

ENTERTAINMENT

Word Of The Week:

hendecahedral - Adjective - Being of a solid figure, and possessing eleven faces.

"You two-faced liar!" The adventurer shouted. But his nemesis then removed his mask and the adventurer realized he was not two-faced... he was hendecahedral.

Transformers 2 confirmed Kid Nation controversy

By Evan Koser

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For the fanboys still drooling over the new film that hit the box office this past July, revel in the fact that a sequel to the smash-hit, *Transformers*, is on the way.

As rumors circulated all around the internet, *Transformers* producer Lorenzo di Bonaventura told the LA Times that the studio liked what they've seen so much so that they are "already developing a *Transformers* sequel script." This was actually

their role reprisal.

Paramount Pictures has already set the release date for June 29, 2009. The Los Angeles Times has reported that Steven Spielberg and Bay have signed with DreamWorks to make *Transformers 2*, which will hit theaters in Summer 2009. However, Bay wrote last week on his blog that he might be "jump ship" to make a pre-strike movie. If Bay gets involved in a big budget picture like Disney's *Prince of Persia*, who knows when Bay would be available for a *Transformers* sequel.

It took a little longer than 12 months to make the first film, that is pre-production to completion, and that barely includes the time involved in a longer pre-production process, due to initial concepts and designs. So for *Transformers 2* to hit screens in summer of 2009, the film would need to begin production by Fall 2008. And if Bay were to make a pre-strike movie like he is planning on doing, that is the date he would need to be free by.

For some, the news of this sequel to the blockbuster is what they've been waiting for.

"It was sweet, the explosions and all the cars! Shia was so hot," says *Transformers* fan. "I think the sequel will be okay, since it's by the same writers."

Bay, who has only directed one other sequel, which was *Bad Boys II*, says "There's a lot of really cool, big robot stuff that I had in my head that we didn't do. I just want to see how this works. You might not grow as much as a director [to do a sequel]. But it's kind of like you have your baby and you don't want someone else to take it."

When asked whether he would make *Transformers 2* his next film, Bay replied: "I don't know if it would be ready. It just takes so long to do a script. A couple things are on the horizon, but [maybe] I'll do my little movie that I can knock out, because we all think we're going to have a strike." When Bay refers to his "little movie," he's talking about *Pain and Gain*, a flick he says is a "mixture of *Fargo* and *Pulp Fiction*" about "these guys who work at a gym, and nothing's good enough."

Unfortunately for the fanboys of the gargantuan robots and Bay's non-stop action sequences, the wait until true conformation is on. They'll just have to live on speculation they create for now.

By Rachele Reeves

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The new CBS reality show and social project, *Kid Nation*, began with controversy and continues with controversy. The idea is to send 40 children, aged eight through 15, to a New Mexico ghost town. They have 40 days in which to build a functioning society.

It sounds very *Lord of the Flies*, but there is much more adult influence than audiences are led to believe. There are always medics and psychiatrists on site, and even though the host Jonathan Karsh is the only adult to appear onscreen, the kids themselves say that there are more adults than children present.

Even though the idea is to see how children build their own society, the kids are not left to their own devices.

Before arrival, four of the 40 are selected to be the town council, the voice of authority. The council has been left an old pioneer diary, handily giving them hints and outlines for how the town should be run.

The diary advises the council to split the kids up into four districts. These districts compete every few days at showdowns, and their placement decides what class

they make up. The winners are the upperclassmen and are not expected to do any work. The second place winners are the merchants, they run the town store with the town's own currency. The third place means kitchen detail, which means feeding 40 kids three daily meals. Last place is the laboring class who does the dirty work, like bringing water and cleaning the latrines. Everyone fulfills these positions until the next showdown.

Even though the idea of kids forming their own society has pretty much been cancelled out by this point, it's interesting to watch them interact. Sometimes the competence of the kids is surprising. When the outhouses blow over in the dust storm, one boy assembles the bigger boys to right them regardless of district or labor position. They established a curfew when kids couldn't work

because they were so exhausted from root beer parties the night before.

Other times, it's scary to see kids having to work through adult situations. One time, the younger kids were afraid of the bigger boys, saying, "Soon he's going to be beating us all up," and knowing that no one there could stop them. One ten-year old girl on town council actually said, "When you're running a country, I mean a town, you have to be bossy to get people's attention."

One of the ideas of the show is that every three days, the hardest worker as chosen by town council gets the gold star. This means the child is rewarded with \$20,000, and the privilege to call home. The winner this week was Mallory, who was 8 years old and worried about spending her first birthday away from home. It was heartbreaking to see her more excited about the prospect of speaking to her parents on her ninth birthday than



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The logo of the Autobots is synonymous to the ideas of justice and freedom for all sentient beings to many fans of the robotic heroes.

back on May 4.

Alex Kurtzman and Roberto Orci, the writers to the first film have been confirmed to be reprising their roles. Kurtzman and Orci, responsible for bombing horror flicks such as *Scream 3* and *The Ring*, have been more recently appraised for their work with *Mission Impossible: III* and Bay's own *The Island*.

Although many people, upon actually seeing the film, didn't enjoy the small eBay plot line, the point of the movie was to appeal to audiences and to introduce everyone to the characters and robots. A second film would require less exposition and would be focused on being story-centric. Consequently, Kurtzman and Orci have thus far been getting mixed reviews concerning the news of

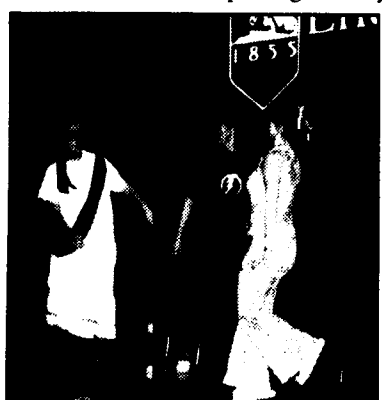
Matchbox Players play nice

By Connor Sattely

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Of the many afterschool activities, very few will involve pretending to be a newscaster on a fake news show where the sports reporter is slowly being out from the inside by worms.

However, one does: the improv night at Penn State Behrend. The improv event is sponsored by the Matchbox Players, and occurs every Friday. The event has been put together by the Matchbox



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Matchbox Players' improv night proved to be a great time.

Players as long as its President, Ryan Westwood, can remember. "The improv night has been going on since the formation of the club, so... 1948? '49?" says Westwood, who personally led the improvisation night last Friday. The event featured games from a show that most students will find very familiar. "It's mainly just like 'Who's Line is It Anyway?'" except for the fact that it's not just the same four people. It's completely voluntary, you can even come and watch," Westwood says. "It's really a great time."

Last Friday's improv night featured games such as *Scenes From a Hat*, from the popular TV show, and other improv games such as *Interrogation* and *Freeze Subtraction*.

The Matchbox Players plan to sponsor several upcoming events, including a Halloween Variety Show on either Oct. 26 or 27. Students interested should mail the matchbox players with any acts, games, performances, and all ideas at matchboxplayers@gmail.com.

They also plan to sponsor the second annual Behrend Idol this fall, and their murder mystery dinner in the spring. The murder mystery dinner features a themed dinner where guests are informed that there has been a murder, and they must figure

out the criminal's identity based on several clues. "It's been a huge hit the past two years we've done it," says Westwood.

As for the improv night, the students involved all had a great time. "The atmosphere was absolutely hilarious," said student Evan Koser, who did improv in high school. "It was great that nobody knew each other but we all had a great time anyways."

One of the games, liar, featured Koser and had the participants laughing so hard that several had tears in their eyes. The storyline of the game featured walrus fishing, selling this walrus for drugs, and ending up receiving a brick of bubble gum.

Another game, freeze subtraction, featured large group games in which participants constantly froze and changed the scene. This made-up environment changed constantly, from a school classroom to a high-speed train with an extremely confusing driver, to a control center at NASA.

All of the improv games feature students that think off the top of their heads. Nobody is ever made fun of for what they do, and everyone is allowed to let loose and say whatever comes to mind first.

"It's great to be able to say and do whatever first comes to your head," says Koser, "without the repercussions of embarrassment."

Not every student took part in the games on Friday. Some just sat and laughed at the shenanigans taking place on the stage. While the first improv took place in the studio theatre, future meetings probably will be held in the Wintergreen garden.

Improv nights occur every other Friday. The Oct. 12 event will be held outside McGarvey commons, at the Wintergreen Garden. There will be free pizza and drinks to those who come. No previous experience is necessary, and every student is invited to attend, either to observe or participate.



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The debut of *Kid Nation* stirred up much controversy amongst it's viewers

the \$20,000 she was holding.

It's not abuse or negligence. The kids have a fair idea of what they're getting into, and they can choose to leave whenever they want. No one will get killed off or seriously hurt. But I can't understand why a parent would send their kid off to New Mexico to live on their own for over month. 9 year olds should not be counting hours of sleep per night- I wasn't doing that until high school. 11 year olds should not be excited about a microwave. A twelve-year old boy should not be sobbing because he can't enforce rules on boys three years older than him.

The show is made to prove that kids are more competent than we give them credit for. They can have freakish insight into adult situations. They can make it on their own. But that doesn't mean that they should have to.

Beacon's Random Fact

On average, Americans spend an estimated \$2.5 billion on candles per year.

Top 10 Albums - Billboard 200

1. Rascal Flatts - "Still Feels Good"
2. Keyshia Cole - "Just Like You"
3. Foo Fighters - "Echoes, Silence, Patience & Grace"
4. Jill Scott - "The Real Thing: Words and Sounds Vol. 3"
5. Kanye West - "Graduation"
6. Reba McEntire - "Reba Duets"
7. Soundtrack - "High School Musical 2"
8. Jagged Edge - "Baby Makin' Project"
9. 50 Cent - "Curtis"
10. Kenny Chesney - "Just Who I am: Poets and Pirates"