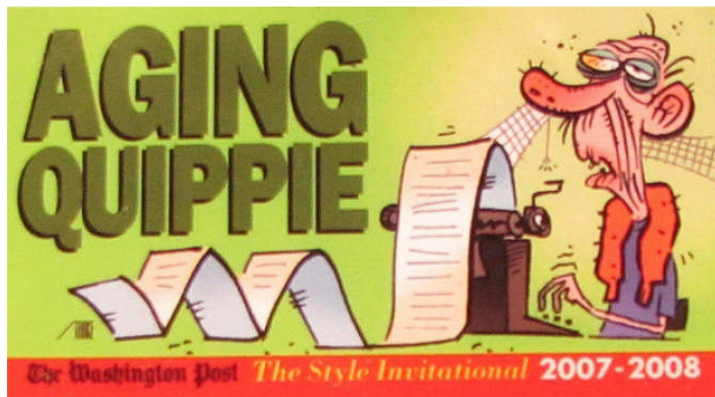


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Style

Style Invitational Week 994: Stick it to us with a new Loser Magnet



(Art by Bob Staake; slogan by Tom Witte)

By **Pat Myers**

October 25, 2012

Every week since she deposed the Czar in 2004, the Empress has been sending out our lusted-after prize magnets to a couple dozen honorable-mention Losers. (One to a person, that is — do you think we're made of money? These babies can run as much as two bits apiece.) Since they replaced the Czarist-era bumper stickers, we've had more than a dozen designs, all of them created by the More Famous and More Full of Himself by the Day Bob Staake, and featuring Loser-contributed slogans; some of the slogans stress the also-ran nature of being a Loser, while others play on the Invitational in general.

Anyway, our current supply is running out, and it's time to order up another year's worth. This week: **Suggest a slogan for one of our two new honorable-mention Loser Magnets for 2012-2013.** Bob will draw it, so you don't need to design or draw anything. You can suggest just the text and Bob will illustrate, or suggest a visual idea as well. The magnet is only the size of a business card (2 by 3.5 inches), and so a short slogan and simple idea work best. Click through the pictures above to see six of the magnets; [here's a photo of seven more](#). You may resubmit your own unsuccessful submission from any of our previous prize-slogan contests (by unsuccessful, we mean that it wasn't used on a prize; it's still eligible if it got ink).

Winner gets — along with the magnet with the winning slogan — the [Inkin' Memorial](#), the bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy.

Second place receives the other magnet we'll be using, plus a fantasy sci-fi romance novel that its donor, Incredibly Longtime Loser Tom Witte, vows is "the best book ever written." Sample passage from the paperback: " 'Look,' he said, 'the sun is beginning to set. It will soon be nightfall.' She marveled at his wisdom and was in awe of his manhood." The novel is by Tom's mother-in-law.



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



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4

Perspective



Other runners-up win their choice of a yearned-for [Loser Mug](#) or the ardently desired [Grossery Bag](#). Honorable mentions get, of course, a Loser magnet, either a new one or one from the old batch. First Offenders receive 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, Nov. 5; results published Nov. 25 (online probably Nov. 23). No more than 25 entries per entrant per week. Include “Week 994” 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/inviterules. The subhead for this week’s honorable mentions is by Beverley Sharp; the alternative headline in the “Next week’s results” line is by Dixon Wragg. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev.

Report from Week 990

in which we asked for jokes about any two people with the same last name (or names pronounced the same): The links on the names are there not just to identify them — don’t write in about the insult to your intelligence — but sometimes offer a little perspective on the jokes; for example, the link on Lil Wayne’s name goes to a sample of his poetry.

The winner of the Inkin’ Memorial

[Cynthia Nixon](#) had sex in the city; Richard Nixon screwed the whole country. (*Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.*)

2. Winner of the Talking Toilet practical-joke gizmo: Stephen King: Writes about the living dead. [Larry King](#): Is. (*David Garratt, Silver City, N.M.*)

3. [Ken Starr](#) and [Ringo Starr](#): Each was willing to use whatever sticks. (*Kevin Dopart, Washington*)

4. [George Romney](#) and Mitt Romney: One was transparent; the other you can see right through. (*John Huber, Montgomery Village, Md., a First Offender*)

Nixed of kin: Honorable mentions

Neil Armstrong and Lance Armstrong: One took a giant leap *forward* for mankind. (*Jon Reiser, Hilton, N.Y.*)

[Bill Russell](#) and [Jane Russell](#): Known for great two-pointers. (*Kevin Dopart*)

[Jack Ryan](#) and Paul Ryan collaborate in “The Hunt for Red-State November.” (*Chris O’Carroll, Emporia, Kan.*)

Robert E. Lee took off up North. [Gypsy Rose Lee](#) took off “down south.” (*Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.*)

[Dave Matthews](#) leads a band; [Chris Matthews](#) preaches to the choir. (*David Genser, Poway, Calif.*)

[Jon Stewart](#) wears his convictions on his sleeve; [Martha Stewart](#) had to wear hers on her ankle. (*Ira Allen, Bethesda, Md.*)

[Bruce Lee](#) and Robert E. Lee: Both were born in the United States yet became famous working in another country. (*David Ballard, Reston*)

[William S. Burroughs](#) and [Edgar Rice Burroughs](#): Tarzan eat naked lunch every day. What big deal? (*Chris O’Carroll*)

I ne peris or being a woman who s
just asking to be left alone



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



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[Commodore Perry](#): “We have met the enemy and they are ours.” [Rick Perry](#):
“I have met the enemy and he is me.” (*Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.*)

[Ben Jonson](#) and [Davey Johnson](#): One knew that “The Devil Is an Ass,” but
the other had never heard of Peter Angelos. (*Ann Martin, Bracknell,
England*)

[Jim Bowie](#) and [David Bowie](#): Both are famous as blades. (*Rob Huffman,
Fredericksburg, Va.*)

[Robin Roberts](#) and [John Roberts](#): Either one could throw a heck of a
curveball. (*Roy Ashley, Washington*)

[Eddie Cantor](#) and [Eric Cantor](#): Each seemed to have the same guiding
principle: “Bring Down the House.” (*Travis McKinney, San Antonio*)

[Joyce Kilmer](#) co-wrote with [Billy Kilmer](#): “I think the world will never see/ A
decent spiral thrown by me.” (*Joel Cockrell, Damascus, Md.*)

[Dave Barry](#) and [Marion Barry](#): One of them thinks Crack Pipe Mayor would
be a good name for a rock band. (*Chris O’Carroll*)

[Sherlock Holmes](#) was featured in “A Study in Scarlet.” [John C. Holmes](#) could
have been featured in “A Stud in Scarlett.” (*Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.*)

[Tobey McGuire](#) and [Mark McGwire](#): After he acquired superpowers from a
dangerous chemical that surged into his bloodstream, he put on a costume
and wowed crowds with feats of superhuman strength. The other was in
“Spider-Man.” (*David Genser*)

J.S. Bach and [Barbara Bach](#): Serious bragging rights if either ever touched
your organ. (*Mike Gips, Bethesda, Md.*)

[Michael Collins](#) looked at clouds from even more sides than [Judy Collins](#) did.
(*Kevin Dopart*)

[Ralph Reed](#) and [Rex Reed](#) would make such a cute couple. (*Jeff
Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.*)

[Bruce Wayne](#) and [Lil Wayne](#): One has an alter ego that serves up poetic
justice; the other is an alter ego that serves up an injustice to poetry. (*Jon
Reiser*)

If Robert Frost had bumped into Jack Frost, he would have written: The
woods are lovely, I suppose... / But who’s this creep that nips my nose?
(*Beverley Sharp*)

Unlike with [George Bailey](#), the world wouldn’t suffer if Beetle Bailey
vanished today. (*Kevin Dopart*)

[Bobby Baker](#) and [Tammy Faye Bakker](#) both employed elaborate cover-ups,
but Bobby’s didn’t end up dripping all over his face. (*Howard Walderman,
Columbia, Md.*)

Unlike Prince George’s County’s [Leslie Johnson](#), [Lyndon](#) didn’t hide
anything under his shirt. (*Kevin Dopart*)

[Isabel Briggs Myers](#) and [Pat Myers](#): For Week 995, they’d suggest the
hilarious match of an ISTJ with an ENFP. (*Jim Deutsch, Washington*)

Many people anxiously await both [Seth Meyers’s](#) and Pat Myers’s weekend
updates. (*Christopher Lamora, Guatemala City*)

**Still running — deadline Monday night — is the contest to write a
mini-Epic Rap Battle between two historical figures. See**

... ..

bit.ly/inv993.

Visit the online discussion group [The Style Conversational](#) (published late Thursday afternoon), in which 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 far more lively group [Style Invitational Devotees](#) and chime in.

Next week's results: Tour de Fours IX: V-O-T-E Now, or InviTE Voodoo, the contest in which we asked you to coin new terms incorporating the letter block V, O, T and E in any order.



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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 [Twitter](#)

The Post Recommends

Dershowitz says federal probe in New York, not Mueller, is 'greatest threat' to Trump

"There are no constitutional defenses to what the Southern District is investigating," Dershowitz, an informal Trump adviser, said Sunday.

1 day ago



Opinion

Distinguished persons of the week: Breaking into Trump's inner circle

Who stood tall?

2 days ago



Trump recently sought his lawyers' advice on possibility of pardoning Manafort, Giuliani says

Trump attorney Rudolph Giuliani said Trump was seeking advice on pardons generally, and was upset that Manafort faced criminal exposure on charges unrelated to his work on Trump's campaign.

