

# The Style Invitational

By the Empress

## Style Invitational Week 873: Fill in a crossword, plus readers' punnish clues

By The Empress  
Saturday, June 12, 2010

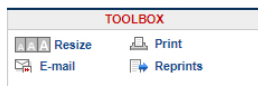
45 Down: *POSTA: A newspaper that's sometimes saucy, sometimes cheesy, but almost always filling, especially for the price.*

Four weeks ago we presented you with a completed grid of a crossword and asked you to come up with novel clues for its words, many of which appear in today's results. While devoting his typical absurd amount of time on that Invite, Craig Dykstra came up with an idea for another contest:



The [grid](#) that appears today is the same one by Paula Gamache that we printed four weeks ago -- but with most of the boxes shaded in (click [grid link](#) for a printable version). **This week: Replace the shaded**

**letters in any of the words with your own letters to come up with a different word or phrase -- either an existing word or one you make up -- and define it humorously**, as in the example above. It doesn't matter if the [grid](#) no longer works as a crossword. Label your word with the grid number it starts with, e.g., "42 Across," or else it gets tossed. Maximum number of entries: 25 -- the Empress needs a break and you, sir or madam, need a life.



Winner gets [the Inker](#), the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a prize that the Empress wishes had come in time for the foal-naming contests: It's one of those novelty key chains with a little rubbery animal (in this case a horse) that you squeeze to make "poop," then unsqueeze to make unpoop. Well, in true Loserly fashion, this horse suffered some injury and is permanently stuck in the poop mode. Donated by the well-contained Loser Drew Bennett.

**Other runners-up** win their choice of a coveted Style Invitational [Loser T-shirt](#) or yearned-for [Loser Mug](#). Honorable Mentions get one of the lusted-after Style Invitational [Loser Magnets](#). First Offenders get a smelly, tree-shaped air "freshener" (Fir Stink for their First Ink). One prize per entrant per week. Send your entries by e-mail to [losers@washpost.com](mailto:losers@washpost.com) or by fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, June 21. Put "Week 873" in the subject line of your e-mail, or it risks being ignored as spam. Include your name, postal address and phone number with your entry. Contests are judged on the basis of humor and originality. All entries become the property of The Washington Post. Entries may be edited for taste or content. Results to be published July 10. No purchase required for entry. Employees of The Washington Post, and their immediate relatives, are not eligible for prizes. Pseudonymous entries will be disqualified. Both the revised title for next week's results and this week's honorable-mentions subhead are by Kevin Dopart.

### Report from Week 869

in which we asked you to come up with novel clues for any of the words in the actual crossword shown here: So many Losers offered a new clue for every freakin' word; however, we lack the freakin' space to show them. Here are the best. Note that some of these clues require you to read the word creatively; for example, the clue for BETE needs to be read as "Bet E."

### The Winner of the Inker

57 Across: IRONLADY: The ferrous maiden of them all (*Dana Austin, Falls Church*)

2. *winner of the Baby Shower "gun" that shoots out "infants"*: 1 Down: DODO: One mixed-up DOOD (*Craig Dykstra, Centreville*)

3. 22A: AETNA: Latin for "we don't cover that" (*Peter Metrinko, Gainesville*)

4. 44D: PRYNNE: She studied male anatomy and got an A (*John Winant, Arlington*)

### Downgridded: Honorable mentions

1A: DEADLAST: Either Paul or Ringo (*Mike Hammer, Arlington*)

Good name for an embalming fluid (*Phil Battey, Alexandria; Fred Dawson, Beltsville; Ann Martin, Bracknell, England*)

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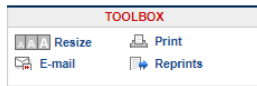
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Short-lived [boxing glove brand](#)*(Kevin Dopart, Washington; Washington; Judith Cottrill, New York)*15A: ONENINTH: Participant in a ménage à trois à trois *(Craig Dykstra)*16A: ARNICA: Painting depicting the economic devastation under Gov. Schwarzenegger *(Ben Frey, Frederick)*20A: PIXEL: A fairy dust mite *(Judy Blanchard, Novi, Mich.)*27A: ISBAD: The administration's Twitter report on the economy *(Howard Walderman, Columbia)*32A: AHEM: The difference between a micro-mini and a belt *(Kevin Dopart)*End of an agnostic's prayer *(Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn)*Strom Thurmond's answer to "Are you Strom Thurmond?" *(Ellen Raphaeli, Falls Church)*33A: SPIRAL: An Agnew-Gore ticket *(William Bradford, Washington)*36A: GOFORTHEJUGULAR: Don't let them kid you about your name, Ular -- have another drink *(Dudley Thompson, Cary, N.C.)*39A: OEO: Elmer Fudd's favowit cookie *(many entrants)*

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41A: BETE: Gamble on the last SAT answer *(Kevin Dopart)*

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42A: BRACELET: Kate Moss's hula hoop. (*Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.*)

Baby-tooth straightener (*Ann Martin*)

48A: ATLAS: Google Earth 0.0 (*Ari Unikoski, Tel Aviv*)

50A: AUTRY: Go for the gold (*many entrants*)

55A: STONER: The patron saint of work (*Tom Panther, Springfield, a First Offender*)

One who believes the movie "JFK" was nonfiction (*Mark Eckenwiler, Washington*)

57A: IRONLADY: Elin Nordegren (*Barry Blechman, Washington, a First Offender*)

61A: ANGELA: Farrah, unquestionably (*Malcolm Fleschner, Palo Alto, Calif.*)

1D: DODO: Aeneas's stupider [girlfriend](#) (*Ann Martin*)

4D: DNA: Abbrev. for "Daddy's now authenticated" (*Beverley Sharp, Washington*)

5D: LIMPID: Driver's license after it's been through the wash (*many entrants*)

6D: ANAIS: "And what is the only acceptable grade, young man?" (*Craig Dykstra*)



### TOOLBOX



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7D: STAX: What comes before "T.

Spend" in Pelosi's to-do list -- J. Boehner, Ohio  
(Kevin Dopart)

8D: THREEPIECESUITS: Bikinis for conjoined twins (Pam Sweeney; St. Paul, Minn.; Vytas V. Vergeer; Washington, a First Offender)

9D: MAT: What Arizona is setting out on the border, embossed with "Unwelcome" (Jim Noble, Lexington Park)

11D: ONMEDS: Fight song for the Mayo Clinic football team (Howard Walderman)

12D: RIBTICKLER: Adam's obstetrician (John O'Byrne, Dublin)

13D: ICANRELATE: Incestuous pickup line (Paul Kocak, Syracuse, N.Y.)

23D: CAMO: For hiding in plane sight (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf)

27D with 27A: IAGO-ISBAD: The CliffsNotes of the CliffsNotes for "Othello" (Craig Dykstra)

29D: BEFORELONG: John Silver's prepubescent years (Randy Lee, Burke)

43D: ASANTE: Role of a bra in strip poker (Pam Sweeney)

44D: PRYNNE: Impuritan (Dudley Thompson)

Advertisement 47D: GROPE: Costume for a plus-size stripper (many entrants)

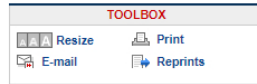
49D: SEAL: Eskimos eat this and blubber -- and so would you (Jim Noble)

53D: IDEO: Converts a hut into a hideout (Jeff Contompassis)

54D: NYSE: Where to get broker (Kevin Dopart)

58D: LOL: What Bill Gates does on the way to the bank (Phyllis Reinhard, East Fallowfield, Pa.)

Next Week: Let's play Nopardy, or One-hit wonderers

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