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Entertainment

Getting their Jones online

Mike Roberts *The Province*

Thanks, in part, to the increasingly powerful home computer and advances in consumer-level technology, underground filmmaking has become one of the hottest activities on the Internet.

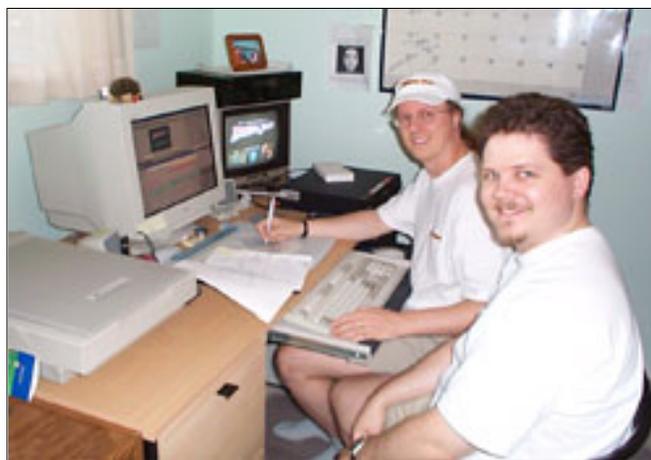
There is no shortage of funny, clever, cutting-edge material out there in cyberspace ready for download, from the slick shorts offered by UGO and Atom Films to, well, the work of two Victoria brothers who have just released a 43-minute parody of Steven Spielberg's *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

The *Adventures of Denim Jones* is so bad, it's good; so cheese-ball, it's a laugh-riot.

Chris Gabel, 30, works as a programmer analyst with the provincial government. Brother Lee, 32, runs his own computer graphics and 3D-animation company in the capital city. Together, using only the most basic home video equipment and a budget amounting to a nice dinner out with no dessert, Chris and Lee created their *Indiana Jones* parody, complete with music and special effects.

But why do two gainfully employed bros spend the time and energy creating something so utterly daft?

"We're trying to get into the film-production business," admits Chris Gabel. "And seeing as though we had this one finished product, we thought why don't



Brothers Lee (back) and Chris Gabel hope the Web will get their movie noticed.



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we edit it, add some cool new video effects and put it out there."

The Adventures of Denim Jones (www.denimjones.com) follows its title character's struggles to save young Jessica from the clutches of the evil Doktor Hair, leader of the Neo-Nazi Hairheads. And the plot just gets sillier from there.

The actual filming of Denim Jones was completed in 1991. Seizing opportunities offered by video streaming on the Internet, the Gabel brothers decided to revisit the project, re-edit and re-package their spoof.

"It's all about accessibility," says Chris Gabel.

"Internet-equipped computers in people's homes are becoming almost as common as TVs these days.

"A couple of guys can get together using consumer-level products, put together a movie, put it on the Internet and use that as a springboard to get into the business. The Internet has opened a back door."

The brothers are currently working on their next project, a short sci-fi film based on a friend's short story, *Ways of Knowing*.

"Spoofs are well-received because they have a global appeal, but we don't want to be known as The Guys Who Do Spoofs," says Gabel.

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