## The Style Invitational

**WEAK 118** 



The above headline, one of the greatest sentences ever to appear in print, ran in The Washington Post one day in 1935. The story was about the president feeling a bit under the weather; "coed" was supposed to be "cold." This got us thinking how spectacularly cool typographical errors can be. This week's contest is to take any photo caption or headline appearing anywhere in today's Post (including advertisements) and alter its meaning by adding, deleting or changing one letter and one letter only, or by adding or deleting a space. Make sure you tell us what page the original line appeared on. First-prize winner gets two winebarrel-around-the-torso costumes, made of burlap, suitable for wearing while otherwise naked. This would be a fabulous Halloween costume except burlap is nearly transparent

when backlit. Runners-up, as always, get the coveted Style Invitational losers' T-shirts. Honorable mentions get the mildly sought-after Style Invitational bumper stickers. Winners will be selected on the basis of humor and originality. Mail your entries to the Style Invitational, Weak 118, The Washington Post, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20071; fax them to 202-334-4312; or submit them via the Internet to this address: losers@access.digex.net. Internet users: Please indicate the appropriate week number in the "subject" field. Entries must be received on or before Monday, June 26. Please include your address and phone number. Winners will be announced in three weeks. Editors reserve the right to alter entries for taste, appropriateness or humor. No purchase necessary. The Faerie of the Fine Print & the Ear No One Reads is still seeking nominations for the Ear No One Reads. such as today's by Sarah Worcester of Bowie. Employees of The Washington Post and their immediate families are not

## REPORT FROM WEEK 115.

in which we asked you to come up with mnemonic devices to remember lists of things. Judging this contest was awful because it brought back the dreariest moments from high school, when you had to learn by rote dozens of pointless lists that some humorless, calcified academic decided to spice up by creating a mnemonic device more convoluted than the original list. Who doesn't remember "sohcahtoa" from trigonometry? "St. Dapiacle" from civics? "On Old Olympus' Towering Tops ..." from advanced clinical neurology? Anyway ...

Third Runner-Up:

Remembering the Windsor monarchs (George V, Edward VIII, George VI, Elizabeth II):

Goofy Ears Guiding England. (Sue Lin Chong, Washington)

Second Runner-Up: Remembering the seven deadly sins (iust, envy, covetousness, anger, gluttony, pride, sloth):

List Enumerates Character Attributes Guaranteeing Political Success.

(Joseph Romm, Washington)

First Runner-Up: Remembering all the major cities in West Virginia (Charleston):

Chiggers. (Kelly McDonough, Waldorf)

To remember the names of the presidents, in order, memorize the following series; the first letter of each name is the first letter of the name of the appropriate president: Wilson, Arthur, Johnson, McKinley, Madison, Arthur, Jefferson, Van Buchanan, Harding, Taylor, Pierce, Tyler, Ford, Polk, Bush, Lee, Jackson, Garfield, Harrison, Grant, Adams, Clinton, Hayes, Clinton, Monroe, Reagan, Truman, Washington, Hoover, Carter, Harding, Reagan, Taft, Einstein, Kinley, Jackson, Nanahcub, Fillmore, Coolidge, Roosevelt, Buchanan, and Cleveland. (Jacob Weinstein, McLean)

Honorable Mentions:

The six wives of Henry VIII (Aragon, Boleyn, Seymour, Cleves, Howard, Parr): Annulment Beats Severing Chicks' Heads (Plop).

(Jennifer Hart, Arlington)

Maryland counties (Talbot, Charles, Harford, Garrett, Carroll, Anne Arundel, Dorchester, Somerset, Baltimore, Montgomery, Cecil, Worcester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Wicomico, Prince George's, Allegany, Howard, Calvert, Caroline, Frederick, Washington, St. Mary's): The Chesapeake Has Great Crabs And Delicious Seafood But Maryland's Citizens Won't Keep Quiet When Pollution And Huge Crowds Come From Washington's Suburbs. (Fred Dawson, Beltsville)

The current Supreme Court, in order of appointment (Rehnquist, Stevens, O'Connor, Scalia, Kennedy, Souter, Thomas, Ginsburg, Breyer): Rare Spurts Of Sanity Keep Sustaining This Great Body.

(Fred Dawson, Beltsville)

Liz Taylor's husbands (Todd, Fortensky, Hitton, Burton, Warner, Fisher, Wilding): That Fat Hollywood Babe With Frequent Weddings.

(Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

"The Partridge Family" children (Chris, Keith, Danny, Laurie, Tracy): California Kids Desperately Lacking Talent.

(Kelly McDonough, Waldorf)

Santa's reindeer (Cupid, Comet, Donner, Dasher, Blitzen, Vixen, Prancer, Dancer):
Cherished Christmas Deer Disappeared Because Venison Prices Doubled.

(Jennifer Hart, Arlington)

Attorneys general under Nixon (Mitchell, Kleindienst, Richardson, Saxbe): My Kingdom Rots Swiftly. (Sue Lin Chong, Washington)

The Great Lakes (Michigan, Ontario, Superior, Erie, Huron): Masses Of Sewage Empty Here. (Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

The only continent with four countries that extend above the Arctic Circle, and the capitals of those countries (Europe, Oslo, Stockholm, Heisinki and Moscow): Erie, Ontario, Superior, Huron, Michigan.

(Sarah Galbraith, Washington)
Seven deadly sins: Presbyterians Gasp At
Sight of Crowds Enjoying Life.

(Jennifer Hart, Arlington)

Actors who played James Bond (Lazenby, Connery, Dalton, Moore): Loved Connery, Detested Moore. (Joseph Romm, Washington)

The order of animal classification (kingdom, phylum, subphylum, class, order, family, genus, species, subspecies): Kissing Pigs Sometimes Can Offer Fun, Good Safe Sex (Robin D. Grove, Washington)

Daytime talk show hosts (Geraldo, Montel, Ricki, Jenny, Leeza, Sally, Oprah, Gordon, Jerry, Phil, Maury, Rolonda): Give Me Really Juicy, Lurid Stories Of Gender-Jumping Prostitutes Marrying Relatives.

(Michael J. Hammer, Washington)

A trick to remember which side of the Metro escalator is for walking and which is for standing: "Walk" and "left" each have four letters, "stand" and "right" each have five. Or, JUST DO WHAT EVERYONE ELSE IS DOING, YOU IDIOTS!

(Russell Beland, Springfield)

♠ And Last: How to remember the page number of the Style Invitational each week: Flatulence—The Winning Offering.

(Russell Beland, Springfield)

Next Week: Write Pure Poetry