

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

P's out: Winning neologisms

BY PAT MYERS

In **Week 1286**, inspired by IHOP's momentary change of name to IHOB, the Empress asked you to replace one or more P's in a word, name or phrase with some other letter and define the result. Many people suggested "Trumb," as in, well, not "numb."

4th place

Ingut/Outgut: Middle-aged guy's reflex when a young woman passes at the beach. (Larry Gray, Union Bridge, Md.)

3rd place

IHOB: International House O'Besity (Dave Silberstein, College Park)

2nd place and the Poo Pinata:

Muerto Rico: Where paper towels just didn't do the trick. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

The Tee-Tee Tapes: Compromising videos of the president swinging and missing a golf ball. (Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

Wower failures:

Honorable mentions

Limp my ride: What I did when I added the child seat to my muscle car. (Drew Bennett, West Plains, Mo.)

Bride goeth before the fall: What Vanessa Trump wrote under "reason" when filing for divorce from Don Jr. (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.)

Banacea: A remedy for all political troubles. (Chris Damm, Charles Town, W.Va.)

Foultry: Chicken way past its sell-by date. (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

Lackage deal: A not-so-"inclusive" vacation. "Oh, you want potable water on your cruise? There is a nominal extra fee for that." (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn)

Mediatricians: Spin doctors. (Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

Mommin' Fresh: Mascot for a fertility clinic ("Look who's got a bun in the oven!"). (Mark Raffman, Reston)

The national wastime: Head down, phone in hand, 18 hours a day. (Lennie Magda, Frederick)

Russy-whipped: How Trump emerged from the summit. (Frank Osen)

"Womb, womb!": SCOTUS in 2019, telling women where to stuff it (and keep it stuffed)? (Nan Reiner, Boca Raton, Fla.)

Beer review: Highly popular volunteer work among academics. (Pam Sweeney, Burlington, Mass.)

Blastor of Paris: A French horn. (Joe Ruane, Dunmore, Pa.)

Blaque: Really nasty stuff on your teeth. (Kathy El-Assal, Middleton, Wis.)

Bomb and Circumstance: What they play at graduation at Terrorism U. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna)

Productivity: I did 10 keg stands and crushed 20 beers in 30 minutes, dude! (Jessica Garber, Washington, a First Offender)

Burple: The color that comes out when your toddler decides to eat a whole jar of grape jelly. (Roy Ashley, Washington)

Buu-buu blatter: An inept Polynesian trombonist. (Bill Spencer, Cockeysville, Md.)

C-3B0: Day 2 at Comic-Con. (Chuck Helwig, Centreville)

Bryce Harmer: One way or another he is going to do some damage with that bat. (Bruce Johnson, Churchton, Md.)

Carbe diem: Cheat day on your keto diet. (Pam Sweeney)

Combatible: Fights well with others. (Jeff Strong, Fairfax)

Cornos: Movies for foot fetishists. (Melissa Balmain, Rochester, N.Y.)

Costpartum depression: What sinks in when you see the obstetrician's bill. (Beverly Sharp)

Dudenda: The surprise from that one scene in "The Crying Game." (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

Dumbster fire: A crisis of a moron's own making. (Jesse Frankovich)

Emberor: A ruler who fiddles while



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1280: Bobbing for Witte words

"Ooooooooh, you're my baaaaaaaaaaaaaby! Heeheeere, honey sweetness snookums! The way people talk to me is unlike the way they talk to anyone or anything else. The cutesy, sing-songy voice that people use to address pets is called..." **furnacular.** (Neologism by Tom Witte in Bob Levey's contest, 2002)

"While some kids are having sex at younger and younger ages, others are actually waiting longer. Someone who waits a really long time is called a **cherrytriac.** (Neologism by Tom Witte in Style Invitational Week 542, 2004)

With his honorable mention this week, Loser Since Week 7 Tom Witte blots up his 1,500th blot of Style Invitational ink, a feat accomplished previously only by Russell Beland and Chris Doyle. Along the way in those 25-plus years, Tom has won the whole contest 29 times and has been a runner-up a crazy 105 times over.

But the Invite isn't the only vehicle in The Post in which Tom has shown off his facility with wordplay, especially in coining new words: From 1993 through 2003, Tom was lauded dozens of times by longtime Metro columnist Bob Levey in his monthly neologism contest. While the Invite and the Bob had different formats — Bob would offer one situation that needed a word for it, and everyone would submit neologisms for that single instance — another signal difference was that the entries Bob would run were always G-rated, while those from the Invite are often... well, not G-rated. Tom is obviously good at both blue and beige, but has become notorious here in Loserdom for the spicy.

Back in 2004, the Empress celebrated Bob's retirement by running a Levey-style neologism contest, except that you also had to submit a situation. With Tom's Triple Hall of Fame ascension, we thought we'd do it again: **This week: Come up with both an object/situation and a neologism for it, as in Tom's examples above.**

Submit entries at the website wapo.st/enter-invite-1290 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a useful but Offensive to Everyone gadget: a **bottle opener in the form of a guitar** that is held by a little wooden stick-figure man. Who is painted black. And wearing a sombrero. And a hoop earring. It was made in Japan, back when Japan made knickknacks. Donated by Loser Matt Monitto.

Other runners-up win our "You Gotta Play to Lose" Loser Mug or our Grossery Bag, "I Got a B in Punmanship." Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "We've Seen Better" or "Idiot Card." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). **Deadline is Monday night, Aug. 6;** results published Aug. 26 (online Aug. 23). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. Chris Doyle, Jesse Frankovich and Jon Gearhart all submitted the headline "P's Out"; Jeff Contompasis wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. "Like" Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at bit.ly/inkofday; follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.

THE STYLE CONVERSATIONAL The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. This week we'll feature the results of our 2004 Levey homage. So especially if you plan to enter, check it out at wapo.st/conv1290.

his land burns. "The emberor spent the weekend playing golf at his seaside villa." (Frank Osen)

Estresso: REALLY strong coffee. (Larry Gray)

Geekaboo: Baby's First Coding Project. (Beverly Sharp)

Harpy birthday: On Dec. 8, wish it on Ann Coulter. (Kathy El-Assal)

Hater Noster: Prayer to the deity that created mosquitoes and Justin Bieber. (Mark Raffman)

Hatriotism: We don't need no stinkin' immigrants! MAGA! (David Young, Falmouth, Mass.)

Holygraph: "Remember, that's a Bible you're swearing on..." (Roy Ashley)

Kiñata: One who's routinely bashed by one's family. (Jerome Uher, Alexandria)

Lootholes: Loopholes. (Jesse Frankovich)

Mathetic: Unable to balance one's checkbook. (Kathleen DeBold, Burtonsville)

Nana's Got a Brand New Bag: The tune Grandma whistles on her way home from the Coach boutique. (Frank Mullen III, Aledo, Ill.)

Naypal: A friend without benefits. (Antonym: Yaypal.) (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

Scammi: Shrimp nuggets with garlic powder. (Mark Raffman)

Snotify: Streaming only the highest-quality music to a very selective group of subscribers. You probably wouldn't qualify. (Roy Ashley)

Tennsylvania: Home of the chicken-fried cheesesteak. (Mark Raffman)

Tizza: The most popular dish at Hooters. (Melissa Balmain)

Toilet gaper: A commode with the seat up. ("There's nothing like the surprising chill of sitting down on a toilet gaper in the dark.") (Ivras Kuskevics, Takoma Park)

Ugholstery: Fabric used for covering sofas in the 1970s. (Jesse Frankovich)

Zenuultimate: It is not the last. It is not the next-to-last. There were never any. Have some more. (Brendan Beary)

Fake News: I TOLD YOU THERE WAS NEVER ANY PI (Eric Nelkin, Silver Spring, a First Offender)

Loseurs: Witty, sophisticated humorists pretending to be juvenile, crude boors with a poop fixation. (John McCooley, Rehoboth Beach, Del.)

Still running — deadline Monday night, July 30: our contest for fake trivia about animals. See wapo.st/invite1289.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

"MAKE CIRCLES" By VICTOR BAROCAS

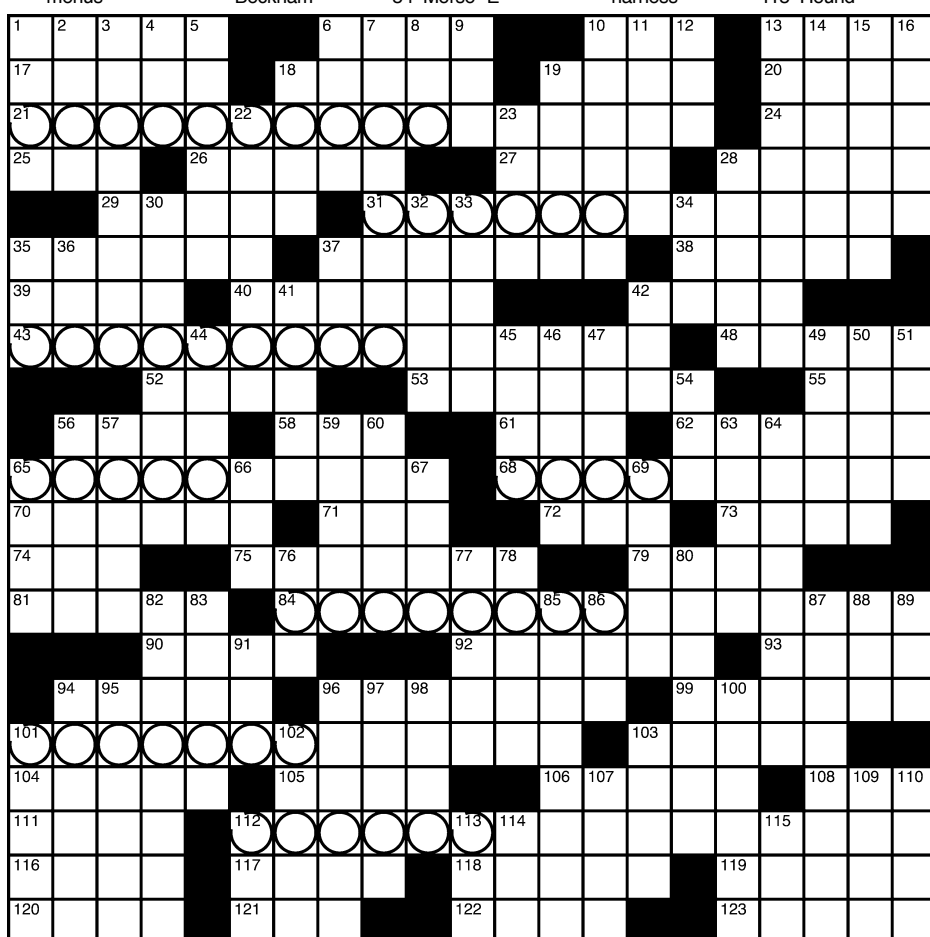
- ACROSS
- 1 Agreed
- 6 Compressed video format
- 10 Altar constellation
- 13 Reach 22, in a game
- 17 Features of Byzantine domes
- 18 Retro diet, to put it mildly
- 19 Keaton role in "The Founder"
- 20 Sufficient, to the Bard
- 21 Coleoptera insect
- 24 Stir (up)
- 25 Copier copy: Abbr.
- 26 "Queen of Salsa" Cruz
- 27 Quaker cereal
- 28 Instrument in George Harrison's "Within You Without You"
- 29 Beats soundly
- 31 Much of western Queensland
- 35 Select
- 37 Human-beast portmanteau
- 38 Gaggle members
- 39 Fiberglass
- 40 Basic shelter
- 42 Blacken
- 43 Gazelle cousin
- 48 Moscow Olympics mascot
- 52 Sage
- 53 One spotted at the zoo
- 55 Highlands headgear
- 56 Theodore Cleaver, casually
- 58 Like Ophelia, ultimately
- 61 Two-time Conn Smythe Trophy winner
- 62 "We're approved!"
- 65 Type of center
- 68 Spring sign
- 70 Activist Davis
- 71 Styled after
- 72 Scientist with 19 Emmys
- 73 Sink one's teeth into
- 74 Feel remorse over
- 75 "Jabberwocky" word meaning "evening"
- 79 Pride event abbr.
- 81 Faith with pillars
- 84 Long-distance exploration program

- DOWN
- 1 Roman god of the sky
- 2 App symbol
- 3 Level for building, as land
- 4 Moose kin
- 5 Decathlon event
- 6 Christmas trio
- 7 Mood-brightening
- 8 Gloaming, in verse
- 9 Hunk
- 10 Like Dickens' Dodger
- 11 Battle on a log
- 12 Low card in a wheel straight
- 13 B-deficiency illness
- 14 Baltimore NFL great
- 15 Comfort
- 16 Shake it on the dance floor
- 18 Buds
- 19 Knightlike "Bend It Like Beckham"

- 22 Cub Scout badge
- 23 Ancient pre-Iranian civilization
- 28 Engine power source
- 30 Major 1973 decision
- 32 No later than community
- 34 "Yuck!"
- 35 Govt. health org.
- 38 Triumphant laugh
- 37 West in old movies
- 41 Varnish ingredient
- 42 Train unit
- 44 Be equivalent to
- 45 Magic act sound
- 46 Shirt protector
- 47 Emmy winner David
- 49 Opening Site of many Dutch embassies, with "The"
- 51 "Famous" snack guy
- 54 Morse "E"

- 56 Earnings booster
- 57 Tannenbaum topper
- 59 Use
- 60 Humdinger
- 63 Striped cat
- 64 Apt
- 65 Big name in WWI espionage
- 66 Wine lover's word
- 67 Problem for a sloop
- 69 Dig (into)
- 76 Troy, N.Y., school
- 77 Ancient region of present-day Turkey
- 78 Unregistered user
- 80 Received an AOL message
- 82 Longtime host of "Scientific Frontiers"
- 83 Shapes
- 85 Coming to Some calculators
- 87 Helper with a harness

- 88 And the rest: Abbr.
- 89 I-S, e.g. 1861
- 91 NC joined it in 1861
- 94 Power in old films
- 95 "Elements" writer
- 96 Parental argument ender
- 97 "But there is ... in Mudville ..."
- 98 Annoyed state
- 100 Relaxed
- 101 Monopoly miniature
- 102 Makers of many links
- 103 Essen's river
- 107 S-shaped molding
- 109 Hawaii's state bird
- 110 1857 plaintiff Scott
- 112 His relics were the subject of a 1970s Met exhibit
- 113 Niagara Falls reaction
- 114 Suffered from Hound



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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/July 29: This year, you will feel better than you have in a while. You often find that you work better within a partnership, though you will need to defer to the other party more than you currently do. If you are single, you meet potential sweeties with ease. You need to define what you want or what type of relationship you desire. If you are attached, the two of you blend well. You will be ready to make some positive changes that will only help your bond. Pisces might care much more about you than you think!

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Accept an invitation to get together with the gang, perhaps for a game of cards or softball. You have the unique opportunity to share some news, but also to catch up on several friends' happenings. You feel cared about when you hang out with this group.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You bring others together for a fun picnic or barbecue. Know that you will have more than adequate time to catch up on others' news. Someone might ask you a question that you feel shy about answering. Know that you don't need to say anything.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You are full of get-up-and-go. No one in their right mind will interfere with your plans. Consider heading to a fair or perhaps a flea market. You will enjoy the different setting.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Your feelings seem to be all over the place. You might want to be with the apple of your eye most of the day. Try to be a little less clingy. Communication remains vibrant and interesting, especially when reaching out to family.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Defer to someone else who demands to take the lead. Be quietly supportive and ready to pitch in. Make plans for some quality time together, where you can share more. One-on-one relating becomes rewarding later in the afternoon.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You might be more concerned about what others are thinking than you should be. If you're throwing a get-together, know that people will be busy relishing the company of others. Later in the afternoon, someone who knocks your socks off makes an appearance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You could be busy pursuing a new interest or the company of an intriguing person you recently met. You can get over a little misunderstanding if you just relax and go with the flow. You have a lot to celebrate. Enjoy the moment.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Tension mounts. You might be vested in the outcome of a certain situation. You could be pushing too hard to get what you want. You will gain information through a discussion. You actually do not need to ask questions. Instead, just listen more.

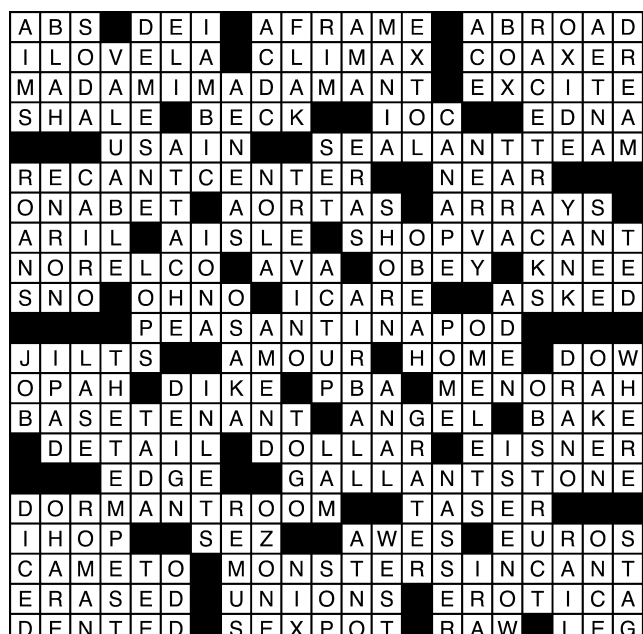
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your words fall on the right ears. Others hear a lot about what should be, and why they should proceed in a certain direction. Your sense of humor makes a big difference in the events that take place.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You can pull apart a money matter with ease. You will see it differently once others contribute to a conversation by sharing more of what they have on their minds. Loosen up and enjoy the moment and what is happening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You beam in much more of what you want. Just go out and be yourself. Add more fun to the moment by allowing yourself to be more spontaneous. You are looking at life much differently. Be aware of a possessive tone that comes out at times.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You could be unusually serious, and might be demanding much more from others. Tension builds around you. By late afternoon, you will let go of the issue. Once you relax, others around you will, too.

Answers to last week's puzzle.



7/22/18