

By Shawn Day
The Virginian-Pilot

VIRGINIA BEACH

Production workers scurried through the fourth-floor hallway of Studio 56 lofts at Town Center on Friday as crew members shot scenes establishing the plot of a film set for release next spring.

"The Bill Collector," a comedy starring Gary Moore and tough-guy character actor Danny Trejo, is being filmed at locations across Hampton Roads through early next month. Crew and cast members are shooting most of the movie in Norfolk, where the film is set, said second assistant director Julie McCoy.

The movie is written and directed by Cristobal Krusen, who also is president of Messenger Films, the company producing "The Bill Collector." He is a former writer and director for Christian Broadcasting Network productions in Virginia Beach, and his ties to CBN and Regent University were strong factors in the decision to film the \$200,000 budget project in Hampton Roads, McCoy said.

A Studio 56 loft was used as the home of Lorenzo Adams, the collections agency manager played by Moore, and crew members staged equipment in an adjacent unit. The scenes shot on Friday captured the movie's plot, with loan shark Frankie Gutierrez, played by Trejo, giving Adams a deadline to pay his debts.

Filming is scheduled to end Nov. 7, and officials will then begin seeking a distributor for a release in theaters, McCoy said.

Lenny Walsh, a Regent University junior, was one of several students volunteering as a production assistant. His duties? "Whatever they want," he said, standing in the hall as crews began to shoot another scene.

Shawn Day, (757) 222-5131,
shawn.day@pilotonline.com

ON LOCATION - HERE - FOR A MOVIE PROJECT



DAVID B. HOLLINGSWORTH PHOTOS | THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

Associate producer Jason Richards, left, goes over lines with veteran character actor Danny Trejo on Friday on the fourth floor of the new Studio 56 lofts at Town Center in Virginia Beach.



Actor Gary Moore, inside holding a coffee cup, waits for a scene to be set up. The crew is getting ready to shoot a scene for "The Bill Collector." Holding back a heavy quilt to help control ambient sound is Paul Logsdon, a production assistant.

the filming schedule

Filming on "The Bill Collector" is scheduled to end Nov. 7. After that, officials will begin seeking a distributor for a release in theaters, said second assistant director Julie McCoy.

ELECTION 2008 | VIRGINIA BEACH MAYOR

OBERNDORF'S BIGGEST RECENT CONTRIBUTION IS FROM STIHL



donation

in giving \$10,000 to Mayor Meyer

talked about how when Stihl

Plantation Shutters



nt tv



Amanda Blake in 'Gunsmoke'



Katy Jurado in 'High Noon'



Joan Crawford in 'Johnny Guitar'

ing Western omen

helps break
stereotypes

ough.
Roy
ha



2
snaps

film
Local shoot to start

Danny Trejo, the tough-looking ex-con actor who has appeared in "Grindhouse," "Con Air" and the "Spy Kids" movies, will start shooting a movie Monday in Hampton Roads. Messenger Films, an independent Christian filmmaker, is producing "The Bill Collector," a comedy about a bill collector in Norfolk who is confronted by Trejo's dangerous loan-shark character.

tv
Teens show

Episode 3 of "Plugged In" on Cox Cable Channel 11 airs at noon Saturday with repeats at 4 p.m. Wednesdays in October and noon Saturdays up to Nov. 1. The show features teens from The Pilot's 757: Teens Cover the Code section and ACCESS College Foundation talking about the presidential