

Where the heck is John!?

That all I have to say... That's it! WHERE THE HECK IS JOHN!?!?

Hollywood's Cute Little Version of the Willies

As everyone knows the world famous [WCCT](#) does an big, important, annual awards show called The Willies. Well, it seems Hollywood / Television has it's own cute little version of the Willies called the Golden Globes.

Although the awards may not have as much meaning as the Willies do, some people in Hollywood make a big deal out of it anyhow. So, I have decided to make some picks. I made them the old fashion way – I guessed as fast as I can so I could actually get the post done. Make you picks in the comments below!

Best Motion Picture – Drama

The Curious Case Of Benjamin Button

Frost/Nixon

The Reader

Revolutionary Road

Slumdog Millionaire

Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture – Drama

Anne Hathaway – Rachel Getting Married

Angelina Jolie – Changeling

Meryl Streep – Doubt

Kristin Scott Thomas – I've Loved You So Long

Kate Winslet – Revolutionary Road

Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture – Drama

Leonardo DiCaprio – Revolutionary Road

Frank Langella – Frost/Nixon

Sean Penn – Milk

Brad Pitt – The Curious Case Of Benjamin Button

Mickey Rourke – The Wrestler

Best Motion Picture – Musical Or Comedy

Burn After Reading

Happy-Go-Lucky

In Bruges

Mamma Mia!

Vicky Cristina Barcelona

Best Performance by an Actress in a

Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy

Rebecca Hall – Vicky Cristina Barcelona

Sally Hawkins – Happy-Go-Lucky

Frances McDormand – Burn After Reading

Meryl Streep – Mamma Mia!

Emma Thompson – Last Chance Harvey

Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture – Musical Or Comedy

Javier Bardem – Vicky Cristina Barcelona

Colin Farrell – In Bruges

James Franco – Pineapple Express

Brendan Gleeson – In Bruges

Dustin Hoffman – Last Chance Harvey

Best Performance by an Actress In A Supporting Role in a Motion Picture

Amy Adams – Doubt

Penélope Cruz – Vicky Cristina Barcelona

Viola Davis – Doubt

Marisa Tomei – The Wrestler

Kate Winslet – The Reader

Best Performance by an Actor In A

Supporting Role in a Motion Picture

Tom Cruise – Tropic Thunder

Robert Downey Jr. – Tropic Thunder

Ralph Fiennes – The Duchess

Philip Seymour Hoffman – Doubt

Heath Ledger – The Dark Knight

Best Animated Feature Film

Bolt

Kung Fu Panda

Wall-E

Best Foreign Language Film

The Baader Meinhof Complex (Germany)

Everlasting Moments (Sweden, Denmark)

Gomorrah (Italy)

I've Loved You So Long (France)

Waltz With Bashir (Israel)

Best Director – Motion Picture

Danny Boyle – Slumdog Millionaire

Stephen Daldry – The Reader

David Fincher – The Curious Case Of Benjamin Button

Ron Howard – Frost/Nixon

Sam Mendes – Revolutionary Road

Best Screenplay – Motion Picture

The Curious Case Of Benjamin Button

Written by Eric Roth

Doubt

Written by John Patrick Shanley

Frost/Nixon

Written by Peter Morgan

The Reader

Written by David Hare

Slumdog Millionaire

Written by Simon Beaufoy

Best Original Score – Motion Picture

The Curious Case Of Benjamin Button

Composed by Alexandre Desplat

Changeling

Composed by Clint Eastwood

Defiance

Composed by James Newton Howard

Slumdog Millionaire

Composed by A. R. Rahman

Frost/Nixon

Composed by Hans Zimmer

Best Original Song – Motion Picture

“Down To Earth” – Wall-E

Music By: Peter Gabriel and Thomas Newman

Lyrics By: Peter Gabriel

“Gran Torino” – Gran Torino

Music By: Clint Eastwood, Jamie Cullum, Kyle Eastwood and Michael Stevens

Lyrics By: Jamie Cullum

“I Thought I Lost You” – Bolt

Music & Lyrics By: Miley Cyrus and Jeffrey Steele

“Once In A Lifetime” – Cadillac Records

Music & Lyrics By: Beyoncé Knowles, Amanda Ghost, Scott McFarmon, Ian Dench, James Dring and Jody Street

“The Wrestler” – The Wrestler

Music & Lyrics By: Bruce Springsteen

Best Television Series – Drama

Dexter (SHOWTIME)

House (FOX)

In Treatment (HBO)

Mad Men (AMC)

True Blood (HBO)

Best Performance by an Actress In A Television Series – Drama

Sally Field – Brothers & Sisters (ABC)

Mariska Hargitay – Law & Order

January Jones – Mad Men (AMC)

Anna Paquin – True Blood (HBO)

Kyra Sedgwick – The Closer (TNT)

Best Performance by an Actor In A Television Series – Drama

Gabriel Byrne – In Treatment (HBO)

Michael C. Hall – Dexter (SHOWTIME)

Jon Hamm – Mad Men (AMC)

Hugh Laurie – House (FOX)

Jonathan Rhys Meyers – The Tudors (SHOWTIME)

Best Television Series – Musical Or Comedy

30 Rock (NBC)

Californication (SHOWTIME)

Entourage (HBO)

The Office (NBC) – **WIN BABY!!!**

Weeds (SHOWTIME)

Best Performance by an Actress In A Television Series – Musical Or Comedy

Christina Applegate – Samantha Who? (ABC)

America Ferrera – Ugly Betty (ABC)

Tina Fey – 30 Rock (NBC)

Debra Messing – The Starter Wife (USA)

Mary-Louise Parker – Weeds (SHOWTIME)

Best Performance by an Actor In A Television Series – Musical Or Comedy

Alec Baldwin – 30 Rock (NBC)

Steve Carell – The Office (NBC) ☐

Kevin Connolly – Entourage (HBO)

David Duchovny – Californication (SHOWTIME)

Tony Shalhoub – Monk (USA)

Best Mini-Series Or Motion Picture Made for Television

A Raisin In The Sun (ABC)

Bernard And Doris (HBO)

Cranford (PBS)

John Adams (HBO)

Recount (HBO)

Best Performance by an Actress In A Mini-series or Motion Picture Made for Television

Judi Dench – Cranford (PBS)

Catherine Keener – An American Crime

Laura Linney – John Adams (HBO)

Shirley MacLaine – Coco Chanel

Susan Sarandon – Bernard And Doris (HBO)

Best Performance by an Actor in a Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television

Ralph Fiennes – Bernard And Doris (HBO)

Paul Giamatti – John Adams (HBO)

Kevin Spacey – Recount (HBO)

Kiefer Sutherland – 24 (FOX)

Tom Wilkinson – Recount (HBO)

Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Series, Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television

Eileen Atkins – Cranford (PBS)

Laura Dern – Recount (HBO)

Melissa George – In Treatment (HBO)

Rachel Griffiths – Brothers & Sisters (ABC)

Dianne Wiest – In Treatment (HBO)

Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Series, Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television

Neil Patrick Harris – How I Met Your Mother (CBS)

Denis Leary – Recount (HBO)

Jeremy Piven – Entourage (HBO)

Blair Underwood – In Treatment (HBO)

The NFL Playoffs are Here – Whoopie!

Anyone who knows me knows that I am a huge fan of NFL football. And my team – the [Chicago Bears](#).

My Bears did not make the playoffs. No, they blew it by losing to the Houston Texans on week 17 – the last weekend of the NFL season. Instead, the Vikings won the NFC North and the Eagles magically stole the final wildcard spot by embarrassing the Dallas Cowboys 44-6.

However, even with the Bears out of the playoffs I am still excited about the postseason. Unlike other popular sports which hold tournament-style elimination series, in the NFL it is lose-and-you're-out. To win the Superbowl you have to have a PERFECT postseason record. So the question now is, who will do it?

In the AFC you have the:

Colts – They started off slow but have been on fire since late October.

Chargers – They're in the playoffs without a winning record (8-8)!

Ravens – Inconsistent and lack luster.

Dolphins – Had only ONE win last year – this year in the playoffs!

Titans – Their best season ever. They want to win this for Tennessee.

Steelers – Looking strong and Ben is ok.

In the NFC you have the:

Vikings – It is just hard to take this team too seriously.

Giants – Last year they won the big game. They are favored to repeat the feat.

Eagles – Needed help to get in – and they got it big time.

Panthers – They have been winning all year. Solid all-around team.

Cardinals – The Arizona Cardinals? In the playoffs? The CARDINALS?

Falcons – This team was expected to be bad. They are in fact quite good!

This weeks games are:

the Dolphins VS. the Ravens – I PICK THE DOLPHINS BY 2 POINTS

the Colts VS. the Chargers – I SAY IT'S THE COLTS BY 10

the Eagles VS. the Vikings – I LIKE THE EAGLES BY 3

the Cardinals VS. the Falcons – FALCONS BY 12

So, what are your picks?

I'm The Only One Professional Enough...

“...in this room, that I know of, to carry this force.” says the DEA agent teaching a class on gun safety seconds before he *shoots himself in the foot!* Seriously, this really happened, and it's kind of funny. Well, maybe that's the wrong word to use since someone **did** get injured... But admit it, the irony of the situation is tremendously thick. And if *he's* the most qualified person in that room to handle the weapon he accidentally *shot* himself with, how scary is that!?

I consider it a small miracle that no one was seriously injured. Obviously this guy should not have been teaching this class, and I would bet that he was **not** the only person in the room “professional enough to carry that force”. But why was the gun loaded in a classroom in the first place? And why was there at least one little kid in the class? You can see someone carrying her out of the classroom near the end of the video. I don’t really know what else to say, so watch it for yourself... and don’t worry if you surprise yourself with a chuckle – I don’t think it means you’re twisted or anything... just a healthy dose of irony. If I was not writing this post so close to bedtime, I would use the opportunity for jokes on puns aplenty about shooting oneself in the foot, putting one’s foot in mouth... oh, too easy, but not when I’m this tired! Enjoy, and note how the guy is able to keep his composure and regain control of the classroom, all while being in tremendous pain and presumably bleeding all over the floor – he finally just limps on out of the classroom!

Actor: Not Believable as a Human Being.

If you've seen friends you might remember the episode when Joey, a often unemployed and ridiculously bad actor, gets a review that reads "Not believable as a human being."... Well, today I am the received such acclaim.

I am in a local production of the Nerd and play the title character or Rick Steadman; the Nerd.

With such choice phrases used as "over the top" and "upstages the others" and "hard to believe he is a real person" it is indeed time to ask myself the question... Am I as bad as Joey?

The good news is the show itself got a good review and so did some of my VERY WELL DESERVING castmates!! ☐ ☐

Oh well. I can only learn for next time. I have always found myself a little better at dramatic roles; not a character actor am I. For now I will have to live with "not being believable as a human being" – or at least "hard to believe he is a real person".

Chris' Health: Good News, Bad News.

Well, I got the results from the Ultrasound today and there is good news. They do not show anything. So, there is nothing

visibly wrong with my Pancreas, Liver, Kidneys, or Gall Bladder. YEAH!

However, this also brings some bad news. Lisa & I have to wait to find out what the heck is wrong with me until possibly next Wednesday!

I will be getting a gastroendoscopy and colonoscopy on Thursday and then we will have to wait 3 – 4 business days for the result. ☐

Wish me luck! I am trying to keep positive but also must admit I am very scared. I just am so thankful to have such a wonderful wife to support me! SHE IS PERFECT!

Chris for President?

You guys have to see this...

<https://www.news3online.com/index.php?code=71ovE14FDX74r7XW12U9> (click link)

Persuasive Speaking – How NOT to Make an Argument!

Anyone who knows me well knows that sometimes I can lack confidence. I suppose years of adolescent torment can do that to someone. But one thing I was confident in was my ability to make a good persuasive argument.

NOT ANYMORE.

After recent events as a member of our local theatre's "Play Reading Committee" I am wondering if when I talk I simply make no sense... If what is a compelling argument (point) to me is just plain stupid to everyone else.

You see, our theatre has a play reading committee where people involved with the theatre meet to discuss what plays and musicals to do for the following season. This year, to start, we were given the assignment of bringing a complete season (OR TWO – with dates & location) to the meeting and your reason for selecting the shows you named.

As far as I could tell, I was one of the only ones who completed the assignment in it's entirety. Some had just a few shows they would reccommend while others had 5-shows for a full season and no particular order.

I brought in two complete seasons... Shows, dates, and REASONS as to why I picked those shows and those dates. I made sure to keep in mind the needs of our struggling theatre and the mandates which had been given to us from the Trustees of the theatre. These mandates were to do a show that involved children, pick one show where everyone who auditioned could be cast, and to pick shows which the audience would have an awareness of already.

The shows I named specifically were:

Bryan in Feb – *A Few Good Men* (or) *Diary of Anne Frank*

May in Montpelier – *Phantom* or *Clue the Musical*

August in Montpelier – *The Goodbye Girl* or *Lost in Yonkers*

October in Bryan – *Little Shop of Horrors* (Cast ALL)

Nov/Dec in Montpelier – *Miracle on 34th Street* (Cast ALL
KIDS)

My logic was to create a season around a theme of "The Movies". As many of the general, non-theatre lover, public might not know some core plays – almost everyone has heard of

these movies.

I also placed a Christmas show (with kids in the cast) in our December slot, a show with a "Halloween" theme in our October slot (which could be one where we cast everybody), and a serious acting play (drama) at the beginning of the season.

I argued that as a theatre we need to do more to entice the public. Giving them something they already know is a key factor. This is why so many community theatres in large markets focus on primarily musicals. While a theatre lover may have heard of Scapin – almost everybody has heard of West Side Story.

Anyway, since we don't want to do 3 – 5 musicals a year I thought "movies" would be a good way to go...

GUESS NOT.

The latest meeting of the play reading committee has left me with no doubt. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT I AM TALKING ABOUT.

I have been with the theatre several years now and, not to pat my own back, but the productions I have been heavily involved in have been extremely successful from both a financial and cast-retention standpoint. However, it seems I make such a poor argument and such little sense that... Well, as the season begins to form I can see that NONE of my suggestions will be there.

It's not that I love those shows or anything. Anyone who knows me knows I would rather do *Assassins* and *Shear Madness*... Or even *Noises Off*. But the point is, what I saw as a persuasive argument (to get known shows in the season) seems to have been more of a pointless and non-compelling one.

It seems that my (obviously misguided) banter has become so apparently flawed that I am just getting ignored now. For example...

This last meeting we were trying to get any show that already had a director and solidify it into the season. I reminded the group that I was willing to direct *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Another member of the committee (a dear friend of mine!) suggested another musical, *Honk*. She suggested that she might be able to find a director for that one.

Well, the leader of our committee (who I absolutely adore – no sarcasm – love the guy!) says “I move we commit to Honk and put it in the season since we have a musical that someone will probably want to direct”.

I reminded the committee that we have two other musicals who people have COMMITTED to direct. *Little Shop* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. I asked that maybe we commit to one of those.

“No, I think it’s too early to commit to one of those. Let’s see what happens with some other things first.”

WHAT!? The same person who JUST WANTED to put HONK (a musical of which he had never seen / heard) into the season because it MIGHT have a director said NO to putting either of the shows I talked about in the season for the reason of??

That is when I realized – I have completely devalidated (is that a word) myself. Apparently I have made so many bad mistakes and so many poor arguments that now when I speak it is just considered nonsense.

Oh well. At least I know now not to think too highly of my persuasive speaking skills.

Cell Phones!

Anyone who was involved in the WCCT's most recent production of Idol Night at the Karaoke Place will probably remember a cell phone ringing and someone answering it loudly on opening night.

Yes, it was my mom. And now there is even an article written about it!

<https://www.crescent-news.com/news/article/3703471>

Ugh, mom. Why you mom!!

A Toast to The Best!

You know, it's not easy to be the best at something... Anything. Sure, you can be good – even great. But to be the best it means there is nobody better. You are IT. The one, the only one. The best.

I am good at a few things... Computers, ummm... Well, computers. I am pretty good with computers. I can probably think of one or two other things I am good at if I try. But the best? Nope. I am “the best” at nothing. But as amazing as it may seem, I do know a few people who truly are the best at what they do – and it amazes me every day.

First is my wife [Lisa](#). She is the BEST wife (for me) possible. Sure, I would be happy with a good wife. I would be thrilled to have a great wife. But how the heck did I land THE BEST wife? It's true. There is no one in this world that would be a better wife for me than her.

She understands me; which is hard to do. She loves me unconditionally; equally hard. And she always complements my life. **She is the best!** *And if you read her blog you will see she is pretty talented at writing too!*

Then there is my daughter Disney. SHE is the best baby anyone could hope for! She is always smiling, she is super snuggly, she listens well, she is concerned about others, and oooooohhhh soooooo cute! She is the best. There couldn't be a better baby in my life!

Of course there is Samantha. She drives me crazy! She is so unique and has such a strong will and strong spirit that she always keeps me on my toes. Her energy and her unique qualities are just magical to me. She is just the best. She is the best at being the excitement this family needs on a daily basis. There is no other person in our family so uniquely special. She is just wonderful in such a unique (hair-going-gray-fast) kind of way.

There is also our oldest, Taylor. She can always put other's feelings first. I remember when she was 5 and at the annual easter egg hunt. Her and another girl were staring down a big chocolate egg and were off to the races. Taylor got there first and got the egg... And then promptly handed it to the other girl. She likes making others feel good, and in our family, she is the best! She is the best at being sweet and taking care of her sisters!

I have some friends who are the best too. In fact, my friend [Derek](#) is the best at being loyal. I know many loyal people. But Derek's loyalty has spanned much time and much trial. He is simply the best at being loyal (to me). *The guy can also sing like WOW and can sometimes make me look like a computer novice!*

My friend [John](#) is always able to give quality input to any situation. He is the best at it... John has such a vast

knowledge of... Well, everything. Whenever I need to know anything about anything, I ask John. You should too. Because John is the best at this. There is nobody I know better. *Not to mention that he is a friggin genius and darn good actor!*

Then there is [Jamy](#), another blogger here. The guy is just plain nice. All the time, and to everybody. Yes, he has the art of being a nice guy down perfect. He is the best at being nice. Sounds weird to be the best at being nice, but if you meet Jamy you will know what I mean. *But for a nice guy he plays a great bad-guy on stage and is one of the most talented character actors I've had the privilege of working with!*

I just think all the time about how lucky I am to have such an amazing wonderful family and such great friends.

**This is a toast to you guys, you
are all the best!!**

Epecially Lisa ☐ Seriously, she is the BEST!!!