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I was looking at some props on <u>HauntProject.com</u>, and I ran across a paper mache gargoyle done by Vic. You can see it here on his website: <u>Halloween</u> <u>Zombie</u>. I decided that I wanted mine to look like Goliath, the leader of the Gargoyle clan in Disney's animated series, <u>Gargoyles</u>.



I cooked my own glue to start off with. 5 cups water, 1/2 cup flour and a teaspoon of salt. Boil the water, mix the flour into a cup with just enough COLD water to make a nice runny mix and then pour it into the boiling water. Turn it to low heat and simmer it til it gets nice and thick, like... well.. glue. Of course, that got old really quick and I just bought a gallon of Elmer's Glue at Home Depot for about 12 bucks.



Since I don't get the daily newspaper, I used craft paper, which I happen to have a LOT of. I just tore it into strips, varying lengths and usually 1-2 inches wide.

I started with a cardboard box for the base. I glued some styrofoam blocks in there to keep the box from caving in. Then I closed it up, taped it off and paper mached 3 layers of paper on it.



This is the basic frame. I made it so that he will be crouching.

I'm using the duct tape double method of making sure he has a somewhat human-like form. I'm doing this in stages... feet first, then legs and lower torso.

Here, you can see where I made sure he has supports for his wings.

And I made a tail out of PVC... I will probably use chicken wire to make the tail form.



Then I duct taped my husband's arms and used them over the frame. I decided that the pool noodles that I bought for 25 cents each in clearance a few weeks ago would be useful here. Thanks to Wil AKA DeathLord for that Iil idea! I just cut them into the lengths I needed then sliced them lengthwise like a hot dog bun and wrapped them over the PVC.



I made a duct tape double of my husband's chest and abdomen and put it on the frame.

I made sure to cut holes in the duct tape double's back for the wing supports to come through.

I gave him a pool noodle over the tail too.



After I got the arms on and all taped up, I filled the whole thing with pieces of foam leftover from <u>BirdGirl</u>. Then I cut some hand-sized pieces of foam for the base for the hands. I taped that to the end of the arm, then secured it to the leg that it's leaning on.

More usage of pool noodle.







I beefed up the tail by adding some rolled up cardboard to the top of the tail, then tapering it about halfway down the tail. Then I took the WonderCutter and shaved off the pool noodle until it was tapered to the end of the tail. I secured it all with more duct tape.

I cut another piece of styrofoam for the other hand and taped it to the end of that arm and then taped it to the box.







This is the head so far. It's a styrofoam wig head with Great Stuff all over it. I'll be carving it when it's fully dried.

I got the tail all wrapped with paper mache now.



I used some scrap pieces of pool noodle for fingers and toes. I cut then into lengthwise pieces a little longer than my own fingers, then notched them in 3 places like a knuckle so they can bend.

Then I glued them on and paper mached them.

The left one in the picture is the foot with the toes curling over the base. The toes and fingers on these two didn't look right when I finished, but I am not concerned with perfection today. :)

The rear foot.



For the head, I carved off some of the Great Stuff to make it shaped more like a head and face. I stuck a piece of PVC into it and secured it to the frame.





More to come as I progress ...

Last updated Friday, 9-2

I papered his head and neck. I'll be shaping him more today.





9-3-05: I used a WonderCutter to carve off some thin wafers from a styrofoam board scrap. I'll be using these to create facial features and muscle tone. (And NO, that's not porn on my computer screen in the back ground; It's a friend's artwork called "<u>Gemini Twins</u>".)

I used the WonderCutter to cut some ears too.





9-3-05 Here I added the horns. I just used the foam cutter to cut some foam pieces to look like this shape and papered them on. I did the same with the rest of the facial features: the brow, cheekbones, lips, nose...etc. I just cut some of the thin wafer pieces of foam I started with into shapes that matched up what I was going for, then papered them on, adding more foam where I needed it til I got the right look.



9-4-05: His head is almost finished now, I just have one more section of hair to add. He looks out of proportion in this picture, but he's getting bigger muscles and stuff too, so he should look more even soon. I think too, that it was the angle that I took the shot.





9-6-05: I've been working on him a little at a time this weekend due to some Labor Day plans, but I did get him filled out some in the chest, abs, arms, and shoulders. I'm still working on the arms.

9-9-05:

Here he got a loin cloth.







9-10-05: I decided to make the wing frame from 1/2"PVC. I used a heat gun to bend the PVC into the shape I wanted and attached them to the PVC posts I left exposed in his back. I secured them with screws after I positioned them the way I wanted.



After I got the wing frames attached, I cut 2 long sections of craft paper and taped them to the frames.



I cut some strips of styrofoam with the WonderCutter and attached them to the wings with strips of paper mache on both sides.



At this point with the wings papered, he was getting a bit front-heavy, so I cut a wedge of styrofoam and put it under the front of the base and papered it.

9-11-05: He got his base coat of paint tonight.

Goliath is FINALLY done! I got to be in a hurry at the end of painting him, simply because I am tired and just wanted it to be done TONIGHT... so the paint job isn't the best. I may go back and repaint some of it, but for now it'll do. I just want to move on to other stuff now. :)



He has 2 coats of a base black, 1 coat of a dark gray, a light coat of more black in the crevices, then medium gray kinda rubbed on with a sponge, and then light sponging of a light gray. I wanted him to have a stone look. All finished, he weighs 25 pounds.

I learned a few things making him. I would use brown packing tape instead of duct tape. It's cheaper and lighter. I'd skip making my own glue.

The home-made stuff worked fine, but it's a pain to make. I ended up buying a gallon of Elmer's Glue at Home Depot for 10 bucks after the first 2 rounds of making my own glue. I'd make a larger base for him to sit upon. And I'd make him in a position that is easier to paint!! It was a funny sight to see me trying to paint underneath his loin cloth. Thankfully, no one thought to take pics of that!

In 2007, Goliath got a makeover.





I decided it was time to finally give Goliath a better paint job and waterproof him with DryLok while I was at it.







In 2006, I fashioned him a pedestal out of some scrap lumber and foam I had laying around and gave it a quick crappy paint job at 4PM on Halloween eve. Nothing like last minute spur-ofthe-moment projects!

Anyway, I took him apart, and coated the whole thing with 2 coats of DryLok Masonry Waterproofer. He was good and solid feeling after that. Then I painted him a base black. On top of that, I painted him a medium gray. I have an automotive sprayer that I had for this. (Makes life so much easier!)

I gave him an aged look by brushing some black paint on in spots like you would see on old stuff that's been outside for a long time, then I sprayed that with a mist of water and watched it run. This gave a real mildewed and rained on look.

After working on this for about 2 hours, I decided to go with some olive green for some mold here and there. I just dabbed it on here and there, not much, then sprayed with the water bottle to get it to run and look natural. This is something that has to be worked with a few times to get it to look right.

That's about it! He'll be getting rebuilt somewhat though, because he got pretty dinged up while being transported to my son's middle school, and thanks to lots of wind and rain in the 2 weeks prior to Halloween.



