

Style Invitational Week 906: Your mug here - design a mug for the runner-up Losers

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By Pat Myers
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As devotees of the Invitational Fine Print know, the third- and fourth-place Losers of each contest "win" their choice of a coveted Loser T-shirt or yearned-for Loser Mug. We've had only one model of mug, pictured [here](#), since we started giving it out almost four years ago, and our supply is running low. So: **Give us a new design for the Loser Mug** - it can be just a slogan or it can be an idea for artwork (you can just describe it rather than draw it). A very intricate design, or one with several colors, won't work well.

Winner gets the Inker, the official Style Invitational trophy - plus the new mug. Second, third and fourth place also get the new mug - which of course will have someone else's idea on it. Loser.

Honorable mentions a lusted-after [Loser magnet](#). First Offenders get a smelly, tree-shaped air "freshener" (Fir Stink for their First Ink). E-mail entries to losers@washpost.com or fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, Feb. 14; results to be published March 6 (March 4 online). Put "Week 906" in the subject line of your e-mail, or it may be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See more rules [here](#). The revised title for next week's results is by Tom Witte; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Beverley Sharp.

Report from Week 902

in which we asked you to find a line in one of that week's Washington Posts and reword it in a more upbeat way:

The winner of the Inker

Original: Maine's governor told critics Friday to "kiss my butt" over his decision not to attend the state NAACP's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrations.

Spun: Maine's governor found it in his heart to turn the other cheek . . . **(Dixon Wragg, Santa Rosa, Calif.)**

2 Winner of the [FBI-NYPD Joint Terrorist Task Force mug](#): **Original:** Tom DeLay, former U.S. House leader, sentenced to 3 years in prison

Spun: DeLay will be following in the footsteps of Mandela, Gandhi and King . . . **(Howard Walderman, Columbia)**

3 O: Virginia school officials have seen 120 cases of sexual misconduct over the past decade, most of them discovered and reported after a teacher was arrested or prosecuted.

S: Many Virginia teachers have reached out to their students beyond the classroom. **(Jeff Brechlin, Eagan, Minn.)**

4 O: Dominican Republic resumes deportations of Haitian migrants

S: A year after earthquake, many Haitians are returning home **(Ward Kay, Vienna)**

The upbeat goes on: Honorable mentions

O: Tom DeLay, former U.S. House leader, sentenced to 3 years in prison

S: Government again calls DeLay to serve **(Roy Ashley, Washington)**

O: Winter weather gripped parts of the South on Sunday . . . causing hundreds of flight cancellations.

S: The number of complaints about security pat-downs at the Atlanta airport dropped enormously on Sunday. **(Marty McCullen, Gettysburg, Pa.)**

O: Longtime Truro Church minister fired for accessing online pornography at work

S: Today we bid farewell to Reverend Brown. For some time now he's been looking at missionary positions. **(Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)**

O: Haitians see little rebuilding, few new jobs

S: Haitians get a taste of American lifestyle. **(Joe Godles, Bethesda)**

O: Incendiary mail goes off in D.C.

S: Innovation in packaging sparks interest from postal officials **(Sam Wheeler, Alexandria, a First Offender)**

O: School board in N.C. . . . abolishes integration policy

S: School board in N.C. takes a step closer to America's roots **(Matt Monitto, Elon, N.C., a First Offender)**

O: Griffith cut up and tried to store the body [of his girlfriend] in containers filled with concrete.

S: After his girlfriend departed, Griffith kept mementos of their relationship. **(Nan Reiner, Alexandria)**

O: The number of homeless families increased at an even greater rate, according to a report.

S: Despite the tough economy, many families are able to save on rent, mortgage payments and home repairs. **(Ira Allen, Bethesda)**

O: Pennies stolen from collection at Md. church

S: Strangers find 'pennies from Heaven' **(Dave Prevar, Annapolis; Rick Haynes, Potomac)**

O: Major delays from N.Y. Ave. bridge work

S: Commuters linger after work in D.C. neighborhoods **(Pam Sweeney, St. Paul, Minn.)**

O: Arlington lawyer gets year in prison

S: Local attorney plans extended reunion with former clients **(Nan Reiner)**

O: Officials also presented the results "in ways that are incorrect and potentially misleading."

S: Incredible results! **(Kevin Dopart, Washington)**

O: Deputy Prime Minister Clegg appears to be losing Britain's love

S: Clegg's Popularity Closely Tracking Winston Churchill's **(Mike Gips, Bethesda)**

O: To government workers: "You will find the pressures greater than the pay. You may endure more public attacks than support."

S: "You will have the unequalled satisfaction of knowing that your character and talent are contributing to the direction and success of this free society." - John F. Kennedy, 1963 **(Jeff Hazle, Woodbridge)**

Next week: Bill us now, or Enacting up

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