting aside to our earlier filming is our pioneering first use of makeup effects on our lead actor, Dan Jenks, who suffered a black eye during wrestling practice. Thanks to the incomparable Julie Marshall and her wonderful makeup, we were able to mask Dan's black eye. These next couple weeks should be interesting as we start to film some more important scenes. We're expecting to have some good stuff in the near future!



2/3/07

Is it the year of the Ober? Maybe. Ober is the only 4-year veteran of the Film Festival. This film is the second that he is directing. Ober seems much more confident this year than last year, and his crew works very well together. Their footage looks good, but much of this movie's magic will come in the editing room. Jenks has been solid as the lead, and Ellis has done a great job as his funny sidekick. The Buzz was very high for this film following the article in the Walpole Times in December. However, lately these guys have just been quietly getting it done.



3/8/07

Things are moving along steadily. We filmed a couple important scenes, one with Mr. Oullette and one with Mr. Waisgerber. We anticipate to film more scenes with both teachers in the coming weeks. They are doing a fantastic job so far. On a side note, Jenks can fake sleep very well and Ellis is a natural playing a slob.



3/19/07

On Friday, we shot a very important action scene for the film: The crucial dodgeball scene with the great Coach Tompkins and a very special guest, the one and only Shane "Shane Train" Garvin. It was a great time, and we all survived the blizzard. This week will be a very, very busy week of shooting. This film is beginning to take shape in the editing room and is going to be a fun experience.

5/21/07



With this final blog, I conclude my four years of not only high school, but my four years of involvement with the Walpole High School Film Festival. It's been an unforgettable experience which I believe has helped shaped my growth as a person and as a filmmaker. I can't believe that it is finally coming to a close. I am going to sorely miss the Film Festival and all of the great times I've had and all of the bonds I've formed with other students, many of whom I would never have spoken to otherwise. As I reflect upon the two films I have directed, "Being Mr. Giblin" and "What Teachers Want", I have many great memories, and a few regrets, but countless lessons learned. For "Giblin", I was a novice director, and I was paired up with Matt Connolly, a more experienced director; and I learned many things from our pairing, namely the difficulties of working with other people. We had our share of disagreements, but I believe that I took away a lesson from that experience in working with other people; namely, they won't always agree with you and you must learn to compromise. In the 2007 Film Festival, I learned the difficulties of independence, both as a filmmaker and as a human being. I was unfortunately unable to commit as much time this year to the Film Festival as I would have liked to, but I still believe that I made a great film, regardless of how many awards I did or did not win. I believe that awards are not the judge of a film's quality, but rather how the public feels about a film. Of course, I have things I would like to change if I could go back and do it again, but isn't the artist always a little unsatisfied with his works? I believe I still have an eternity to learn more about making films, and that I will try to be the best filmmaker I can in my future film endeavors. I would like to conclude my blog with a few thanks: Mr. Michael Alan, Mr. James Russo, and Mr. J.T. Miller for all of their help, support, and enthusiasm for film that attracted me to the Film Festival in the first place; my family and friends, for their support that kept me afloat during my roughest moments during the production of the films; and all the actors and crew members of my crews and of all the other crews, for making the Film Festival the remarkable event that it has become over the past five years. I wish all future and present Film Festival crews the best of luck. Good bye for now, Casey Ober