

Entertainment

THE ROUNDUP

Political play controls stage in election season

By Christopher Thornton '10
THE ROUNDUP

From D.C. to the Black Box comes *Born Yesterday*, a political comedy that examines corruption and influence peddling.

On Oct. 29, 30, and Nov. 1, 5, 6, and 8, Brophy/Xavier Theater will present *Born Yesterday* in the Back Box Theatre at 7 p.m.

The play will star **Jorge Franco '09** as Paul Verral, **Dustin Smith '09** as Harry Brock and **Jennifer Zabashjja '09** as Bille Dawn.

The play was chosen because "it's an election year," said **Mrs. Dorothy Dunion**. "We have to be aware of how our democracy works."

"The play's fitting for the current political climate where many are seeking change in our government," said **Mr. Ron Douglas**.

The play will not contain only politics, but it will also include environmental issues.

"It fits our summit theme in the sense that lobbyists try to manipulate Washington all of the time in regards to environmental issues," **Mr. Douglas** said.

However, the play is more than 50 years old.

"We're hoping to update some of the details of the play," **Mrs. Dunion** said.

Born Yesterday is about a man named Harry Brock who came to Washington, D.C. to manipulate government officials.

He brought along with him his glamorous, but naive girlfriend, Billie Dawn.

To educate his unaware girlfriend, Harry hired Paul Verral, a magazine reporter.

Paul had been investigating political



Photo by Shane Metzger '10

Tech Theatre members begin initial stage preparations for upcoming play *Born Yesterday*.

corruption and was interested in investigating Harry.

As a hired hand, Paul is able to get the inside scoop on Harry's corruption.

Eventually, Billie is transformed by Paul and realizes who Harry really is.

Every play requires a stage, which in turn requires a tremendous amount of work by the tech theatre crew.

After the play is chosen, the next step is to come up with a model of the stage.

Using a scale model of the Black Box,

various assortments of props and layouts are tested before construction begins.

Through weeks of construction and testing, the stage will eventually be ready.

"Organized chaos and through powers

beyond my control, perhaps the Holy Spirit, the play comes together," **Mr. Douglas** said.

Xavier Gator

By Shane Metzger '10
THE ROUNDUP

What is your name and year?

My name is **Kamryn Kristoff** and I am a Junior.

What is your favorite animal?

My favorite animal is a platypus.

...Why a platypus?

Because they are just *extremely* cool. It's like five animals in one. So it's like a super animal.

Do you support genetic mutations?

Mmm, it depends if the two animals they are fusing together are compatible in nature. I mean, seriously, it would make more sense if you fuse a

goat with a sheep than a tiger with a lion.

Okay. If you could vote who would you vote for presidency?

I'm independent.

What fun rumor have you heard lately?

A fun rumor at Xavier?

Sure, why not?

That this girl at school has webbed toes.

What is your motto in life?

Life comes at you fast—get a shotgun.

...What does that mean?

It's just like, you know, take life by the bullet. Take life as it is.

Sure, why not? If you were dating a guy, what would you look for in him?

They have to be sarcastically funny, and I actually don't care how tall they are, they just can't be shorter than me.

Like a midget?

Yeah. I mean, I'm not going to lie, I like a guy with muscle. And I also like a guy with a lyrical soul.

Do you find those qualities in Brandon Parrone '10, fellow Roundup staff member?

(Awkward silence)...Umm, I don't know Brandon well enough. Hi, nice to meet again (they shake hands).

Sorry, Parrone. If you could date anybody in the world who would it be?

Jackie Chan. Just kidding. I really like Criss Angel. I think he is amazing, because he is like a magician.

What is your favorite hobby?

Paint balling. I can shoot people pretty accurately.

What is your most annoying trait?

My most annoying trait is I talk too much.

THE ROUNDUP

WANTED:
Writers
Photographers
Reviewers



See Mr. Mica Mulloy
for more information.

Idiotic plot strikes disastrous chord

Since the dawn of time, man has always had a propensity for the dim-witted.

With contributions such as the Salem Witch Trials, *Mind of Mencia* and Heinz Funky Purple Ketchup, there is not a human without their mental failure.

I, for instance, saw *Disaster Movie*. Alone. Understand, the following is not a simple review.

It is a tale of my decent into madness. This is an account of the 90-minute demolition of my human spirit.

There were only four other people in the theater when I entered the movie.

One of them was a young child with his parent. I considered reporting this child abuse to 911, but the movie was about to begin.

A parody of Amy Winehouse appeared on screen. She was presented drug-ravaged, as expected, and yells about some orange skull. This was probably a major plot point, but, well, Milk Duds are just so delicious.

So far, the film had been extremely obnoxious, but nothing I hadn't come prepared for.

I mean, we all know what I was walking into.

The creators of *Disaster Movie* are well known for their mindless writing and severe abuse of pop culture. Yet, they still manage to make millions every year with such "Oscar-winners" as *Scary Movie 4* and *Meet the Spartans*.

Why anyone paid for these films was beyond me.

Some have criticized these viewers as being immature and unintelligent. A seemingly logical conclusion, seeing as they tend to be junior high students, who possess an impressive 3rd grade reading level, and Soulja Boy's vernacular. However, I would soon find their reasons are something of a grander nature, something of a revolution.

Half an hour in, I knew something was



...the pain only got worse, and it came with this insatiable urge to buy a year's supply of Axe Body Spray...

wrong.

Barraged by Flavor Flav and High School Musical references, things started to get fuzzy.

My left arm started to hurt. I felt sick, like eating Kraft Singles sick.

The pain only got worse, and it came with this insatiable urge to buy a year's supply of Axe Body Spray.

I hit the half-way mark, but it was all too much.

My mind had been ravaged by black stereotypes and midgets. I was weak.

My mouth tasted like copper, sweet delicious copper.

So I lie down and close my eyes, ready for death's sweet embrace. But She never came.

Instead, the sounds of chipmunks eating Juno awaken a new me, an enlightened me.

I had undergone the *Disaster Movie* Metamorphosis.

I now walk the Earth with a newfound love for everything *UsWeekly* and Chris Brown.

Perez Hilton is truly hilarious, and Paris

Hilton is my new ideal woman.

Hate me all you want, I have evolved. I have seen the other side of corn dogs and giant sunglasses.

It is a land where one does not have to read good, or think all hard; where rivers overflow with RedBull. It is a place where I can go to Collins College and my parents will still speak to me.

Thanks to *Disaster Movie*, I have learned to embrace the stupid. It is the new way of the future, and you will all conform one day.

The rest of the film was like totally funny.

Indiana Jones was a midget and stuff, and then there was the Kung Fu Panda. It was awesome, because like there was a fart joke every like five minutes, and that's always like funny and the chicks were so rockin'.

You guys should totally like check it out.

Anyways, I gonna go check out the 2008 VMAs with my 7th grade friends.

D-Money out.

10 Kim Kardashians out of
14 Metro Stations

Braid an artistic and storytelling masterpiece

By **Santiago Azpúrua-Borrás '09**
THE ROUNDUP

One of the main "perks," if you can call it that, of the Xbox 360 is the Xbox Live Arcade (or the XBLA).

The XBLA allows for smaller and independent developers to publish their games on a download-only basis. Occasionally an amazing game comes out of nowhere and delivers an experience not even most full-fledged \$60 games can provide.

Braid is one of those games.

Braid doesn't bother with fussy menus; it drops the player immediately into the role of Tim, a red-haired, well-dressed man who is off to save a princess.

The story of Braid, on paper, is incredibly bland. However, when one plays the game, one discovers that the story is deep, engrossing and sometimes confusing.

The story is what drives Braid, and is what encourages players to find the 60 puzzle pieces hidden throughout the different worlds of the game. Saying anything else about the story would completely ruin it. Braid's gameplay is equally as gripping.

Although Tim can kill enemies by jumping on their heads Mario-style, Tim is much more powerful than the beloved Italian stereotype. The gameplay focuses on time manipulation. With the press of the X button, Tim can reverse time and correct any mistakes he may have made.

The graphics of Braid are stunning, and at times, breathtaking. The game itself is an old school 2-D experience.

Although the character design is simple, it is exactly its simplicity which adds to the experience. When one plays Braid, their TV screen is turned into a canvas displaying the colors which fill the senses of the player.

Every world offers a different quip in time. For example, in one world, after you reverse time a shadow appears which mimics everything Tim has just done, and repeats itself all the way to the point in which the player decided to reverse time.

So with a bit of planning, you can be in two places at one time.

The player must master all these abilities if he wishes to solve the puzzles that riddle the world of Braid. And there are a lot of puzzles.

However, all the puzzles in Braid are creative, fun and completely reasonable. If you are a gamer who doesn't like to think, then Braid is defiantly not for you.

For the rest of us, Braid will offer a gameplay experience of time manipulation and puzzle solving which easily surpasses similar games such as the Prince of Persia series.

As the game creator and many of its fans will tell you, if you get stuck on a particular puzzle, do not use a walkthrough. This will completely ruin your experience. Braid is about the journey, not the destination.

Braid can only be bought through the XBLA (which I sincerely hope changes soon) and will cost you 1,200 MS points (roughly \$15.) Download this game immediately; you'll be glad you did.

I give Braid my highest recommendation and a must-buy status.

Roundup Wraps-up the Emmys, 30 Rock takes top honors

By **Chris S. McKenna '09**
THE ROUNDUP

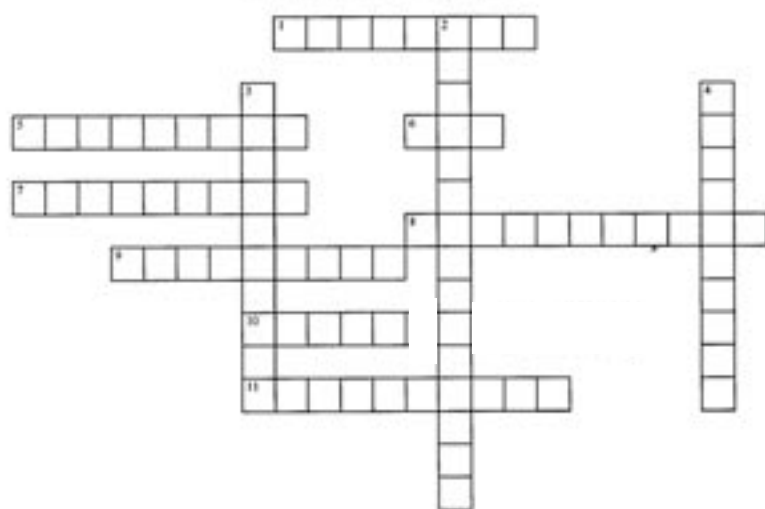
Did you miss the Emmys on Sept. 21? Well, luckily for you, *The Roundup* has been gracious enough to provide a nice summary of the evening's events:

- NBC's *30 Rock* came out on top, winning the award for best comedy, with stars Alec Baldwin taking best actor in a comedy and Tina Fey winning both best comedy actress and best writing for a comedy series.
- *Mad Men*, AMC's series about a 1960s advertising agency,

made Emmy history this year as the first basic-cable drama series to win the coveted award for best drama.

- Bryan Cranston of *Malcolm in the Middle* fame showed off his acting prowess this year, winning best actor in a drama for his role as Walter White, a high school chemistry teacher-turned-drug dealer in *Breaking Bad*.
- Comedy Central's *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* won the award for outstanding variety, music, or comedy series, with *The Colbert Report* winning the award for best writing in the same category.

Political Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1988 Presidential Candidate
- The day you vote
- "Grand Old Party"
- 1972 Scandal
- "Yes We Can"
- Executive Office
- All men were created ...
- Hockey Mom / Pit Bull

DOWN

- Donkey
- Adjective; Truth that comes from the gut, not books
- Republican Maverick

Find the answers to the Political Puzzle online at roundup.brophyprep.org

DEAR DUNAWAY

Junior Year, you've created a monster

By **Caroline Dunaway XCP '10**
SPECIAL TO THE ROUNDUP

During my past two years at Xavier, I have seen many, many girls completely lose their heads Junior year.

I've pitied these sleep-deprived, caffeine-addicted beings from a distance, watching them as they barreled down the hallways with permanently harassed looks on their faces.

After one memorable break spent watching a girl burst into tears over a missing coffee thermos, I remember promising myself that I would take it easy my Junior year.

But now, I've come to realize that the change is almost inevitable; after a mere three weeks of school, I have, unknowingly, already started to become what I fear most: a Stereotypical Xavier Junior.

I don't know if you have come across one such person, but I warn you that if and when you do, be careful.

SXJ's are highly delicate, sensitive creatures, and can be sent over the edge very easily (in fact, believe it or not, we actually feel physical pain on unannounced Schedule C days). I'm not sure when exactly I made the switch from Normal Mode to SXJ Mode, but after some self-observation and deep reflection, I realize that there were some red flags that I should have spotted a long time ago.

For instance, I never used to involuntarily twitch when the words "application," "decisions" and "future" were spoken, nor did I ever associate the phrase "Turnitin receipt" with punching someone in the face.

Things have clearly changed. I feel that this matter can best be illustrated with two after-school conversations I've had with my mom, one taking place at the end of sophomore year, the other, yesterday afternoon:

Sophomore year conversation:

Mom: How was your day, Caroline?

Me: It was pretty good.

Mom: What happened?

Me: Nothing, really.

Yesterday's conversation:

Mom: How was your day, Caroline?

Me (staring blankly at kitchen counter): ...

Hmm? ... Yeeah ...

Mom: That ... wasn't a coherent sentence, Caroline. How was your day?

Me (now distracted by the whirring sound of the dishwasher): ... Oh ... it ... uuuhhhh ... Blackboard ...

So you see the seriousness of the situation.

If you have any advice for reversing the SXJ Effect, or if you'd like to ask me a question/talk about something completely unrelated, please let me know.

Note: If you speak to me and I don't seem to be responsive at first, don't be discouraged. Mention coffee, and then go on.

Questions? Comments? Email me at
roundup@brophyprep.org.

Words from the Wise ...

"The eyes are like the groin of the head."

– **Ben Weber '10** (after responding to why **Mr. Matt Hooten** didn't go for the eyes in a fight he had with a friend in 3rd grade)

"Touch promotes growth."

– **Mr. Jimmy Tricco '99**

"When I read that I said, 'complete shenanigans' and threw the book across the room."

– **Dr. Sam Ewing** in reference to a confusing quote in a textbook

"We've got a few things to do today before I shoot you."

– **Mrs. Nancy Dudovicz to Matt Stanley '09.**

"Oh Father, did you get kicked out of class?"

– **Mrs. Deb Kauffman** asking why **Fr. Anton Renna, S.J.** was sitting in a chair outside the dean's office

"I was speaking German and the teacher thought I was cussing."

– **Fr. Anton Renna, S.J.**

"Holy Buckets!"

– **Mr. Jim Grindey**

"When robots have psyches, that's when I'll start getting worried."

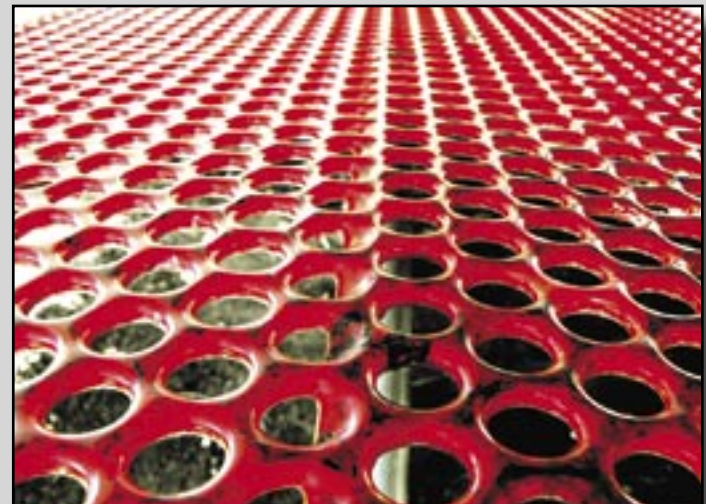
– **Mr. Stephen Johnson**

"Voters don't decide issues, they decide who will decide issues."

– **George Will**

Have you heard any wise words lately? Send them roundup@brophyprep.org or Entertainment Editor Chris S. McKenna '09.

The Artist's Corner



Top photo by
Stephen Squatrito '10

Drawing by
Graham Rigbi '09

IT CAME FROM THE
INTERNET!

Flying Spaghetti Monster: www.venganza.org

It's a bird!

It's a plane!

No, it's the Flying Spaghetti Monster!

That's right, just three years ago the "Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster" went public, spreading across the Internet like wildfire.

Claiming the Church has thousands of "devout worshippers" and having existed in secrecy for hundreds of years, it now begins to attract many who have felt they just didn't belong in other trains of thought.

The Church was founded in 2005 by Bobby Henderson in protest against the Kansas State Board of Education.

The board was requiring the teaching of intelligent design as an alternative to evolution, implying the existence of an intelligent designer. Thus, Henderson argued that this designer could be anything he imagined.

Now dubbed 'Pastafarians,' Henderson's Church is on a quest to convert the world with this newfound belief.

Not only have the Pastafarians taken to the Internet, but now Henderson himself has decided

to take to the seas.

He plans to take the money gathered from the Church to build a "giant pirate boat" in which he may travel the world to convert what he calls "heathens."

Why a pirate boat?

According to his argument, global warming, hurricanes, earthquakes and numerous other natural disasters are a direct result of the dwindling pirate population that has been occurring since the 1800's.

By building a pirate boat he hopes to reverse the process.

Furthermore, on Sept. 19 followers celebrated "International Talk Like a Pirate Day" where all followers perform just that, "talk like a pirate."

News of the Flying Spaghetti Monster is traveling throughout the world with just a click of the button, attracting numerous followers.

Could this newfound belief actually become a widespread religion?

Only time will tell.

Who knows, perhaps even you will become touched by his noodly appendage.

–**Dallas Ducar '10**

E-mail artwork for "The Artist's Corner" to roundup@brophyprep.org