## Program helps student attend camp for filmmakers

his summer, one Bishop McCort student won't spend his summer watching blockbusters, but learning how to make them.

Chad King, who will be a junior at Bishop McCort and is an aspiring filmmaker, will attend the Institute for Filmmakers, a four-day summer camp held on the Penn State campus.

The camp covers the basic processes and techniques of filmmaking – from the writing process to the production and editing stages – and requires students to complete a short video project by the week's end.

King said that although he

has always dreamed of becoming a filmmaker, opportunities to learn about the field previously have been unavailable to him.

"I read some things (about filmmaking) on my own and talked with some people on the Internet," he said. "But I haven't done anything professional, just some family videos."

King said that he was excited to learn about Penn State's film camp, but the cost of the camp was an early setback.

"I am the oldest of four children, and we all go to Catholic school, so saving money isn't



KAYLA WASHKO

always easy," he said. "In order to help my parents pay for the camp, I (started) saving money."

King's financial worries were eased when he learned about The Challenge Program Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides financial incentives for students in the areas of best grade point average, academic improvement, community service and attendance.

Because he was carrying a tough academic course load of honors-level classes at the time, King set his sights on winning the Best GPA award.

"The Challenge Program gave me something to strive for throughout the year," he said.

"To get high grades, you have to have a hardworking attitude and push yourself."

King's commitment to school paid off in a big way when he was awarded the Best GPA-Sophomore Award at Bishop McCort's awards assembly in May.

"Receiving a check from (the) program was exciting," he said.

"I went with my mom that very day to deposit it, and I was able to register for the camp."

King said that, for him, film camp is an opportunity to set his professional dreams in motion.

"I have so many questions

"I'm looking forward to finally getting my hands on some professional equipment and meeting kids with the same interests as me."

## CHAD KING, ASPIRING FILMMAKER

that I hope will get answered there," he said. "I'm looking forward to finally getting my hands on some professional equipment and meeting kids with the same interests as me."

The Challenge Program, Inc. partners with businesses to provide financial incentives to high school students. Bishop McCort's awards are funded by Carpenter Financial Services and The Catanese Group.