

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

...FaR-OUT wit: T-O-U-R neologisms

BY PAT MYERS

Week 1312 was one of our annual Tour de Fours neologism contests; this year, the four-letter block to include in a word or phrase was . . . TOUR, in any order but with no other letters between them.

4th place:

Tutorrid: Hot for teacher. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn)

3rd place:

Manafortune cookie: "This isn't the last sentence you'll get. Lucky numbers: 15 to 30." (Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

2nd place and the Mr. Turdy molding toy:

Troubleshooting: "YES, I HAVE ALREADY REBOOTED MY COMPUTER!!!" (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

Bit o' Uranus: Candy that did not sell as well as the Mars Bar. (Mark Raffman, Reston)

Marginal-mastery TOUR: Honorable mentions

Heel of Fortune: Yet another reality show in which a bunch of rich twits compete to see who is the most contemptible. (Jesse Frankovich)

Looturgy: The spiel that televangelists use to fleece their flocks. "Joel Osteen's looturgy is so good, his parishioners throw their money at him before he's gotten to the first hallelujah" (Lynne Larkin, Vero Beach, Fla.)

#MeTourism: Guided excursions to NBC headquarters, Fox headquarters, CBS headquarters . . . (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

Rotunderpants: "Relaxed-fit" drawers for wearing after the holidays. (Jesse Frankovich)

Authoritarian: A persnickety, bossy driver. "Laying doctor's-table paper over his SUV seats was bad enough, but then Stan asked the carpool to wear those blue protective slippers . . ." (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

Attourniquet: A lawyer who really puts the squeeze on a witness. (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

Detouronomy: This book of the Bible explains how Moses took a wrong turn when leading the Israelites to the Promised Land, causing a 40-year delay. (Roy Ashley, Washington)

Euotica: "Instinctively, Theresa pulled away from the European. Clearly the European had no interest in pursuing her anyway. Both seemed to realize this was the worst porn story ever." (Dave Zarrow, Reston)

Altruotomy: Cutting the charitable deduction from the tax code. (Mark Raffman)

Fortune nookie: What a rich guy can get even if he resembles a mushroom. (Jesse Frankovich)

Amputator: What every professor was in Civil War-era medical schools. (Dan Helming, Trenton, N.J.)

Foxtrot Uniform: The official NATO response to Trump. (Jesse Frankovich)

Et tu, Robin? Batman's last words before his attack by the Boy Wonder at a Gotham City Council meeting. (Jon Ketzner, Cumberland, Md.)

A-trou-cious: What above-the-ankle pants are. (Dan Helming)

BotRus BotRus Ghali: Putin's new U.N. ambassador. (Mike Gips, Bethesda)

Distributor Cap: A Washington hockey player with a lot of assists. (Jesse Frankovich)

Dontourage: All the president's men. (Jeff Contompasis)

Tortuoso: An extremely bad musician. "Timmy proved himself a true tortuoso at the violin recital with his rendition of 'Lightly Row.'" (Frank Osen)

Fartuoso: A master at playing the wind instrument. (William Kennard, Arlington)

Full discloture: A successful filibuster. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

Go Ruth! Slogan on many signs at



BOB STAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1316: Lies, damn lies, with statistics

Although the Chinese outnumber us 4 to 1, Americans have a greater combined weight. (Joseph Romm, winner of Week 702, 2007)
Manure collected from stalls at Churchill Downs has been proved to increase lawn growth by 153 percent vs. regular horse poo. (Dave Komornik, Week 1057, 2014)

In a study of 67 athletes who said they gave 110 percent, it was found that they actually gave an average of only 93.2 percent. (Art Grinath, Week 1057)
When fully inflated, an adult Shar-Pei can reach up to seven feet in circumference. (David Schwartz, Week 1289, 2018)

As 92 percent of politicians can tell you, lots of otherwise sensible people will believe anything when a few "statistics" are flung into the argument; some folks are so intimidated by numbers that they just turn off their brains and nod passively at the most patently ridiculous figures since Barbie's.

The Greater Loser Community has made hay from this phenomenon — 762.4 bales of it since 1993 — in various jokes over the years, especially in our bogus-trivia contests. So let's go all digital at once: **This week: Tell us some bogus trivia using "statistics" or some bogus quantitative measure**, as in the examples above from earlier fictoid contests.

Submit entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1316 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives the absolutely finest **papier-mache rattle/maraca in the shape of a lime green frog wearing a bikini and covered in polka dots** that you will *ever* see. Brought back directly from Cuba by Loser Ellen Goldlust.

Other runners-up win our "You Gotta Play to Lose" Loser Mug or our "Whole Fools" Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "We've Seen Better" or "IDiot Card." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). **Deadline is Monday night, Feb. 4;** results published Feb. 24 (online Thursday, Feb. 21). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results is by Chris Doyle; Beverley Sharp wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the Style Invitational Devotees on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. "Like" Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at bit.ly/inkofiday; follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.

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.



PAT MYERS/THE WASHINGTON POST

Named for what Trump called Hillary in a tweet, our grand prize.

(Mark Raffman)



PAT MYERS/THE WASHINGTON POST

She's easy being green: A Cuban rattle, this week's second prize.

the Women's March. Insert a comma for the conservative version. (Duncan Stevens)

Echotourism: Going wherever everybody else goes on vacation. (Tom Witte)

"Got Russians?": Mueller team slogan. (Mark Raffman)

Microtrump: A unit of size, as in "My 5-year-old needs gloves. Do you carry these in microtrump?" (Laura Clairmont, Ashburn)

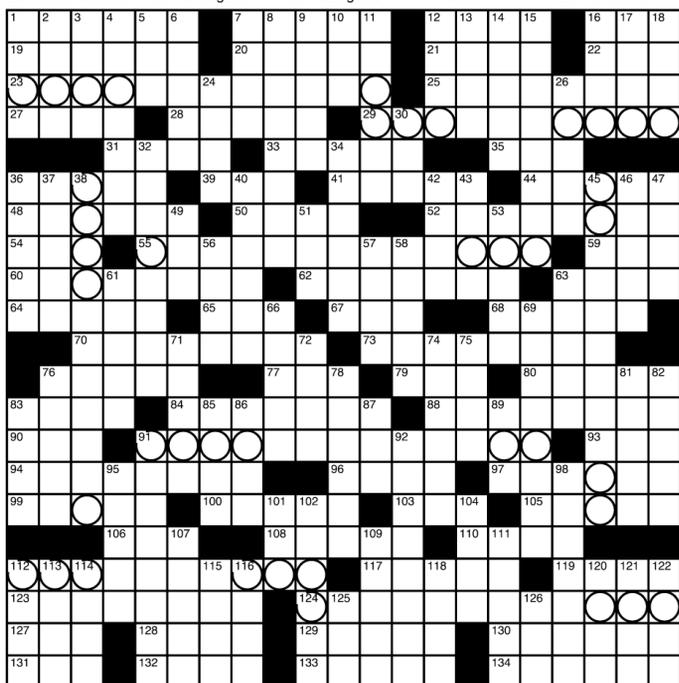
Torus trap: A Krispy Kreme store. (Mike Gips)

Heart-out: What Mitt Romney eats for breakfast every day I sit in the White House — D.J.T., Washington

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

- 14 "Pay attention"
- 15 Neeson of "Silence"
- 16 Tablet download
- 17 1983 Michael Keaton role-reversal movie
- 18 1836 battle site in anger
- 19 Delta rival: Abbr.
- 20 "Here will ___ me till the break of day": Shak.
- 21 Common practice
- 22 November birthstone
- 23 Due cubed
- 24 Bit of racket
- 25 sport equipment character in "The Americans"
- 26 "Seriously!"
- 27 Acquired, with "by"
- 28 Get more points than
- 29 "Enough already!"
- 30 Untruth
- 31 Backup military org.
- 32 Heroic Schindler
- 33 Martini go-with?
- 34 Flower in la Seine
- 35 Almost-ready software products
- 36 Premium beef
- 37 Most likely
- 38 Today's fortysomethings, e.g.
- 39 Empty storefront sign
- 40 Sellout sign
- 41 Amtrak service
- 42 Pin cushion?
- 43 "My bad"
- 44 "To sum up ..."
- 45 Photo sources
- 46 Snowboarder White
- 47 Stud location
- 48 Green Day drummer ___
- 49 Cool
- 50 Draw forth
- 51 Punished, as a teen
- 52 "By all means!"
- 53 Discover
- 54 Online forum VIP
- 55 Original "Nashville Now" ailer
- 56 Snap
- 57 Animal house
- 58 University of Wisconsin city
- 59 "Methinks ..."
- 60 Blood system letters
- 61 Elegant carousel rider?
- 62 Eggs, to a biologist
- 63 "Play attention"
- 64 Covert ___
- 65 Lily variety
- 66 Can't do without
- 67 World ___
- 68 Part of ADA: Abbr.
- 69 Tidy sum
- 70 Copycat
- 71 Lingerie top with spaghetti straps
- 72 Triple-jump element
- 73 Calendario starter
- 74 Dress like
- 75 Roles for young women
- 76 Movie clip
- 77 Large wine cask
- 78 Not get everything you want
- 79 Done, in Dijon
- 80 Desktop image
- 81 Far from talkative
- 82 Get everything you want
- 83 Pec neighbor
- 84 Robust
- 85 Approx. 5.88 trillion miles
- 86 Really peeve
- 87 In unison
- 88 Like nail polish being blown on
- 89 Shame
- 90 Playing hooky, say
- 91 Carpentry files
- 92 "Queen Sugar" co-producer
- 93 Place to keep things
- 94 Business end of a cutting tool
- 95 "The Mod Squad" hairdo
- 96 Rise dramatically
- 97 PlayStation 4, for one
- 98 Lexicographer's concern
- 99 Venn diagram regions
- 100 Pewter metal
- 101 N.Y. tech school
- 102 Travels
- 103 Fed. agents
- 104 Tombstone lawman
- 105 Resided
- 106 When repeated, rock group named for the villain in "Barebella"
- 107 Skin flick
- 108 Dance track, often
- 109 Falling apart
- 110 Like goals not attained
- 111 Doctor's order
- 112 Real puzzle
- 113 Arm-leg connector
- 114 Delivery process
- 115 Sour cream blob
- 116 Stalagmite sites
- 117 Ritz-Carlton alternative
- 118 Soothing ointment
- 119 ___ mater
- 120 Fight with seconds
- 121 Rapa ___: Easter Island
- 122 Turkish dignitary
- 123 West Asian capital
- 124 Wound cover
- 125 Caffeine-rich nuts
- 126 Exam monitor
- 127 The NBA's Hawks
- 128 It merged with Coors in 2005
- 129 Norse prankster
- 130 ___ fault is that?!"
- 131 Got up
- 132 Some USAF NGOs
- 133 Tune sung alone
- 134 One-liner
- 135 Western natives
- 136 Act the blowhard
- 137 Sleek, in car talk
- 138 Opponent
- 139 Lawn problem
- 140 Woolly mamas
- 141 "The Waste Land" monogram
- 142 Plot device?



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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | Jan. 27: This year, you seem to have the power and will to make important changes in your life if need be. You also could take the lead with a commitment. If you're single, your allure speaks for itself. Your independence, intensity and vision draw many suitors. Do not make a commitment unless you are sure. If you're attached, the two of you often are out in public together. You seem to have a natural stature, as does your sweetie. You are a couple that draws attention. Scorpio knows how to trigger you.

ARIES (March 20-April 19)
The unexpected could put a chokehold on your finances unless you say no or have some expertise with this type of issue. Others disagree with your choices, but they might not understand where you are coming from.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Zero in on your priorities, understanding that you need to get a solid perspective about something that might be confusing. Listen to what a partner or close associate says. You might not be on the same page, but understand that you're coming from the same place.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
Pace yourself, understanding that you have a great deal of grounding on a day-to-day matter. Others seek feedback from you, as they feel the unexpected has created a boulder in the path to where they want to be. Help this other party understand the function of the boulder.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
You can be an endless source of creativity and ideas. At the moment, someone could stop you in your tracks with unusual ideas, which triggers more creativity from you. Treasure this time, as you have a way of feeding each other's ingenuity.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Anchor in at home. You could experience a lot of tension, no matter where you are. The unexpected could affect the way you view what is happening. Double-check your messages, plans and meeting times. You could run into a last-minute hassle.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Reach out to a person whom you care about. This person could be a close relative or a neighbor. You often don't make time for this person, so reverse that trend today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Use caution with spending. You might believe an item costs less than it actually does. You could be disappointed by the glimpse of reality you receive. Open up to new ways of handling certain costs. Get feedback. You can do what you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
You could be overwhelmed by recent events and need to slow down rather than act impulsively. You may not be getting all the facts you need. Slow the process down until you do. Someone close to you could be embellishing the information they're sharing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Don't push others, as any pressure at the moment could backfire. Keep your own counsel and maintain a low profile. If you want to take a back seat to events or go off and do your own thing, by all means do. You might find that others misrepresent a situation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You zero in on a major change around a friend. You see the change heading this person's way, but they cannot even understand what you are perceiving. Be a good friend and remain close to this person. Help them sort through what happens until the time is right.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Pressure builds when you're out and about. You might want to project a certain attitude and willfulness. In a sense, this behavior is a deception, but you'll maintain clarity if you feel it's important.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Seek out someone you care a lot about. This person will be delighted to simply hear your voice on the phone. You could encounter some interference connecting with this person. Don't lose heart, and keep trying. You'll get through.

Answers to last week's puzzle.

