

Features

Mahnic film named finalist in Batali contest

■ MARY WOOD

Staff Reporter

Is Reis Mahnic, senior, on his way to becoming a master filmmaker? Maybe so. Over the summer he created a winning film entry by making a video for Mario Batali's Ultimate Grilling Challenge for Thomas Palmrose, father of Osten, senior. The video turned out to be quite a success, launching Palmrose into the semifinals and the chance to win prizes totalling up to \$11,250.

"They wanted us to make a three minute film that showed how to make a simple and easy meal," Mahnic said. Palmrose's idea of simple and easy? A meal featuring pigeon.

The birds were culls that were being thinned from the flock and were given to him by local pigeon breeder. They were grilled served with sauce and polenta. Help with tasting was provided by Ralph

Giannini, a Bale's employee and Palmrose's friend.

"Reis essentially pulled it all together," Palmrose said. He was nervous at first, but Mahnic helped calm his nerves. "He directed me

around and got me going."

The video was first entered in August, and in early September the video was chosen with six other videos for the quarterfinals. These winners received

Batali Edition Bistro Crocs, autographed cookbooks, a grilling stone, and a gift basket with food and recipes. Semifinalists won aprons, a year's supply of paper towels and a variety of kitchen tools.

The ultimate winner of the contest turned out to be a man named Jim Webster from Clearwater, Fla. He will receive airfare and hotel accommodations for Fort Worth, Texas to go along with passes to many NASCAR related events, including a pre-race tailgate with Mario Batali and Rachael Ray.

After the video, Mahnic is still at work with his movie-making skills.

"I do a lot of filming and a lot of acting," he said. He considers himself a comedian, but doesn't like all comedies. He doesn't like the Scary Movie series, which he thinks don't take themselves seriously. Other than that, he'll give any

type of movie a try, with the exception of modern horror films.

He's made music videos and he wrote, directed and starred in a movie called "Circumstantially Pompous" which he wrote for his film class. He worked with Kaylen Butler and Jordan Reyes, seniors, and an eight person cast and crew. It was filmed mostly in a grocery store in Lake Oswego, which created a sound problem due to the noises of the freezers and music. They had to rerecord all the lines, but it ended up working out, especially because the focus of the film was less on the sound than it was on getting interesting shots. Mahnic thinks that was achieved.

"That all came together really well," Mahnic said. He credits much of the success to the organization. "We had a very specific schedule that we worked by."

Gary Eppelsheimer, film teacher, is really impressed by Mahnic's filmmaking.

"We have one or two students each year who leave our film program and go on to film school," Eppelsheimer said. "Based on Reis's work in Film 1 last school year, I wouldn't be surprised at all if he ends up being one of those students."

Mahnic is deeply involved in acting, dating back to his performances in musicals in middle school. He's been in school plays, including "The Imaginary Invalid," and has done work with the Sojourn Theatre, for which he contributed the writing of "Capture and Hold: An Exploration of the Power of Memory."

"We worked for an entire year on the production," he said. The play was about what memories mean to the actors and how their memories affect who they are.

Mahnic considers his most important acting experience his yearly participation in the Regional Acting Competition. He has made it to State for pantomime twice, being part of one of only eight groups in the state that are able to compete.

In addition to acting and filming, Mahnic has learned to play many instruments, including the accordion, piano and alto saxophone. To learn more about Mahnic, visit his website, smashtabby.com.



Reis Mahnic, senior, displays his editing skills with a photo from his website, smashtabby.com. Mahnic has been involved in the school's film, drama and music programs. His filming helped Thomas Palmrose, parent of Osten, senior, become a semifinalist in the Mario Batali Ultimate Grilling Challenge. Photo courtesy of Reis Mahnic

Crisis at food bank requires student support

■ LEXI & ASHLEY WELP

Staff Reporters

Cradling her baby boy and dragging her five year old daughter who is crying from hunger, Mary, a distressed mother arrives at their destination—a food pantry. The doors are shut and there is an apologetic letter taped to the window. Disbelieving what has she just read, the woman looks inside to see the boxes empty and the shelves bare. Now she wishes she hadn't promised her daughter that there would be something to eat.

Tualatin School House Pantry (TSHP) is a community organized food bank that receives help from local churches, businesses, social and civic organizations, individuals, the City of Tualatin and the Tigard School District. This food bank provides emergency boxes with up to five days worth food and personal care supplies, once per month.

TSHP also acts as a host for Medical Terms International mobile dental care, a referral center which helps families find other organizations in the area and a work-appropriate clothing closet. Though TSHP is a refuge for people and families in

need, the economy crash has taken a large toll on it. Because the organization receives so much food from individual donors as well as businesses, its supplies are depleted and still more and more people are coming in for help. With more clients and less food the current condition of the food bank is not in well standing.

Unless more donations and fundraisers take place in the next month or so,

Oregon Food Bank also donates food to TSHP.

Upon hearing of the shortage, several groups have organized events to benefit TSHP. One is Rolling Hills Community Church (RHCC) which is located in Tualatin but has many members who live in West Linn.

"I think we need to do our part. We need to lead the charge," Brandon Campbell, student ministries team at

with a bunch of friends tonight to gather food for the TSHP," Joshua Harrel, junior, said. Harrel and his friends, along with other students participating in the event, hope to gather large amounts of food to benefit TSHP.

In this time of crisis and need, organizations like TSHP are vital for families who are experiencing financial trouble. Prices for food and essentials has risen further stressing those in need.

"I went to the store and spent about \$150 on food and I didn't even get that much. The cost of food is really going up," Campbell said.

RHCC is hoping to start a regular partnership with monthly events, but individuals can also help. Students can donate food, personal care supplies and used clothing.

"[Students] can also come down and volunteer to, stock shelves, show people around, and sort food down to smaller amounts. And there are also the food drives," Johnson said.

Go to www.schoolhousepantry.org for more information about TSHP and how to become involved.

We had 14,000 groceries delivered on Aug. 29 from Frontier Missions and we're already almost out."

**Shirley Johnson,
Volunteer Coordinator**

the food bank will run out of food and clients will be turned away. However, the Tualatin community's efforts to bring in food may not be enough without the contributions of neighboring communities such as West Linn.

"We had 14,000 groceries delivered on Aug. 29 from Frontier Missions and we're already almost out," Shirley Johnson, volunteer coordinator, said. Along with Frontier Missions, the

Rolling Hills Community Church, said. Their planned event is Trick-Or-Can fooding which consists of high school students going door-to-door tonight and asking for canned food to give to TSHP.

Students are welcome to join the event and the organizers hope to raise a substantial amount of food and supplies. Students will meet at RHCC at 6:30 p.m.

"I'm going to dress up as a vampire and I'm going