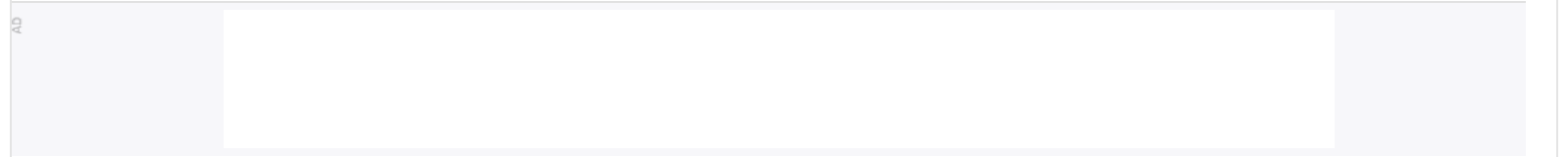


Style



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Style Invitational Week 929: Just sit right back and write a TV theme song

By Pat Myers, July 22, 2011



(Bob Staake /For The Washington...)

We wouldn't usually spring two song parody contests on you in the space of two months, but fate intervened: We mourn the passing here of the wonderfully named Sherwood Schwartz, creator of "[Gilligan's Island](#)" and "[The Brady Bunch](#)," among other TV classics — and, more pertinently, composer of their theme songs, whose lyrics introduced the show by explaining the setup for the story. Not Yet a Loser Fred Singerman suggested a neat idea: **Write a funny song introducing a TV show, past or present.** The more obscure the show is, the more you'll have to explain and still be funny. The song may be set to a Schwartz tune (["Gilligan"](#);

["Brady"](#)) or you can use any other tune (even your own, if you want to sing it in a video you post online).

Winner gets [the Inker](#), the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a box of [Lunch Bugs](#), a pack of 24 sealable sandwich bags with a realistic-looking photo of a roach or beetle embedded in each one. Nobody will steal your burrito from the office fridge if it's wrapped in one of these babies. Donated by Loser Nan Reiner.

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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. 1; results published Aug. 21 (Aug. 19 online). Include "Week 929" 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. See contest rules and guidelines at [washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational](#). The revised title for next week's results is by Chris Doyle; this week's honorable-mentions subhead was submitted by both Kevin Dopart and Judy Blanchard.

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Report from Week 925: A remeaning task,

in which we asked you to come up with a new definition for an actual word beginning with I through O. We had at least 300 good entries from among the more than 2,500 submitted; believe us, you don't want to read 300 entries, but the Empress did let the list of honorable mentions run on longer than usual online. (We'll also run a few more next week.) Some of the entries below require you to pronounce the word differently from the original.

The winner of the Inker:

Knothole: Someone who isn't a jerk. *(Jamie Pazur, St. Simons Island, Ga., a First Offender)*

2.Winner of the cowboy boot mugs and the glass boot filled with drink mixer:

Linguine: A person who insists on correcting someone's grammar or pronunciation when others are present. *(Theresa Kowal, Silver Spring, Md.)*

3.Ignorant (n.): A typical blog post. *(Kevin Dopart, Washington; Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)*

4.Megawatt: A state of total bewilderment or disbelief. *(Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)*

Meaning-less: Honorable mentions

Lassitude: “Timmy can get himself out of the #*#!@ well. I have better things to do.” *(Steve Langer, Chevy Chase; Laurie Brink, Cleveland, Mo.)*

Incantation: Singing on the toilet. *(Ann Martin, Bracknell, England)*

Magnesia: “I don't recall buying any Playboys.” *(Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)*

Increase: Where the thong went. *(Pam Sweeney, Burlington, Mass.)*

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Indigo: Harrison Ford's epitaph. *(Doug Frank, Crosby, Tex.)*

Open-pit: Describing a sleeveless dress. *(Dixon Wragg, Santa Rosa, Calif.)*

Newsletter: The man controlling Internet access in China. *(Hampton DeJarnette, Silver Spring, Md., a First Offender)*

Mouthwatering: Euphemism for waterboarding. *(Howard Walderman, Columbia, Md.)*

Juniper: A mohel. *(Laurie Brink)*

Kaleidoscope: The doohickey the body shop uses to inspect your wrecked car. *(Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)*

Kidney: A common place to put bandaids. *(Mike Inman, Lewes, Del.)*

Opportune: What them ladies with the horn-helmets sing. *(Mike Gips, Bethesda, Md.)*

Orangutans: People who try to look like Snooki. *(Craig Dykstra, Centreville, Va.)*

Lackadaisical: What Donald Duck was after his divorce. *(Xin Yu, Columbus, Ohio)*

Lapidary: A miniature pet camel. *(Todd Carton, Wheaton, Md.)*

Kilogram: A letter bomb. *(Chris Doyle)*

Lambaste: What Gordon Ramsay does when the meat's too tough. *(Kathy Hardis Fraeman, Olney, Md.)*

Infatuation: XXL-rated lust. *(Rick Haynes, Potomac, Md.)*

Intimacy: The new name for what used to be Hecht's lingerie department. *(Tom Witte, Montgomery Village, Md.)*

Impervious: What convicted sex offenders are required to tell everyone. *(Edmund Conti, Raleigh, N.C.)*

Implore: Stories like “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.” *(Mae Scanlan, Washington)*

Karma: The woman destined to chauffeur half the frickin' neighborhood to soccer practice.

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(Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf, Md.)

Mammaries: Embarrassing stories from your childhood that your mother never fails to recount. (*Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase, Md.*)

Navigate: Scandal on the high seas. (*Nancy Israel, Bethesda, Md.*)

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Microwave: One guy standing and waving his arms in a stadium. (*Leigh Giza, Gainesville, Va.*)

Jamboree: Someone who yawns through a Grateful Dead concert. (*John Shea, Philadelphia*)

Manifesto: A bachelor party. (*George Smith, Frederick, Md.*)

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Locomotive: The insanity defense. (*Theresa Kowal*)

Maddening: Commenting on football games. “Joe wouldn’t stop maddening for the entire second quarter.” (*Marty McCullen, Gettysburg, Pa.*)

Indian summer: Bangalore accountant. (*Pam Sweeney*)

Installer: A quickie in the restroom. (*Craig Dykstra*)

International date line:*Su place ou meine?* (*Chris Doyle*)

Logarithm: A series of exertions on the john. (*Vic Krysko, Surat Thani, Thailand*)

Lumberjack: Slang for ED medicine. Also: forklift, upkeep. (*Brad Alexander, Wanneroo, Australia*)

Macaroon: Someone who is one-eighth Scottish (*Mike Gips*)

Marathon: An all-day vandalism spree. (*Jeff Contompasis*)

Maximize: Enlarged pupils from reading men’s magazines. (*Mike Inman*)

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Mediocre: A very specific but rather dull crayon hue. (*Christopher Lamora, Guatemala City*)

Melodious: Australian slang for raving drunk. (*Judy Blanchard, Novi, Mich.*)

Metaphor: How you described your blind date who had a, um, very nice personality. (*Pie Snelson, Silver Spring*)

Monsoon: Jamaican farewell. (*Chris Doyle*)

Obscene: Doctor, nurse, anesthesiologist and some idiot with a video camera. (*Ward Kay, Vienna*)

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