Short Film – Potter College

VFTH

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A film project at WKU this summer shows what can happen when students, alumni and faculty team up.

Amy Bingham has more on the collaboration in this week’s View from the Hill.

WKU just began offering a degree in film in 2010. Four years later the program has grown to 160 majors. A short film on a hot topic recently brought together some of the most talented people involved with the program.

 “This project started as a script that a student of mine wrote. “

That script, called Gym Shorts, is now being turned into a short film.

 “The theme of the film is bullying but I just responded to it on a personal level. It spoke to my experience as a child that age getting picked on in that sort of way.”

WKU Film professor Travis Newton is directing the film and called on one of his most successful recent graduates to serve as director of photography.

 “The combination of the script, the nature of the main actors, with the kids and Travis being a great director, it all seemed really worthy of my time.”

Another professor, Dawn Hall is serving as producer with the rest of the crew is made up of either current or former film students.

 “Gym shorts is a great example of exactly what we want our students to be able to do.”

 “There’s always gonna be a point in your life whether you’re 5 or 50 that you feel left out and and even more than that, its about friendship.”

 “There was something about it that I thought was very honest. It felt like a real situation.”

The three day shoot proved to be a real “learning” situation for the Faculty, students and alumni who worked for free just to gain invaluable experience.

Just worked for the experience.

The five minute film “Gym Shorts” is expected to be edited by September and be submitted in several film festivals. The student actors are also hopeful the film will be shown at their respective schools.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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