

Entertainment

The Moment of Truth degrades contestants

■ ADAM HOLMES

Staff Reporter

Reality TV & game shows have dominated the airwaves for most of this decade. And while some of these shows are good-natured and innocent, others tend to bring out the worst that humanity has to offer. For example, programs such as *Survivor* and *American Idol* continue to take advantage of people's faults and embarrass anyone who is foolish enough to enter. This past January, a new show was added to the mix that many consider to be the most bizarre attempt at pleasing voyeuristic TV audiences yet. The show, called *The Moment of Truth*, seems to always succeed in making sure

nobody leaves happy.

Airing on Jan. 23 on the FOX network, *The Moment of Truth* is based on the

Colombian game show "Nothing but the Truth." Before the show airs, a contestant is asked 50 different questions while hooked up to a polygraph test. With the results recorded, the contestant appears on the actual show. They are then asked 21 out of the original 50 questions, with each question becoming more and more

personal.

If the contestant answers a question correctly, as determined by their

**THE
MOMENT
OF
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polygraph results, they will move on to the next question and earn money. However, if they lie, the game ends and the contestant loses all of the money accumulated so far. Similar to other

game shows, the contestant can take the money they have won and quit answering questions. To make the game more intense, friends and family stand beside the player as they bear their souls.

I only have one thing to say: what are these people thinking? The way I see it, there is no way for any contestant to leave that show without losing something. In order to collect the jackpot of \$500,000, the contestant must give up personal details, risking damage to relationships and facing embarrassment on national television, not to mention a complete loss of dignity.

For example, when one woman appeared on the show with her husband standing right by her, she revealed that she had slept with another man during their marriage, that she was still in love with her ex, and that she wishes she had married a former boyfriend. With her marriage already in a state of disarray, the woman was asked one last question to win the \$500,000 prize: "Do you think you are a good person?" The woman thought over it, and then replied "Yes." The polygraph test proved her wrong. Not only did she not win the prize, but her marriage was forever

damaged.

The goals of these reality shows are to publicly embarrass contestants, then rake in as much money as possible from the broadcasts. This has been done many times before on other shows, and the strange thing is, people continue to keep watching them.

People need to start getting smart and stop watching these type of shows, especially *The Moment of Truth*. There is absolutely nothing commendable about that type of genre. In addition, contestants of these shows need to realize that appearing on the air can only lead to humiliation. If people don't watch the shows, there will be no sponsors or ads for the show, which will effectively end the show. We're better than this. Let's start watching shows that actually have thought and process that go into them, like dramas, comedies, or game shows that actually involve skill. That way, we can prove that we don't get our kicks from shows like this.

Brawl smashes its way into video-gaming world

■ MAX HAYS

Staff Reporter

After several months of delays and the release date being pushed back multiple times, the much anticipated "Super Smash Bros. Brawl" for the Wii was released on March 9. The third game of the "Super Smash Bros." series is bigger and better than both its predecessors, making it very worth the wait.

The game features smoother controls, more playable characters than ever before, and even a story mode that can be played solo or with a friend. It comes equipped with new enemies, intense cut scenes and a great plot line that will leave you gaming for hours.

The thing that jumped out at me was the versatility of the game and the option of using the Wii remote and nunchuk, the classic controller, or the Gamecube controller. This option eliminates the time it takes to learn the controls on a new controller so you can get right to gaming.

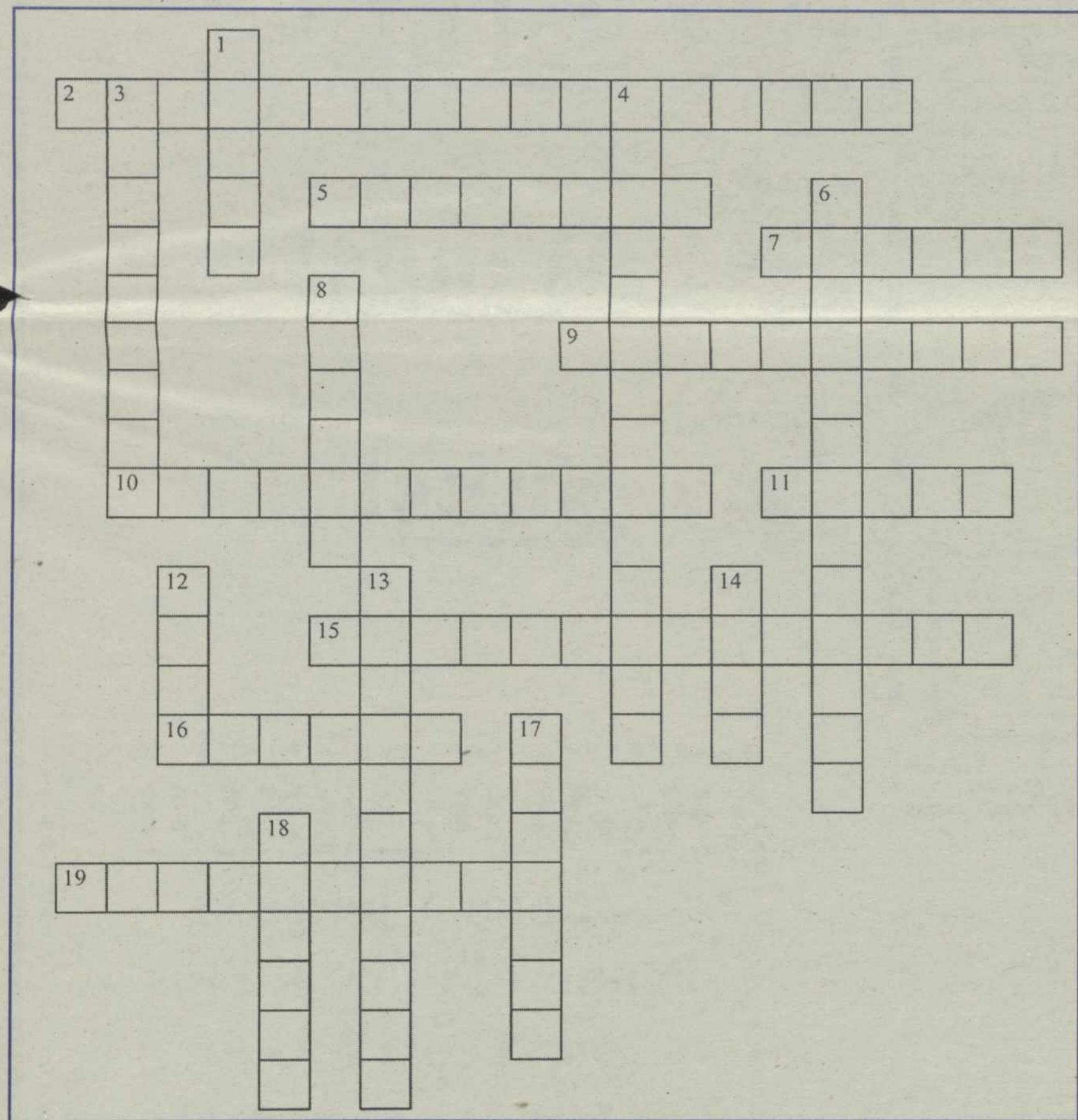
Another aspect that made this game so versatile was its wide variety of characters varying from the classic Nintendo hero Mario to Playstation's Snake from the

"Metal Gear" series. In all, there are 35 playable characters to choose from, all with different strengths and weaknesses. There are also over 40 stages in which to brawl on, all with different little quirks to them, not to mention, you can make your own stages as well.

Besides the versatility of *Brawl*, the game play is incredible. Characters react instantly to the button you press without any miscues to speak of. Also in the game play, "Super Smash Bros. Brawl" has introduced a new feature called the final smash, in which your character uses his or her ultimate attack to take out their opponents and end matches quickly.

Another new feature to *Smash Bros.* this time around is the Wi-Fi feature where you can battle your friends online anytime you want. All you need is a wireless connection to Wi-Fi and you're ready to go.

All in all, this game is the ultimate party game that gives players the option to customize their gaming experience to however they like it. So RUSH to your nearest video game store and for \$49.99 buy the highly anticipated "Super Smash Bros. Brawl" for the Wii.



What's up at WLHS?

Across:

2. Nobel-prize winning alumni.
5. Cumpston is moving here next year to teach grade school students music.
7. The new "rock-paper-scissors" involving a facial appendage and a finger.
9. Overpriced Cinema that reeks of middle-schoolers.
10. Former mayor of New York, facing some provocative publicity.
11. Soft and fuzzy, very fibrous. Rhymes with "bowel."

15. Fundraiser targeted to help eliminate genocide in a particular African country.

16. Historically, it involves leaving flowers at friend's doors. Now, it has become an assembly involving poles, princes, and princesses.

19. We aren't allowed to have them on in class... but we do anyway.

Down:

1. What our "Little Debbies" placed at State this year.
3. The Amplifier's fearless leader.
4. This year's prom theme.

6. Controversial show on FOX involving asking players questions and verifying their answers with a lie detector.

8. "Le pomme de terre," a small, oval-shaped vegetable.

12. The "special day" that lands on May 3rd this year.

13. Presidential-maybe who recently visited our Rose Garden last march.

14. Usually a Tuesday, schedule-wise.

17. He makes great dictionaries, also the name of our guitar teacher.

18. A season... actually, the one we are in now.