

MOVIE MAN

THE FORMER VOICE OF THE ROCKIES &

NUGGETS IS NOW AT HOME ON THE FILM SET

Jeff Kingery used to call the action, now he directs it.

Kingery, the longtime radio voice of the Denver Nuggets and Colorado Rockies, is now a full-length feature film director.

Table 47, released during the past baseball season, is Kingery's directing debut. The murder mystery was shot entirely in Colorado, and done with actors and crew members who are all Colorado-based.

"After 11 seasons with the Nuggets and 17 seasons with the Rockies, I was tired of the travel," says Kingery. "After traveling and being gone so much I was looking for something else to do. I knew I wanted to replace the creative challenge of being in the booth. I thought I would do more writing, in particular, screenplay writing, and maybe some directing. The hope was, if things broke right, that I could make a movie, or two, or three down the road. The whole process has been very exciting."

Along with his passion for sports and movies, Kingery has long had the writing itch.

"I've always loved writing, but especially writing screenplays," says Kingery. "When I'm writing, I like to not only think about words and dialogue but how the scene might play out on the screen."

"Back in college, I wrote a script for the old *Hawaii Five-0* television show, which garnered me a nice rejection letter. I wrote a couple screenplays while I was doing the Rockies and some of them I'd like to see if they're saleable, or if I might be able to make one or two of them into a movie."

In recent years, Kingery has partnered with another local screenwriter, Michael Brody on a couple projects, including *Table 47*, in which Brody is listed in the credits as the writer and Kingery as the director.



"I think very visually," says Kingery. "Directing felt pretty natural."

Kingery and Brody continue to work at revising some of their old screenplays and developing new ones.

"We have people in L.A. who do this for a living. We send our scripts to them and they critique them and we rewrite them, and rewrite them and rewrite them," laughs Kingery.

Table 47 started out as a short story written by Kingery. Brody turned it into a screenplay and Kingery took on the task of directing the film.

The pair chose to make *Table 47* their first full-length feature film for a couple reasons. One, they liked the story and thought it would sell. And two, it was a relatively inexpensive movie to produce.

"The movie has no exotic locations," says Kingery. "We didn't need to film it in a desert in Saudi Arabia or a Monte Carlo casino. We didn't have special effects. It's a straightforward

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drama. As a result, we could see a way to raise the money for this film.

"A fun part of this has been getting distribution. We have a distributor in Los Angeles called Indie Rights that's working with us to put the movie up on all the good video sites. It's available on iTunes, it's available on Amazon, it's available on Google Play, and it's available on VUDU and X-Box Video. Basically, anybody anywhere in the world can download the movie and watch it. And hopefully, there's DVD and Blu-Ray sales coming as well."

Kingery has always loved the challenge and excitement of being creative. For 28 years as a professional sports broadcaster in the NBA and Major League Baseball, that meant constantly trying to come up with new ways to both inform and entertain. ("If you're only doing one or the other you're doing a disservice to the listeners," says Kingery.)

Now, he spends most of his days focusing his creative energies on the craft of making movies.

"I love writing scenes, and thinking about how the scenes should look on film," says Kingery, with an easily discernible excitement in his voice about his new career path.

The former voice of the Nuggets and Rockies hopes *Table 47* will be his calling card when trying to sell his next movie.

"When you're talking to investors, when you're talking to production companies, you're trying to sell yourself as a director or writer," says Kingery. "Hopefully, *Table 47* will help open a few more doors moving forward." (KEN REED)