

MAJOR MINOR PRODUCTIONS

Local moviemakers given 72 hours to get short films from 'action!' to projection

STORY BY **STEPHANIE VEALE**
Special to Metromix

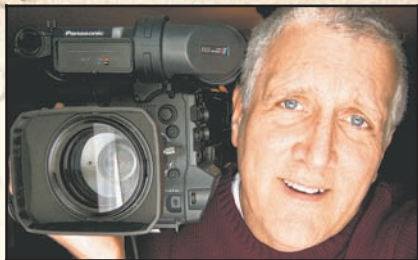
The clock started ticking at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18, for dozens of local filmmakers, who were given 72 hours to write, shoot, edit and complete 4- to 6-minute movies, which will be screened at the Little Theatre Tuesday, March 2. The Mind2Movie Challenge has prompted about 10 teams to compete for cash prizes of \$100 and \$250.

"The concept has been done around the country," says Stan Main, founder and chairman of Rochester Movie Makers, the organization sponsoring the event. "It

gets people working together that don't necessarily know each other already."

Like any contest, Mind2Movie has rules. For one thing, teams of moviemakers will be assigned a genre (horror, romance, science-fiction, drama, superhero, musical or Western) and are required to include a specific prop, character and line of dialogue in their films.

One of the participants is Blake Wink, 24, of Penfield, who will start work in April on *Walk the Dream*; the full-length documentary is about a cross-country trek made by seven people who will interview the people they meet along the way about their



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hopes and dreams.

Wink thinks the Mind2Movie Challenge will be a good team-building event for the documentary's crew.

"It's really easy to start a project and never finish it," he says. "With a 72-hour film competition, you're forced into a deadline. Someone could spend weeks, months or years writing the perfect script, but in the real world, you have to get to a finished product."

Eric Johnson, a 16-year-old sophomore at Pittsford Mendon High School, has a team of 15 classmates signed up for the challenge.

He hopes to become a movie director someday.

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MIND2MOVIE CHALLENGE SCREENING

WHAT: An exhibition of participants' films and an awards ceremony.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 2

WHERE: Little Theatre, 240 East Ave.

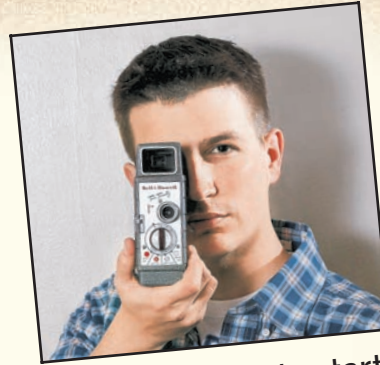
ADMISSION: \$5

MORE INFO: <http://rochester.moviemakers.org/m2m/>

son says. But, he adds, "I think we've got a pretty good team working for us."

Main, who has his own team in the competition, says that events like Mind2Movie are great for networking and building enthusiasm for filmmaking in the community.

"There is plenty of talent around here to make a feature film," Main says, "but a lot of it's hidden." ♦



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