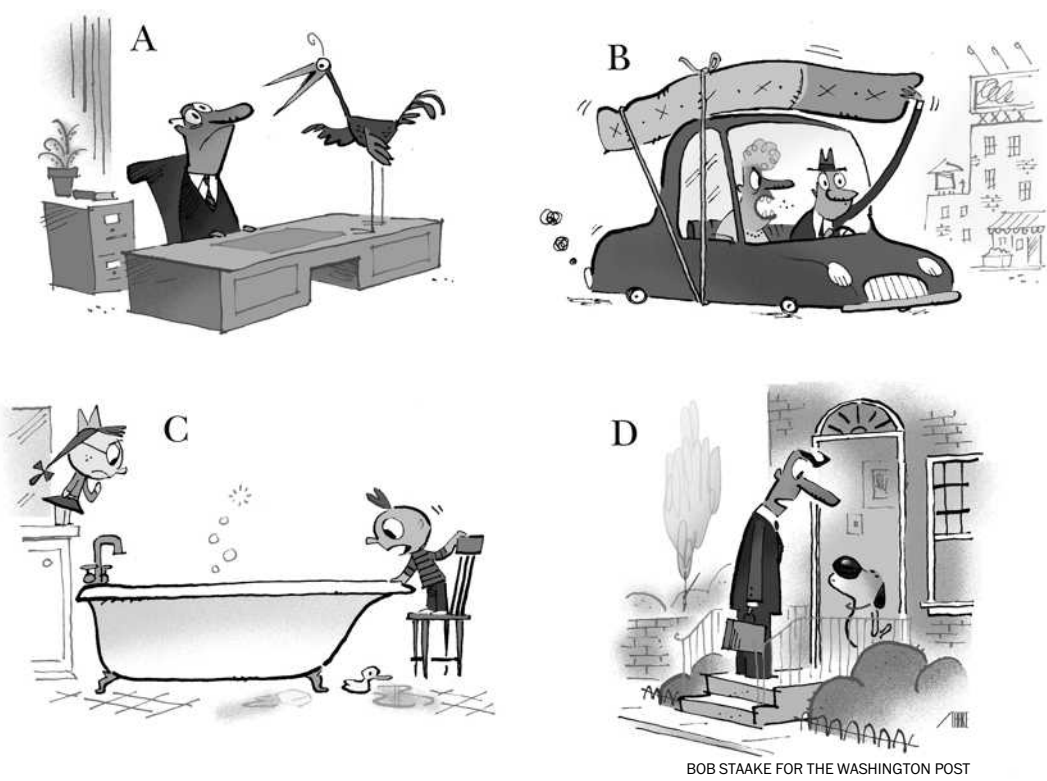


DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Rehorsefulness: The top 'grandfoals'

BY PAT MYERS

Four weeks ago, in Week 1278, we announced the winners of our horse name "breeding" contest...

BUT FIRST: With his five (!) blots of ink this week, Mark Raffman gallops past the 500-ink line and into the Style Invitational Hall of Fame as its 12th member.

4th place

Donnie's Inferno x Worst.Musical.Ever = My Spare Lady (Kathy El-Assal, Middleton, Wis.)

3rd place

Cashless Clay x PhantomOfTheOpry = Ali Bubba (Hildy Zampella, Alexandria)

2nd place and the CD 'Lullaby Renditions of Johnny Cash'

Absorba the Greek x How I Met Yo Mama = QuickerPickerUpper (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

Ruckus in the Sack x Nope, Bone Spurs = Not Funny, Melania (David Young, Falmouth, Mass.)

Stable scraps: Honorable mentions

GhoulsOutForSummer x Invisible Ink = The Ghost Is Clear (Mark Raffman, Reston)

Twain x Rex = Amtwack (Marilyn Pfifer, Morgan Hill, Calif.)

Absorba the Greek x David Cop a Feel = Pervious (Hildy Zampella)

LambdaTheSlaughter x Absorba the Greek = MuttonyOnThe Bounty (J.D. Berry, Springfield)

Absorba the Greek x The Ego Has Landed = Ouzo Vain (Harvey Smith, McLean)

Cashless Clay x Gaseous Clay = Destitoot (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

Cashless Clay x How I Met Yo Mama = She Took PayPal (Steve Honley, Washington)

Cashless Clay x I Speak Foreign = Ali Blah Blah (Pete Morelewicz, Fredericksburg)

Cassius Claymore x LambdaTheSlaughter = Ali Baa Baa (Brian Cohen, Winston-Salem, N.C.)

David Cop a Feel x Penn and Yeller = Lecherdmain (Mark Raffman)

Worst.Musical.Ever x David Cop a Feel = Breast Side Story (Steve Price, New York)

Absorba the Greek x Worst.Musical.Ever = A Porous Line (Hildy Zampella)

Donnie's Inferno x Worst.Musical.Ever = The Book of Moron (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

Rex x Worst.Musical.Ever = He Plays Eliza (Pamela Love, Columbia)

Miracle Whip x Donnie's Inferno = Merkel Whip (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

Rex x Fiddle DD = Rax (Mark Raffman)

Gaseous Clay x Rex = Reex (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

New for Week 1282: Picture This

What's going on in these pictures? Don't ask me! No, tell me — since Bob Staake doesn't deign to talk to the Loserly Rabble. This week: Write a caption for one or more of the pictures above.

Submit entries at the website wapo.st/enter-invite-1282 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the Lose Cannon, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a Special Invite Red & Green Double Pak o' Yummies: first, an eight-ounce container of blood-red goopy-mess Texas Blood Crawlers...

Other runners-up win our "You Gotta Play to Lose" Loser Mug or our Grossery Bag, "I Got a B in Punmanship." Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "We've Seen Better" or "IDiot Card."

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.

HeFollowedMeHome x Gaseous Clay = Restraining Odor (Rick Haynes, Ocean City, Md.)

Worst.Musical.Ever x How I Met Yo Mama = Lay Ms. (Rob Wolf, Gaithersburg)

Village Person x Jacob's Bladder = Peon (Mark Raffman)

The Ego Has Landed x Jirque du Soleil = I Am My Sunshine (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

Donnie's Inferno x Miracle Whip = Hell-Man's Mayo (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

Ol' Man Ripper x Splitting Heirs = Chopped Livers (Ellen Raphaeli, Falls Church)

Sneezy Listening x PhantomOfTheOpry = Mucus of the Night (John Hutchins, Silver Spring)

Sneezy Listening x Worst.Musical.Ever = A Little Night Mucus (Chris Doyle)

Questosterone x So Much Twinning = Hormone Killebrew (Dave Zarrow, Reston)

Roamin' Emperor x David Cop a Feel = Seizer (Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.; Duncan Stevens)

Twain x Sneezy Listening = Connecticut Hankie (Duncan Stevens)

401 Que? x Kodiak Moment = Dunno, Alaska (Mary Kappus, Washington; Mark Raffman)

Big Brown Bare x Smart Ash = Birthday Soot (Jesse Frankovich)

Twain x Genital Ben = Tom Saw Ya (Barbara Turner, Takoma Park)

HeFollowedMeHome x Big Brown Bare = Stalk Naked (Barry Koch, Catlett, Va.)

David Cop a Feel x Hurt Dateeth = Punch Damouth (Joanne Free, Clifton, Va.)

Worst.Musical.Ever x Jacob's Bladder = No Intermixion (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.)

Felix and Oscar x GhoulsOutForSummer =

BestFiendsForever (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf, Md.)

Cassius Claymore x Fighter Pilate = Pull Your Pontius (Matt Monitto)

Sack x Cassius Claymore = Paper or Plastique (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg)

Felix and Oscar x Gaseous Clay = The Odor Couple (Jenn Phillips, International Falls, Minn., a First Offender)

Genital Ben x Felix and Oscar = The Id Couple (Rob Wolf)

David Cop a Feel x Felix and Oscar = The Pawed Couple (Mary McNamara, Washington)

David Cop a Feel x Fiddle DD = Pinchass Zukerman (Chris Doyle)

Mind Over Martyr x Miracle Whip = Thinko de Mayo (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

Gaseous Clay x Miracle Whip = Stinko da Mayo (Jonathan Hardis, Gaithersburg; Jon Gearhart)

Rex x Gaseous Clay = House of Tooter (Judith Wright, Indian Hills, Colo., a First Offender)

The Ego Has Landed x Punked You Asians = Kanye East (Lee Graham, Germantown, Md.)

Sneezy Listening x Splitting Heirs = Achoodicate (Warren Tanabe, Annapolis)

X~~~~~X~~~~~X x Magna Cum Loud = O~~~~~O~~~~~O (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn; Joanne Free)

Absorba the Greek x For Her = Maxi Paß (Jesse Frankovich)

Incubated x I Got Ink! = InkYouBoasted (Gary Crockett)

I Got Ink! x Laugh Savings = Little Interest (Margaret Welsh, Oakton)

I Got Ink! x Invisible Ink = Fake Lose (Tom Witte)

Still running — deadline Monday, June 11: our first googly-eyes photo contest. See wapo.st/invite1281.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

"EMERGENCY ROOM STAFF" By MATT MCKINLEY

ACROSS

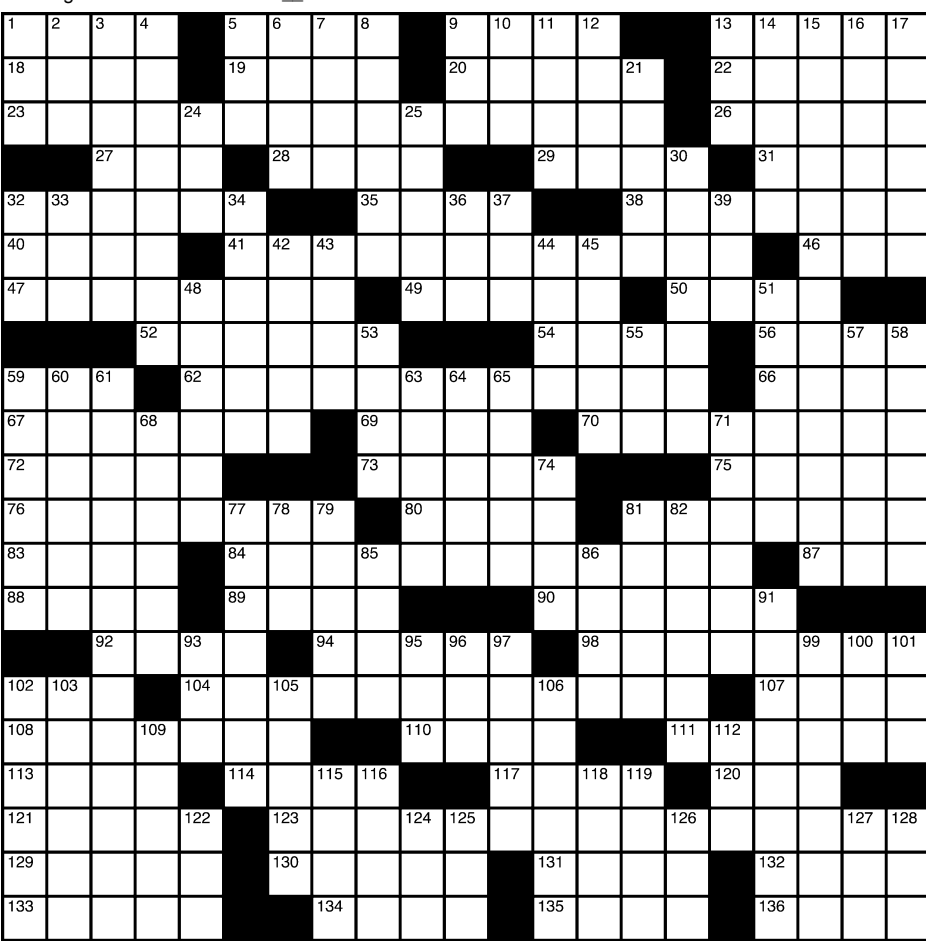
- 1 Garments with hooks
5 Metro regions
9 Complaint
13 Metals industry acronym
18 Ocular cleaning brand
19 Hilarious type
20 Lewis lion
22 Destined (to)
23 Proposed
26 One in a newsstand stack
27 News agcy.
28 Like rainy London skies
29 Zagros Mountains country
31 Stack
32 Rap sheet list
35 Scotland, in Scottish Gaelic
38 Spanish hillside
40 Highly regarded speakers
41 Kiss in the rink?
46 Germane
47 Name of two 134-Acrosses
49 Dupe
50 U.K. governing body
52 Vital conduits
54 Self-serve fast-food item
56 Farming prefix
59 Greener Living org.
62 Screwballs hanging out at the end of the block?
66 City on the Orne
67 "The first thing you must know ..."

DOWN

- 1 Texter's "Need a short break"
2 Portuguese king
3 Distress
4 Order in the court
5 Keats subject
6 TV's Mrs. Peel
7 Orange Free State settler
8 Hot time
9 Rats relative?
10 Saskatoon-to-Winnipeg dir.
11 Fair-haired sci-fi race
12 Castmate of Alda and Swit
13 Rev (up)
14 Quantum events?
15 Dive at the governor's mansion pool?
16 Pool unit offering
17 Immobile
21 New York City suburb on the Hudson
24 Fresh
25 Perry who created Madea
30 "Sup, Juan?"
32 Lunchbox staple, casually
33 Kanga's kid
34 Glass of "Cagney & Lacey"
36 Playoffs privilege
37 Kindle download
39 Mound meas.
42 Strange
43 Extended family
44 Celestial bear
45 "Order up!" callers
48 Pennsylvania's Mountains
51 Mother of Joseph
53 Finalizes, with up
55 Dover's st.
57 Enterprise requirement
58 Closely watched bars
59 Eats into
60 Strict observer

DOWN

- 61 Fishing pro?
63 Turn back
64 Bowling unit
65 Aptly named
68 Dawn-of-mammals epoch
71 Recipe words
74 They may clash on the lot
77 "The Fantasticks" narrator whose name translates to "The Rooster"
78 Atlantic resort city
79 Kilmer's famous last words?
81 Glide on blades
82 Computer's abundance
85 Holiday hire
86 Libya neighbor
91 Common HMO
93 U.K. military award
95 Olive not found in martinis
96 Cal. column
97 Conger catcher
99 Fake
100 Atypical
101 Hi-__ image
102 Perfumery compound
103 Enterprise helmsman
105 Old West brothers
106 Fearless
107 Fosdick's creator
109 " __ grown"
112 Altar promise
115 Clever maneuver
116 2012 Best Picture
118 "The Handmaid's Tale" ailer
119 Bluesy Redding
122 French possessive
124 Wire intrusion
125 Ode preposition
126 Sneaky laugh
127 -__ip; beef cut
128 "Round __ virgin ..."



Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | June 3: This year, you will be exposed to a different culture and unique ideas. Some will travel, while others will find themselves back in school.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) A friend lets you know in no uncertain terms where they are coming from. Do not push this person, as they might be more volatile than usual.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Take news with a grain of salt. You could be confused by an older person who seems secure and confident but who could be defiant.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Before you act, use today to take off for an afternoon out of your environment. You will recharge quickly. You also might want to stay away a bit longer as you relax.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) One-on-one relating allows a great deal of flexibility and relaxation between you and a friend. You might not understand what ails this person, even after they explain it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You need to tame your powerful, sunny personality to let someone else shine. You might not need to take this action all the time, just right now.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You might have more energy than you have had in a while. Be more forthright about your plans. You could opt to go to the gym, jog through a favorite area or have a picnic.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You respond naturally to a loved one who cares about you. Investigate what is ailing this person. Understand that how you see a personal situation could radically change because of this conversation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You can't help but want to deal with a problem before it gets bigger. Your ability to come to terms with this issue might be easier than you think.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your fun, imaginative personality emerges when dealing with a child. Reach out to a neighbor or relative to catch up on their news.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You might be unusually energetic right now. You seem to rally others around you. Participate in a physical type of activity, as you need to burn off some of this high energy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Everyone wants a lazy day, so why wouldn't you want one, too? Make it okay to indulge yourself, and do only what you must.

Answers to last week's puzzle.

