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Style

Style Invitational Week 931: Limerixicon 8, plus the winning Burma-Shave-style rhymes





By Pat Myers

August 5, 2011

An ecdysiast likes to be nude,
Which to *some* people seems a bit crude.
But some others applaud
This most talented broad.
(By "some others" we mean genus *Dude*.)

If it's August — and this year it's abundantly obvious in Washington — then it's time for the Invite to catch up with the monumental task of Chris J.

Strolin and his minions to produce the Omnificent English Dictionary in Limerick form, five lines at a time. They're now just about to reach the 70,000-limerick mark since starting with A in 2004, and are now all the way to ... This week: Supply a humorous limerick significantly featuring any English word, name or term beginning with the letters ea- through el-, as in the example above ("ecdysiast" is a fancy word for stripper) by Washington Post Limerician on Retainer Gene Weingarten. See washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational for our fairly strict rules on limerick rhyme and meter, and see oedilf.com for submitting limericks there after this contest is over.

Winner gets the Inker, the official Style Invitational trophy. Second prize receives Paparazzi Shades, a pair of sunglasses that looks in a photo as if someone's stuck a strip of identity-hiding tape across your eyes. The Empress wears them in her Facebook status photo. Donated by totally visible Loser Jeff Contompasis.

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 smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to losers@washpost.com or fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, Aug. 15; results published Sept. 4 (Sept. 2 online). Include "Week 931" 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





Most Read Lifestyle

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A short investigation into Trump's claims of 'RIGGED' Google results



2 Perspective

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3 John Goodman reveals Roseanne will be killed off in 'The Conners' spinoff



4 Why our culture's mild obsession



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See contest rules and guidelines at <u>washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational</u>. The revised title for next week's results and this week's honorable-mentions subhead are both by Kevin Dopart.

Report from Week 927: Drive-by shoutings,

in which we sought the short poems of the sort that used to be posted as a series of roadside signs to advertise Burma-Shave shaving cream. Like those relics, they sometimes hawk a product and other times serve as a driver-safety PSA.

The winner of the Inker:

The Empress of The Style Invitational appears incognito by wearing this week's second prize. (BY JEFF CONTOMPASIS)

Why exercise To get a date?

WE'LL do the push-ups; YOU'LL look great!

Wonderbra.

(Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

2. Winner of the Cluster Springs Sanitary Services Portable Toilet Rentals official ball cap:

Tip for new drivers

In the Sunshine State:

Blinker on means

Going straight.

AARP.

(David Ballard, Reston, Va.)

3. On a bridge

With breezes wafting,

Drive carefully

Or you'll be rafting.

(Phyllis Reinhard, East Fallowfield, Pa.)

- 4. Sure, do your makeup!
- . That should please

The first responding

EMTs.

(Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

Kerouwhacked: Honorable mentions

The same-sex marriage

Path is cleared,

So now's the time

To lose your beard.

Burma-Shave.

(Brendan Beary)

Lather up

So you can stop

Approximating

ZZ Top.

Burma-Shave.

(Mike Caslin, Round Hill, Va.)

Life is tough

And that's for sure -

Luckily

with Mary-Kate and Ashley Ulsen may never end



Perspective

Carolyn Hax: A kiss-and-don't-tell with an ex-boyfriend's buddy



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We have the cure! Philip Morris. (Dixon Wragg, Santa Rosa, Calif.) He watched the female Jogger's keister; With eyes off road, He predeceased her. (Brendan Beary) dont txt an driv or u wl b not LOL but OMG. (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.) No longer alive, Since, sadly, he blundered: He thought 95 Was the Indy Five Hunderd. (Mae Scanlan, Washington) Sex at the wheel Is horribly risky, So hire a driver Before you get frisky. Acme Limo Service. (Stephen Gold, Glasgow, Scotland) Now I lay me Down to sleep. I pray the Lord Knows how to beep. No-Doz. (Judy Blanchard, Novi, Mich.) If, Mrs. Sprat, You choose to fly, Please greet your mate Like this: "Jack! Hi!" (Ann Martin, Bracknell, England) You drink champagne And dine on partridge? If so, you can Afford our cartridge. HP Printers. (John Glenn, Tyler, Tex.) An ample breast, A supple thigh. Come on in And watch us fry! KFC. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village, Md.) Congressman Weiner Has resigned, But we still have

The other kind

THE OTHER KING.

Massengill.

(Amanda Yanovitch, Midlothian, Va.)

We know you now

Depend on us -

So please don't leave

For Google+.

Facebook.

(Stephen Litterst, Newark, Del.)

The call of FarmVille

Never ends

From all your so-called

Facebook friends.

Google+.

(Christopher Lamora, Guatemala City)

And last:

Lady Bird,

Don't spin distressed,

We're only doing

This in jest.

- The Style Invitational. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

Visit the online discussion group The Style Conversational, where the Empress discusses today's new contest and results along with news about the Loser Community — and you can vote for your favorite among the inking entries, since you no doubt figured the Empress chose the wrong winner. If you'd like an e-mail notification each week when the Invitational and Conversational are posted online, write to the Empress at losers@washpost.com (note that in the subject line) and she'll add you to the mailing list. And on Facebook, join the lively group Style Invitational Devotees and chime in.

Next week: Play feature, or Back Talkies



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Pat Myers

Pat Myers is editor and judge of The Style Invitational, The Washington Post's page for clever, edgy humor and wordplay. In the role since December 2003, she has posted and judged more than 700 contests. She also writes the weekly Style Conversational column and runs the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook. Follow

The Post Recommends

Perspective

Want to live a longer life? Research says you should do these five things.

Instead of following new fads, stick to these low-risk lifestyle practices.



President Trump blasts 'Fake News Media' after Tiger Woods is asked about President Trump

Trump says golf legend is "very smart" for not divulging much about his feelings toward the president.

1 day ag



NBC announced John McCain's death — then abruptly cut to men kissing in dolphin masks

One viewer quipped: "What did I just watch? What the heck?" 2 days ago

