

The Style Invitational

THIS WEEK'S CONTEST

Week 686a: It's Baaaaack!



BY BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

In a touching display of generosity (by which we mean the most flagrant snub since Loser Kevin Dopart won a lunch date at the "Waffle Shop" with the Empress and asked for a T-shirt instead), veteran Loser Art Grinath wishes to re-gift (actually, de-gift) his prize from Week 672, "The Worst Picture Ever Painted." "Frankly, it scares my cats," Art reports.

This week: Explain why you, or anyone else in particular, ought to have this fine oil-on-panel by Fred Dawson of Beltsville, or what it might be used for. Winner gets — what else? So no Inker this week.

Runners-up win a coveted Style Invitational Loser T-shirt. Honorable Mentions (or whatever they're called this week) get one of the lusted-after Style Invitational Magnets. One prize per entrant per week. Send your entries by e-mail to losers@washpost.com or by fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, Nov. 6. Put "Week 686a" 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 will be published Nov. 26. No purchase required for entry. Employees of The Washington Post, and their immediate relatives, are not eligible for prizes. Pseudonymous entries will be disqualified. The Honorable Mentions name and the revised title for next week's contest are both by Tom Witte of Montgomery Village.

*Because we didn't have enough confusion in our lives, we named last week's contest Week 686 instead of Week 685.



Kerry's smiling because I made these in 2004 before the election. (Potato ears, butternut squash nose, radish eyes, yuca teeth, parsley eyebrows, cabbage hair.) (Alan R. Garletts, Cooper City, Fla.)



(Jeff Brechlin, Eagan, Minn.)



"You're a pepper, he's a pepper, they're all peppers. Can't I be a pepper too?" (Drew Bennett, Alexandria)

(An unretouched photo, from the garden of Jay Labov, Vienna)

These and more photos can be seen in a gallery at www.washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational.

Next Week: What a Piece of Work, or Alas, Poor Dork



REPORT FROM WEEK 682

Our second photo contest, this time asking for funny takes on pumpkins and other vegetables. Yes, we used tomatoes in the fruit contest, too. Who are we to say?



3 "I've had it — we're selling the hive." (Jay Shuck, Minneapolis)



2 The winner of the *Fart Putty* and two *Wienermobile* whistles: winner of today's *Marine Corps Marathon* is a little squashed by his fans. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

AND THE WINNER OF THE INKER:



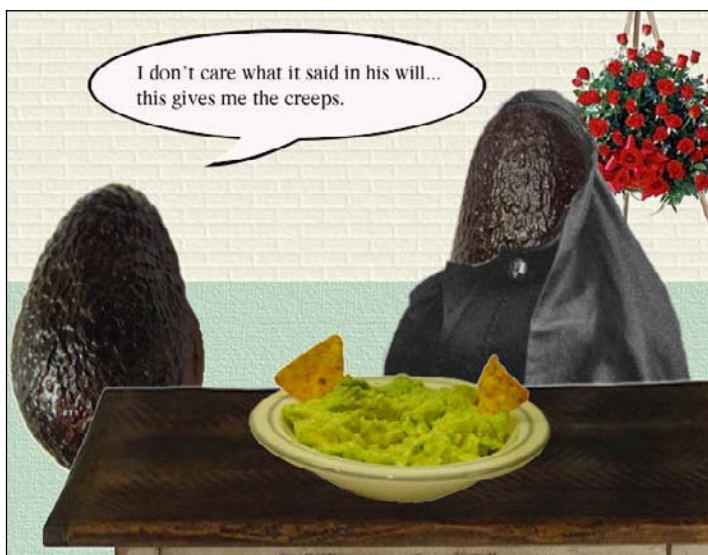
"Don't worry — she signed it." (Jane Auerbach, Los Angeles)



Kim Jong Il has mushroom clouds in his head. (Digitally carved and reshaped from the original photo [inset] by Joseph Barnard, Gaithersburg; original photo by Jane Patton, Colchester, England)



The famous Cuisinart scene from "Fargo." (Jeff Brechlin, Eagan, Minn.)

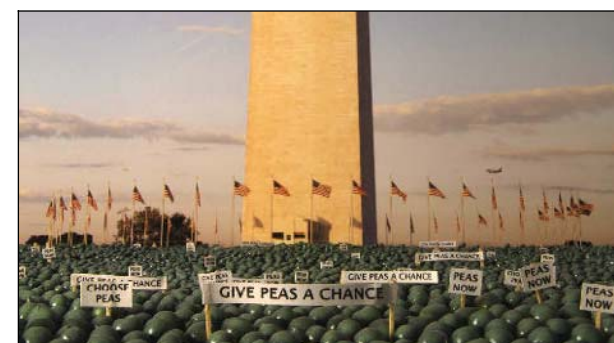


(Jeff Brechlin, Eagan, Minn.)



Tensions were high, but the Supreme Court had made integration of the high school a reality. (Bob, Rosaie and David Dalton, Arlington)

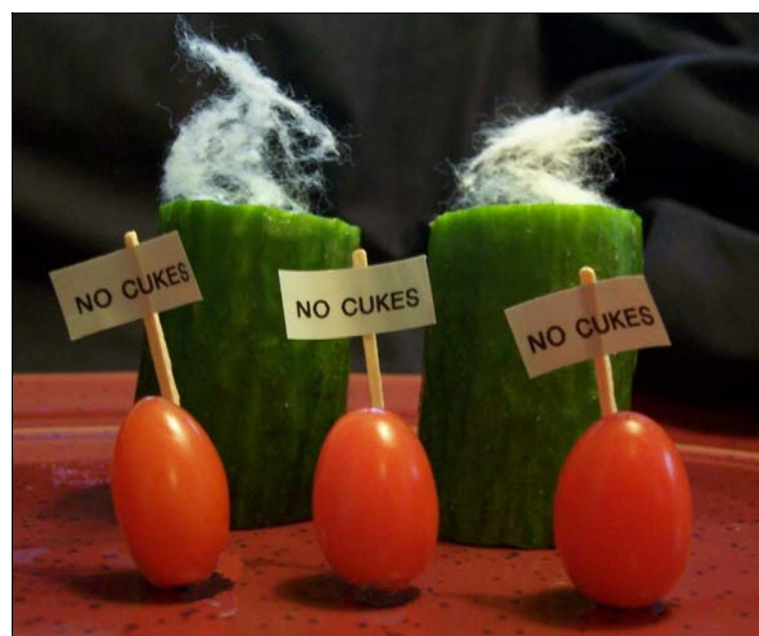
CHILDREN OF A LESSER GOURD (HONORABLE MENTIONS, BELOW)



(Dennis Lindsay, Seabrook)



Loser pumpkin. (Dennis Lindsay, Seabrook)



(Andrew and Michaela Hoenig, Rockville)



"Pity . . . she's been a vegetable ever since the Reagan administration." (Jane Auerbach, Los Angeles)



Jack-o-Lantern. (Jay Shuck, Minneapolis)