

## DIVERSIONS

### THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

## Affront lines: The winning insults from Week 1138

BY PAT MYERS

In **Week 1138** we asked for zingy insults about well-known people — modern versions of Dorothy Parker barbs. Dorothy didn't have Twitter to compete with, and if you've heard some of these before, just relax and go out and get some sun under which there's nothing new.

### 4th place

**On John Boehner:** Orange lives matter! (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

### 3rd place

**On RGIII:** What a lucky dude — he gets paid millions just to sit around and watch football every Sunday. (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.)

### 2nd place and the bikinied-torso salt-and-pepper shakers:

**On Donald Trump:** Little does he know; how popular he is. (David Garratt, Silver City, N.M.)

### And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial

In a nutshell . . . well, that's **Donald Trump.** (Mae Scanlan, Washington)

### Outlets: honorable mentions

#### POLITICAL FIGURES

**On Hillary Clinton:** She's a woman of no-win portents. (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

**On Bobby Jindal:** The Gulf of Mexico just called and told him it's running out of sharks to jump. (Phil Frankenfeld, Washington)

When **Ted Cruz** gets an idea, everyone in government stops working to hear it. (Ward Kay, Vienna, Va.)

**On Obama:** The most enthusiastic greeting he's gotten lately was from a salmon. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

On Republican Party head **Reince Priebus:** He lives by the motto "When the world hands you lemmings, lead." (Phil Frankenfeld)

I'll say this about **Chris Christie:** He can fill an arena. (Warren Tanabe, Annapolis)

**On Donald Trump:** His favorite part of the Bible must be Chapter 11. (Kevin Dopart)

**Trump** is so generous, he'd give you the shirt right off your own back. (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

No one knows the workings of the brain like Dr. **Ben Carson.** Which is why I have every confidence he'll figure out a way to restore his sanity. (Frank Mann, Washington)

All the **Republican candidates:** They've stuck so well to their amazing Fact-Free Diet. (Peter Jenkins, Bethesda)

**Donald Trump** makes fiery speeches, lashes out at his enemies and blames immigrants for all the country's problems. I would also add that he has bad hair, but people would accuse me of comparing him to Hitler. (Frank Mann)

**On Donald Trump:** He reminds me more and more of Mussolini with hair — II Ducebag. (Nan Reiner, Boca Raton, Fla.)

**On Jeb Bush:** He's trying to shed the stigma of his name — he's changing it to Nixon. (Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

**On Sarah Palin:** All she knows is what she didn't read in the newspaper. (Robert Schechter)

**Arnold Schwarzenegger** always kept on top of things — especially the household help. (Rick Haynes, Boynton Beach, Fla.)

**Pat Robertson** says God is punishing America. Pat, if God really wanted to punish America, you'd be president. (Frank Mann)

### AND THE REST

**On Bill Cosby:** You gotta love him. (Richard Lempert, Arlington)

**On Keith Richards:** His groupies are always texting him pictures — of their grandchildren. (James Foley, Riverdale, Md., a First Offender)

**On Henry Kissinger:** He went after everything full bore (which of course was natural for him). (Mae Scanlan)

**On Dan Snyder:** The only thing that gets less protection than his trademarks is his quarterback. (Mark Raffman, Reston)

**On Chuck Todd** of "Meet the Press": When Todd talks, people



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

## New contest for Week 1142: Two-faced tweets

**I. Love this black cami dress. It says: I wander the world without joy, without hope, without pain; I am but the remains of despair.**

**II. The self-assured believer is a greater sinner in the eyes of God than the troubled disbeliever. Haha but I still love Ryan Seacrest.**

**III. Each individual fights for himself, with himself, in order to free himself before God. I'm gonna be sooo sore tomorrow! — KimKierkegaardashian**

The profundities above are among the more than 500 tweets from the account of "KimKierkegaardashian" (@KimKierkegaard), which since 2012 has offered "the philosophy of Søren Kierkegaard mashed with the tweets and observations of Kim Kardashian," to the delight — or, who knows, enlightenment — of 188,000 followers. Loser Christopher Larsen shared some of the tweets on the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook, prompting Devotee Alex Blackwood to suggest this week's contest: **Combine two well-known names into a Twitter handle, and write a tweet (no more than 140 characters and spaces) that that portmanteau person might write.** You might also include the person's Twitter "bio" of no more than 160 characters, were you to think of something clever and/or funny.

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a prize that the Empress discovered this month in a discount store in Anzio, Italy: a screaming-pink T-shirt with the message "I'm an californiA gril." The five-euro price tag conveys.

**Other runners-up** win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug or the ardently desired "Whole Fools" Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet designed by Bob Staake: either "The Wit Hit the Fan" or "Hardly Har-Har." First Offenders receive a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to losers@washpost.com or, if you were born in the 19th century, fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday night, Oct. 5; results published Oct. 25 (online Oct. 22). You may submit up to 25 entries per contest. Include "Week 1142" in your e-mail subject line or it might be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results is by Kevin Dopart; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Dave Prevar. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. "Like" the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at bit.ly/inkofday.

**THE STYLE CONVERSATIONAL** The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.

listen. To George Stephanopoulos. (Doug Frank, Crosby, Tex.)

**On Kanye West:** He's like Donald Trump, only without the filter. (Frank Osen)

**On Michelle and Jim Bob Duggar:** For them, it's all about good breeding. If by "good," you mean "a lot of." (Nan Reiner)

**On Bryce Harper:** The T-shirt cannon doesn't always reach his upper deck. (Kevin Dopart)

**On Tom Brady:** You have to say he's great at managing pressure. (Kevin Dopart)

**Tom Brady:** Give the guy a break — every man suffers from shrinkage once in a while. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

**On Beverly Hills residents:** Kudos to them for planning for the drought — silicone body parts need much less water than the regular kind.

(Ivrs Kuskevics, Takoma Park)

**Joan Rivers's** tongue was so sharp, her boyfriend thought she was a mohel. (Amy Harris, Charlottesville)

There might be no stupid questions, but **Barbara Walters** sure pushed the envelope. (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

**Kim Davis** thinks of herself as Joan of Arc, but she's actually George Wallace. Only not as cute. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

Fifty years later, **Bob Dylan** still personifies a generation: DEgeneration. (Mike Gips, Bethesda)

**Colonel Sanders** changed the face of America — to fat and jowly. (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

**On Dorothy Parker:** You could certainly say her comments were pithy — if you had a lisp. (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

**On the Empress:** She's so generous, sometimes she even gives ink to someone who deserves it. (Tom Witte)

**Still running — deadline Monday night, Sept. 28: Our "Mess With Our Heads" bank headline contest. See bit.ly/invite1141.**

**Lifelong Maryland resident Valerie Holt does her best to impersonate "an californiA gril." The T-shirt is yours if you finish exactly in second place with your portmanteau tweet.**



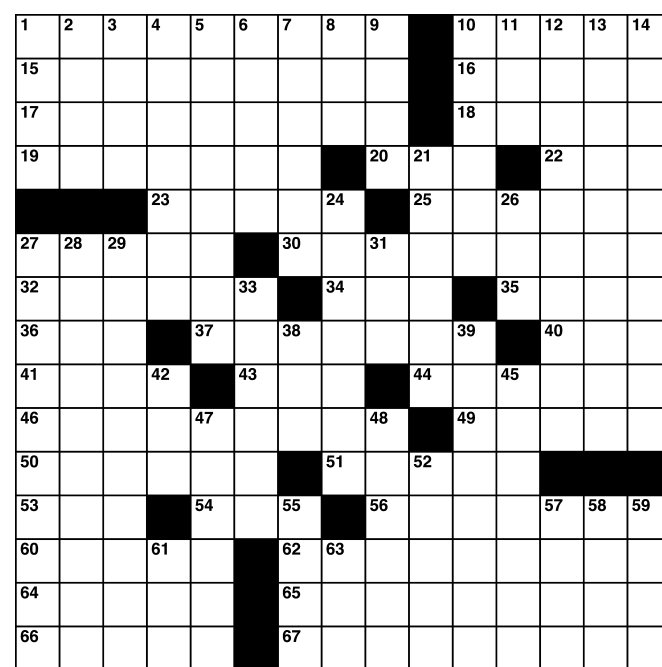
PAT MYERS/THE WASHINGTON POST

### SUNDAY CHALLENGE

BY BRAD WILBER © 2015 CROSSYENERGY SYNDICATE LLC

- ACROSS**
- Refinery "recipes"
  - Loser of tennis's "Battle of the Sexes" in 1973
  - Arena vacated by the San Antonio Spurs in 2002
  - Culottes alternative
  - Emily Post's specialty
  - Cheyenne shelter
  - "What did I tell you?!"
  - Two-bagger (abbr.)
  - "\_\_\_ note to follow sew..."
  - Acronymic stunner
  - Expose
  - Decrease
  - Suffused
  - Immobilized by winter weather, perhaps
  - Coastal birthplace of Robert Burns
  - "The \_\_\_ Never Sleeps" (banking slogan)
  - \_\_\_ Xing (street sign)
  - Botanical insignia for a lieutenant colonel
  - Org. that publishes American Hunter
  - One extreme of a Horatio Alger story
  - Russert of "Meet the Press" fame
  - Kate in "The Taming of the Shrew," for one
  - Brings lethargy upon
  - Phoenix neighbor
  - Bluegrass luminary Krauss
  - Signal with one's head
  - Bad-mouth
  - Place to board (abbr.)
  - \_\_\_ Sea (body of water south of the Philippines)
  - The Florida Keys, on many state maps
  - Much of "The Gulag Archipelago" is set in it
  - Prefix with muscular
  - Club soda is often applied to it

- Fraternity Row fellow
- Being
- Score big in the music business
- Restaurant plumbing accessory
- Red-meat entrée prepared tableside
- Courtroom injustice, slangily
- Quiche spumers, in a 1980s best seller
- Rain gear for a broly carrier
- Skill by which one eaves-drops from across the room
- Tourist option with many cabins
- Tourney ranking
- Bonus-round freebies on "Wheel of Fortune"
- Jack's White House predecessor
- One practiced in resignation
- Many coll. applicants
- Diplomatic thaw
- Program for the first Soviet cosmonauts
- Declaration from one who won't be outdone
- Notations about striking
- "... \_\_\_ forgive those who trespass..."
- Noggin
- Clapton or Heiden
- Clearheaded
- "... \_\_\_ he drove out of sight..."
- Scalper's offerings, for short



Answer to last week

S L I P P A G E D O C I L E  
P I X I E C U T A V O C E T  
C R I T E R I A N O M E A T  
A A A P O L L O I F A V E  
D E S E D E T O X E S  
C A T E R S V E L A R  
O R A L D O O L I T T L E  
N E B U C H A D N E Z Z A R S  
F A U X H A W K S O T O S  
E A R N A C A N I N E  
B R O M I D E S O L E  
L O B O C D R O M S T S K  
U S E D T O P A P A J O H N  
R I S E U P M M E C U R I E  
S E E L E Y S I D E L I N E

### HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY | SEPT. 27:** This year you have the opportunity to make a difference in your daily life. You might not even be aware of what you do for others. The energy and effort you put into your daily encounters will be apparent. If you are single, you have many admirers. You could be better off simply dating and not looking for any commitment. If you are attached, the two of you might find many reasons to quarrel. Know that this behavior is only a phase. Aries challenges nearly every principle that you apply to your life.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
Take it easy in the morning, but make plans in the afternoon to try a new spot or go to an art show. Break out of your typical patterns. You could be uncomfortable as you sense your anger is close to the surface.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
Zero in on what you want to do in the morning. You might opt to invite a friend over or accept an invitation to brunch. You will want to play it low-key this afternoon. A child could decide that you need to notice him or her more often.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
You'll take a step forward later in the day. You might need to handle a responsibility or a problem that has been bothering you. Reach out to someone at a distance, and make plans to get together or meet halfway later.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
You want to reach out to someone you care about in the morning. In fact, you might decide to do a round of calls to friends and family with whom you rarely have time to visit. Join friends, whether

it is at a ballgame or at the movies.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
Do yourself a favor and allow a close loved one to make the plans. You know that you will enjoy yourself wherever you go. You also will enjoy the change of pace. You might be up for an adventure or something different.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
You could be challenged by a sequence of events. Understand that you can't change what happens. Defer to a partner who shows good judgment and creativity. This person's plans might be quite fun. Opt for a fun day together.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
You'll need to wrap up a project before you can free yourself up. An invitation will toss you into the middle of the crowds, but you will enjoy the moment. A loved one could trigger you. Don't allow yourself to get involved in a squabble.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
Your creativity is remarkable and intriguing to a child or new friend.

This person might start playing a fun game with you just to enjoy your reactions. Let out your inner child. You could have a remarkable afternoon with this person if you do.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
Tension could be high around the homefront. You might not know how to tell someone that you have had enough. Make plans to join a fun friend or family member later in the day. Your mood changes, and the situation at home will improve as a result.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
You'll need to sharpen your listening skills in the morning. Everyone wants your feedback. Take off for a walk or maybe a get-together with a friend. You'll need to visit with a centered pal. In the afternoon, you might cocoon at home.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
You might be acting as if you are carefree. Watch your spending, as you could splurge and have a situation go out of control. You want feedback about a personal matter, but wait until later in the afternoon, when a friend will be around to talk.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
You could be pushed to the max and want to change your plans. Understand where a loved one is coming from. This person might not be as up for fun and going out. Make a compromise, and you both will be happy.

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## Readers' advice for kids' messy rooms

### Ask Amy

AMY DICKINSON

**Dear Amy:** Sign me up as one who disagrees with your advice to "Frustrated and Tidy," the mom who cleaned her teen's room.

I am living with a mate who was never required to clean his room. Now I am living with his mess.

He has turned our home into a giant closet and hasn't thrown anything out in 30 years. I have moved to another bedroom and will soon move to another residence.

He is a third-generation pack rat, and I should have run the minute I saw his room. Unless Frustrated's children pair up with people exactly like them, they can expect bad relationships. Considering they may be in college dorms soon, she should stand her ground.

Realistically, this is something parents should address very early, but she should clean their rooms — once. It is her home and her rules. Bag up all but the necessities and bin them before

they can rescue anything. Never capitulate to your children.

*Bin There, Dumped That*

**Dear Bin There:** Many parents weighed in with their techniques for how to deal with their kids' rooms. Your perspective about what life is really like with someone who doesn't ever clean is valid. Thank you.

**Dear Amy:** I totally disagree with your reasoning of the couple with kids who can't/won't clean their rooms! I would think it would fall under the same category as table manners. What are they teaching them before they leave the nest?  
I put three companies of recruits through boot camp and could tell the ones where Mom and Dad didn't teach them any "Basic Decorum."

Would you like to room with one of these people in a college dorm? How about marrying one so you can pick up after "IT" for the rest of your life?  
Training should be at home. These parents are not making

their future lives any easier.

*DW Taylor*

**Dear DW:** My suggestion was that this mother should not clean her kids' rooms but should show them how to do it — and relax her own standards enough so they could see the real consequences of what it is like when no one picks up after you. Thank you very much for offering your perspective.

**Dear Amy:** The question posed by "Frustrated and Tidy" is a tough one. I felt like I had tried everything. Then our daughter learned that piles of clothes make nice nests for mice and other rodents. That got her attention.  
*She's the Clean One Now*

**Dear Clean One:** I admire your fortitude.

Amy's column appears seven days a week at washingtonpost.com/advice. Write to Amy Dickinson at askamy@tribpub.com or Ask Amy, Chicago Tribune, TT500, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.  
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