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NEWARK POST PHOTOS BY CHARLES BALLARD

Ben Foster of Bear is dressed for success in the film industry after making a 20-minute film which will be shown in Philadelphia.

10-year-old film maker finishes second film

By CHARLES BALLARD

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

While most 10-year-old kids are busy on the playground, Ben Foster is hard at work making films.

In February Foster, of Bear, finished his second short film titled "Comedy Kid," which he wrote, directed and produced.

"The story centers around a kid that gets picked on for being different," Foster said. "He uses comedy as a defense."

The 20-minute film will be

shown at the Philadelphia film festival titled "PhilaFilm International" and "Film and Filmmakers Showcase" in Towson, Md in May.

Foster, a fifth-grader at Brader Elementary School, worked 20 hours a week on his month long project. He used friends and family to act and shot at familiar locations around town.

Nicole Butler, Foster's mother, said his interest in film making started from his family.

"He was exposed to it at a young age," she said. "We own a production studio."

His mother owns A & B Productions; a nonprofit organization that helps young people find an outlet for their creativity.

What started as a school project last year, turned into a blossoming film career. He wrote a paper for school, and after reading it, his mother encouraged him to write a movie script. With his mother's assistance, Foster made his first movie titled "Tough Life."

Foster had the equipment and resources to complete his two month project which debuted last May at the Bear Library in front of approximately 50 peo-

ple including Wilmington Mayor Baker. It was also one of the six short films showcased at the Wilmington Film Festival and was shown at Phillyfest last year.

A third film is under construction which is partly based on Foster's life.

"It is like the movie 'Bowfinger'," he said. "It is a movie about a filmmaker's attempt to make a movie."

Foster will be appearing on Channel 10's "10 !Show" at 10 p.m. on April 28. He can be contacted at A & B Productions 838-9700 or at voicesofouryouth@yahoo.com.