

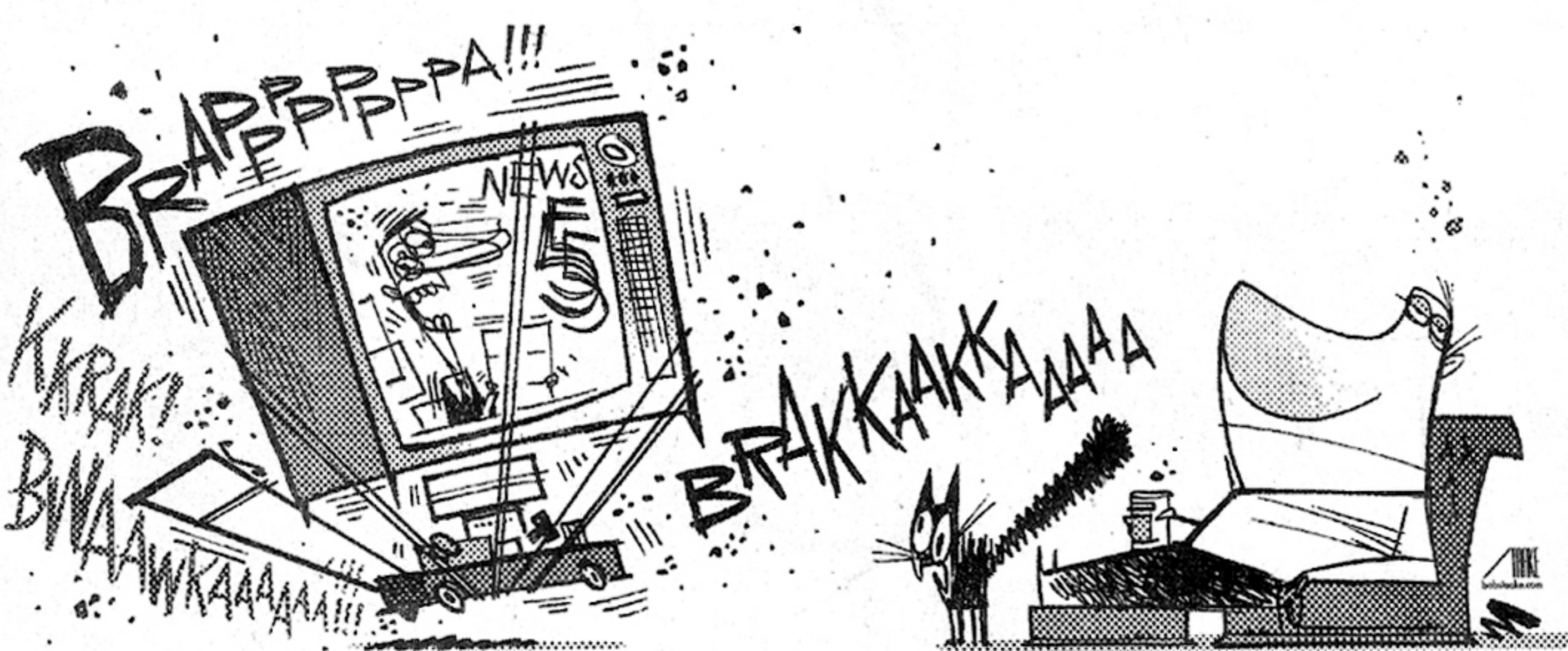
The Style Invitational

WEEK 323: THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD INVITATIONAL

Little yellow squares of paper that you leave messages on, and then affix to a document with airplane glue.

A carbonated beverage made from cola nuts and just a hint of salmon.

A medical device to inspect one's colon via insertion of a long tube connected to a live cockroach cam.



A vacuum tube device that transmits sounds and images, powered by a basic lawn mower engine.

This week's contest was suggested by Mary Lee Fox Roe of Mount Kisco, N.Y., who wins a corkscrew-through-the-head gag. Mary did not *know* she was suggesting this contest when she submitted 607 entries to the Week 320 contest below, thereby setting an all-time record for entries by one person in one week. Mary also set an all-time record for futility, since not one of her entries was published. Here is the interesting part: All of her entries were worthy. Several were eliminated only at the final cut. Which got us

thinking: Some ideas are quite good, but—in an antiquated cliché of the publishing industry—need to be run through the typewriter one more time. They need a little final polishing, as in the examples above. Come up with other not-quite-ready inventions, past or present. First-prize winner gets an elegant, bejeweled, one-of-a-kind emerald green leaded glass Style Invitational bumper sticker storage container, crafted by Peyton Coyner of Afton, who wins squirting gum.

First runner-up gets the tacky but estimable Style Invitational Loser Pen. Other runners-up receive the coveted Style Invitational Loser T-shirt. Honorable Mentions get the mildly sought-after Style Invitational bumper sticker. Winners will be selected on the basis of humor and originality. Mail your entries to the Style Invitational, Week 323, c/o The Washington Post, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20071; fax them to 202-334-4312; or submit them via e-mail to this address: losers@washpost.com. E-mail users: Please indicate the week number in the "subject" field. Also, please do not append "attachments," which tend not to be read. Entries must be received on or before Monday, May 31. Important: Please include your postal address and phone number. Winners will be announced three weeks from today. Editors reserve the right to alter entries for taste, humor or appropriateness. No purchase necessary. Today's Lie No One Believes was written by Bill Strider of Gaithersburg. Employees of The Washington Post and members of their immediate families are not eligible for prizes.

REPORT FROM WEEK 320,

in which we asked you to take any two horses qualifying for the Triple Crown races, mate them and propose a name for their foal.

◆ Fourth Runner-Up: **Mate Sailor's Warning with Cartel and name the foal Avast Conspiracy.** (Susan Reese, Arlington)

◆ Third Runner-Up: **Mate Black Mercury with Forestry and name the foal Hg a Tree.** (Jennifer Hart, Arlington)

◆ Second Runner-Up: **Mate Answer Lively with Ghost Story and name the foal Phantom of the Oprah.** (Catherine Hagman, Silver Spring)

◆ First Runner-Up: **Mate Polish Pianist with Drama Critic and name the foal Show Pan.** (David Genser, Arlington)

◆ *And the winner of the William Donald Schaefer plate:*
Mate Breathtaking View with King of Scat and name the foal Awe Crap.
(Dante D. Bruno, New York)

◆ Fourth Runner-Up: **Being nice isn't easy, and being easy isn't nice.** (Jennifer Hart, Arlington)

◆ Third Runner-Up: **Monica's credo—It is better to be chased vigorously than to be vigorously chaste.** (Phil Frankenfeld, Washington)

◆ Second Runner-Up: **I'd rather have bliss with two sisters than a cyst with two blisters.** (Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

◆ First Runner-Up: **Not all men kiss their wives goodbye when they leave their homes, but all men kiss their homes goodbye when they leave their wives.** (David Kleinbard, Washington)

◆ *And the winner of the plaster duck piggy-bank:*
Bill Clinton, before: I don't know how I can make this any clearer...
Bill Clinton, after: I don't know how I can clear this with my maker...
(Craig McGowan, Liverpool, N.Y.)

◆ Honorable Mentions:

It's better to pet a date than date a pet.
(Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

Long-distance romance ends when your man says he misses the hugs, but you find out he hugs the misses. (Sue Lin Chong, Washington)

Propecia vs. Rogaine? Listen, when your hair has split, don't split hairs. (Sandra Hull, Arlington)

Remember your wedding anniversary: If you don't toast your future, your future is toast. (Jennifer Hart, Arlington)

The country cousin greets the crack of dawn, while the city cousin greets the dawn with crack. (Elden Carnahan, Laurel)

A paleontologist is a scientist who studies old fossils, while an epistemologist is an old fossil who studies scientists. (Phil Frankenfeld, Washington)

If you're planning to take a drive on the Beltway, don't start by taking a belt in the driveway. (Dave Zarrow, Herndon)

I'd rather ride a miss than miss a ride.
(Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

It is better to go to high school than to go to school high. (Forrest L. Miller, Rockville)

It is better to nurse your wound than wound your nurse. (E. James Lieberman, MD, Potomac; David Genser, Arlington)

The more reckless the lame duck, the more he needs the dame luck. (Sue Lin Chong, Washington)

I'd rather munch my crabs than crunch my abs. (Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

Dr. Dre could rap to the beat, he just couldn't beat the rap. (David Genser, Arlington)

◆ Rookie of the Week:

I strive for persistent inspiration, but instead I get insistent perspiration. (Taylor Simmons, Washington)

◆ And Last:

If I win this contest, someone will contest this win. (Stuart Solomon, Springfield)

Next Week: **What Kind of Foal Am I?**