

# Style Invitational

BY PAT MYERS

## Report from Week 955

in which we asked you to pair a word or short phrase with its anagram — the same letters rearranged — and define the resulting phrase: Many of you offered “Republican crab lineup” as a description of this year’s GOP presidential candidates, and a “mother’s thermos” as a warm-milk jug.

THE  
WINNER  
OF THE  
INKER

**New York wonkery:** One thing they can’t claim is superior to D.C.’s. (Nancy Schwalb, Washington)

## Minor loons beneath: honorable mentions

**The Democrats are here! Here come the rats, dear!** Pre-dinner-party comments overheard at the Carville-Matalin house. (Gordon Cobb, Atlanta, a First Offender)

**Leadership dealership:** One-stop shopping for all your public-official-buying needs. (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase; Larry Gray, Union Bridge, Md.)

**Went Newt:** Answered an embarrassing question by attacking the questioner. (John Glenn, Tyler, Tex.)

**Allergy gallery:** The Museum of Natural Histamine. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn)

**Most inane Minnesota:** Land of Michele Bachmann and Jesse Ventura. (Jeff Brechlin, Eagan, Minn.)

**Liberal ire ball:** A Democratic convention. (Bird Waring, Larchmont, N.Y.)

**Sexting gets nix:** What Anthony Weiner learned the hard way. (Dave Coultts, Severna Park)

**2 Winner of the Talking Fortune Teller Calendar: He-moron hormone:** Testosterone. (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

**3 Satellite radio salaried toilet:** Howard Stern. (Melissa Balmain, Rochester, N.Y.)

**4 Knits stink:** What happens when heavy sweaters wear heavy sweaters. (Marian Carlsson, Lexington, Va.)

**Mitt Romney memory tint:** Rose-colored historical fact-spinning. (Roger Stone, Gaithersburg)

**Pedestrian pedantries:** What a walking encyclopedia spouts. (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

**Flesh shelf:** “Love handle” is a more charitable term. (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

**Super Bowl bowel spur:** Affliction caused by too many visits to the Seven-Layer Bean Dip tray. (Anne Paris, Arlington)

**Considerate desecration:** Taking time to clean up the paint spills after spraying hate slogans on a house of worship. (Larry Gray)

**Tom Brady’s tardy mobs:** The Patriots’ offensive line trying to protect its quarterback. (Mike Bergen, Rockville, a First Offender)

**Rid-of-AI Florida:** Election 2004. (Ann Martin, Bracknell, England)

**TSA SAT:** Knife is to stab as cupcake is to . . . (Liza Recto, Lexington Park, Md., a First Offender)

**Democratic micro cadet:** Michael

Dukakis posing in that tank. (David Smith, Santa Cruz, Calif.)

**Blind-as-a-bat stab-and-bail:** Congressional fiscal policy. (Judy Blanchard, Novi, Mich.)

**Has-been banshee:** Roseanne Barr. (Larry Gray)

**“Sex and the City,” Sixty ‘n’ cheated:** Aging flirts get just deserts. (Stephen Gold, Glasgow, Scotland)

**Shoe hose:** What I need after playing 18 holes of golf in goose season. (Mairzy Salander, Arlington)

**Inconsistent non-scientist:** Global-warming denier who buys flood insurance just in case. (Gary Crockett)

**Solicit colitis:** “Would you like fries with that?” (Nancy Schwalb)

**Constipation inaction post:** Oversharing on Facebook. (Larry Yungk, Arlington)

**And Last: The Style Invitational ha to intestinal levity:** Another poop joke gets ink. (John Holder, Charlotte)

**And Even Laster: Lunatic fringe fecal grin unit:** Euphemism for Style Invitational Losers. (Dave Prevar, Annapolis)

More anagram phrases are included in the online version of the Week 959 Invite at [washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational](http://washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational).

**Oops:** We incorrectly “credited” Dave Prevar last week for a joke mentioning necrophilia. Obviously, the only person who’d make that joke would be (Chuck Smith, Woodbridge).

**Next week: Give Us Some Bad Ideas, or Hints From Hell**



**STYLE CONVERSATIONAL**  
Have a question for the Empress or want to talk to some real Losers? Join us at [washingtonpost.com/styleconversational](http://washingtonpost.com/styleconversational).

## THIS WEEK’S CONTEST



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

## Week 959: Out of network

**“Sesame Street” moves to CBN: Ernie and Bert can’t appear in a bedroom together.**

Forty-two-time Loser Mike Gips, who’s been on an Invite roll lately, suggests a little rechanneling: **Move a current or former TV program (or type of programming) to a different network and explain what would change**, as in the example above.

Winner gets the Inker, the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a nifty book called “Whose Hair,” which consists of drawings of famous people’s heads with the faces removed — so you have to guess who they are from the hair alone. Donated by the faceless but not nameless Kevin Dopart.

**Other runners-up** win their choice of a coveted Style Invitational Loser T-shirt or yearned-for Loser Mug. Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet. First Offenders get a tree-shaped air “freshener” (FirStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to [losers@washpost.com](mailto:losers@washpost.com) or fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, Feb. 27; results published March 18 (March 16 online). No more than 25 entries per entrant per week. Include “Week 959” in your e-mail subject line or it may be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See contest rules and guidelines at [washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational](http://washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational). The revised title for next week is by Beverley Sharp; the subhead for this week’s honorable mentions is by Jeff Contompasis. Join the Style Invitational Devotees on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](http://on.fb.me/invdev).



**Name that do: The faceless Marilyn and JFK in this week’s second prize.**

## POP CD REVIEW

### Galactic CARNIVALE ELECTRICOS



How is it possible that it took famed New Orleans funk conglomerate 18 years to release their first Mardi Gras album?

Set to drop on Fat Tuesday, “Carnivale Electricos” is nominally a concept album about Mardi Gras and its Brazilian counterpart Carnival, but, like all Galactic offerings,

it’s actually a polyglot party disc, one that takes a leisurely tour of the musical back alleys of Louisiana and Brazil.

A roaming street party and a Lonely Planet travel guide wrapped into one, “Carnivale Electricos” is tireless and exhausting, a riot of disparate genres and influences swathed in horns and ’90s hip-hop beats, then shot like confetti out of a cannon.

It contains multitudes of guest stars both familiar (like Cyril and Ivan Neville, who show up on the buoyant, brass-happy “Out in the Street”) and unexpected (like NOLA rapper Mystikal, semi-fresh from his

prison stint and growling his way through the cheery “Move Fast” alongside local rapping legend Mannie Fresh).

Some of “Carnivale Electricos” sounds like what would have happened if the Dave Matthews Band recorded a Putumayo sampler in 1994, but most of it is joyous and inventive.

Its finest tracks, like a hip-hop/samba cover of Sérgio Mendes’ Carnival staple “Magalenha” and the sublime “Guero Bounce,” blur the divide between continents so effortlessly it seems to have never existed at all.

— Allison Stewart



ZACK SMITH/SHORE FIRE MEDIA

**SUBLIME STREET PARTY:** From left, Galactic’s Robert Mercurio, Ben Ellman, Rich Vogel, Jeff Raines and Stanton Moore.